

**DIALOGUE  
WORKS**

# HomeTalk

thoughtful conversations for families and schools

Let's talk about...

## New Beginnings

*compiled by Georgia Prescott*



*Image: Daderot, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons*

**Note to parents/carers and teachers**

This pack contains links to external websites. Whilst we take every care to make sure these are suitable, you may want to check the content before showing them to children.



To get HomeTalk emailed every week  
message [bobhouse@dialogueworks.co.uk](mailto:bobhouse@dialogueworks.co.uk)

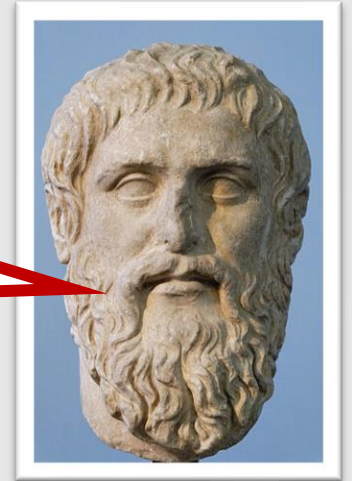
# Quotes about new beginnings



**Paulo Coelho de Souza**  
Brazilian lyricist and novelist

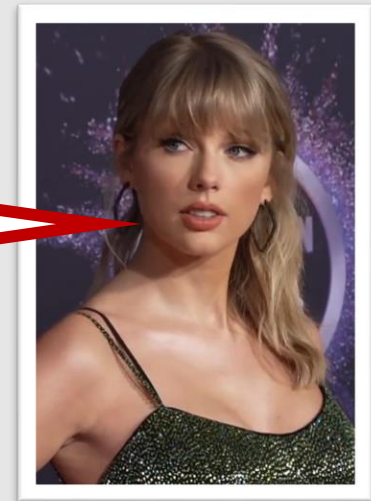
If you're brave enough to say goodbye, life will reward you with a new hello.

The beginning is the most important part of the work.



**Plato**  
Greek philosopher

This is a new year. A new beginning. And things will change.



**Taylor Swift**  
American singer-songwriter

# Thinking about new beginnings

## Caring thinking

How can you help your friends if they are finding something new difficult?

## Collaborative thinking

If we are starting something new with other people, how can we work together to make things easier?



## Creative thinking

What would happen if no-one ever tried anything new?

## Critical thinking

Does every new beginning follow some kind of ending?

What did you do really well last school year that you are proud of?

Can you think of different kinds of new beginnings? What do they have in common?

How will you make a fresh start this new school year?



Think **AHEAD**

Think **BACK**

**CONNECT**



**DIVIDE**

**LISTEN/LOOK**

**ZOOM (in/out)**

Do all countries in the world start a new school year at the same time of year?

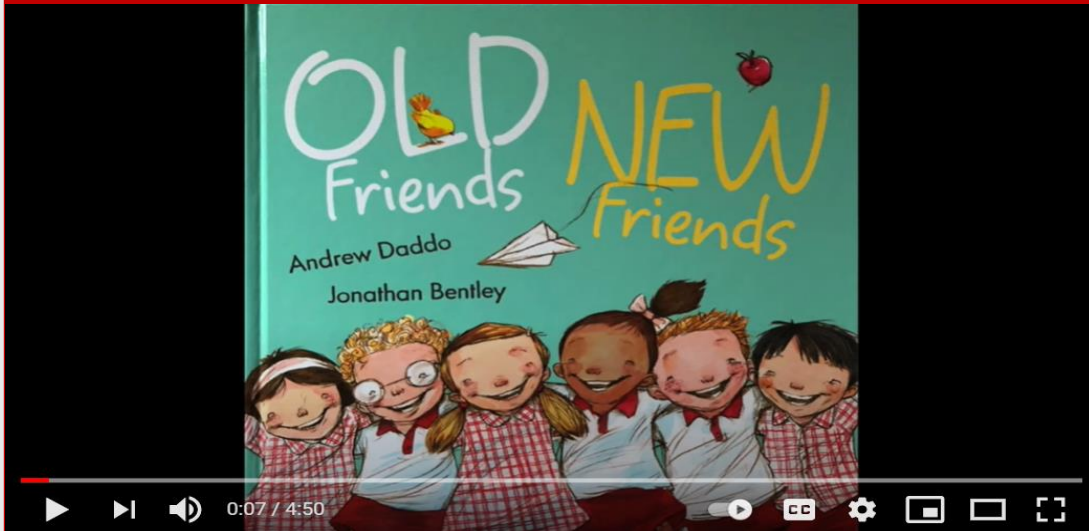
Are some new beginnings easier than others? Why?

What does your new classroom look like this year? What can you see on your way into it?

Take one of your new beginnings. How would it be making a fresh start? What would it leave behind?

# Discussion suggestions (age 3 - 5)

## Stimulus



<https://youtu.be/AJBp0CEgohE>

## Old Friends New Friends

by Andrew Daddo & Illustrated by Jonathan Bentley

A story about a first day in a new class.

## Talking Points

- How did you feel about starting your new class or school this year?
- Is it always difficult to start something new when you do not know anyone there?
- Why do you think friends are important?

## Activities

- Make a collage of some new friends you have made recently.
- Make a list of things you are going to try to do this year at nursery or school in your new class.

# Discussion suggestions (age 6 - 9)

## Stimulus



<https://youtu.be/EpmNXbkLu6c>

**The Dot by Peter H Reynolds**  
– A story about trying something new

## Talking Points

- Starting something new is like a new beginning. Have you ever not wanted to try something new because you were worried you could not do it?
- Are some new things easier to try than others? Why?
- How does the story link to Plato's quote on slide two?

## Activities

- Think of something new you tried and are now good at. Can you write a guide for someone else trying it for the first time to help them?
- Write a list of new things you would like to try in the next year / five years.

# Discussion suggestions (age 10+)

## Stimulus



[https://youtu.be/ D49u-Epq44](https://youtu.be/D49u-Epq44)

This film explores the Jewish celebration of Rosh Hashanah, which is Jewish New Year and is usually celebrated in September.

## Talking Points

- What interests or surprises you in the film?
- Why do you think it might be useful to look backwards to help you make a fresh start?
- In what ways do you think starting a new school year helps you to make a fresh start?

## Activities

- Do some research into Rosh Hashanah, and other different kinds of new year celebrations. Create a poster for one of them that interests you.
- Try some slices of apple dipped in honey. What would you wish for to have a sweet new year?

➤ More about HomeTalk, including previous editions

➤ Parent Talk Moves – tips for great conversations with your children

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# Training opportunities for teachers, support staff and parents

## **P4C Plus Foundation course** (12hrs)

*Teaching that puts more thinking into learning*

- Introduces you to **P4C Plus** and builds your skills over the first year of practice
- Equips you with a range of skills to use in P4C inquiries and throughout the curriculum
- Includes premium resources and teacher guide

## **Thinking Moves A – Z course** (6hrs)

*Making metacognition simple across the curriculum*

- Shows you how **Thinking Moves** can enhance thinking in any subject, as well as in P4C inquiries
- Gives you practical guidance on how to embed Thinking Moves into learning
- Includes premium resources and handbook

Both courses available online or face-to-face, for individuals or whole-school teams

See <https://dialogueworks.co.uk/training/> for upcoming courses

Contact [enquiries@dialogueworks.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@dialogueworks.co.uk) for bookings or more information