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## Newsletter 2020

Greetings and a belated happy new year. I trust the year has started well for you all and the academic year progresses in a satisfactory manner.

This year I have already completed a trip to Uganda, two monthly Nairobi trips and an upcountry visit. These trips do take time to coordinate and plan, so please do contact me early, so that we can block the week before it fills up. I have been approached by a number of Tanzanian families, and I am starting to look at dates for a possible Arusha and/ or Dar Es Salaam trip. Please contact me if you have any students who would like to be included or if you are interested in some teacher training.

This year I continue to work towards building efficiency in my reporting and communication. My goal is to complete reports within a month, with a follow up meeting shortly thereafter. Those of you who have not discovered ZOOM meetings, they are great for distance feedback meetings and allow us to all look at the report on the screen at the same time. I am excited to say that my signal and Wifi access at home continue to improve, which will make these meetings even more accessible. Constructive feedback is always welcome!

ICOT2020 is just around the corner and the deadline for the early bird registration is looming so be sure to register before April 1st to benefit. Innovative thinking is a crucial part of education and as we prepare our students for a new and different work environment, this conference is relevant and valuable. As this is the first time it will take place in Africa, let's all support it! ([www.icot2020.com](http://www.icot2020.com)).

The PAGS© Profile is an online progress monitoring tool that focuses on key prerequisite skills for learning such as communication, self-regulation and



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social interaction. The structure of the programme is great for showing clear progress, supporting teachers and informing parents. I have been excited by the results and I am sure you will be too. Take a moment to explore it further on my website [www.eftienterprise.com](http://www.eftienterprise.com) or [www.pagsprofile.com](http://www.pagsprofile.com)

Exam Access is an important aspect of ensuring our students can fairly show their understanding. Resources are an important part of this journey including such tools as the examination pen, which is increasingly accepted and helpful for students with reading difficulties and visual processing challenges. Contact Louise at [ljededucation](mailto:ljededucation) for this and other education supplies to ensure fair access. [louise@ljededucation.com](mailto:louise@ljededucation.com).

Exam Access requirements continue to grow and change, and the deadline for using an APC qualified assessor in secondary schools is looming, so make sure your exam officer keeps due dates in mind as they plan for access arrangements and assessments.

As I progress on my journey towards a doctorate I continue to research and study the impact of anxiety on learning. Especially working memory and executive functioning. Empowering our students to build resilience and a positive self-concept is crucial towards mitigating the impact of anxiety and depression. [www.hisanitherapycentre.com](http://www.hisanitherapycentre.com) offers bespoke workshops and opportunities to build skills in managing emotional functioning and regulation. I am proud to partner with the Hisani Therapy Centre to encourage positive learning. As I am planning another residency trip as part of my doctoral studies this year please plan and book early for assessments or teacher training.

I am always on the lookout for resources and appropriate support for students I have assessed. Nazia Ansari, based in the UK, has been invaluable in



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providing support to learners who have a wide discrepancy between their skill set and grade level expectations. She effectively supports students by training shadows, and setting up appropriate, bespoke learning programmes with regular progress monitoring. Her programmes include academic and non-academic milestones and despite her distant location, she has been very successful in supporting a number of students of differing ages and abilities. You can contact Nazia on [inclusivityeducation@gmail.com](mailto:inclusivityeducation@gmail.com) or on +447909797760

Finally, I am working towards creating a workshop and training centre here on the farm, with the intention of offering weekend breaks away together with the opportunity to target key skills or complete assessments. Families can relax and enjoy nature and organic produce while I work with their child or their parent support skills. Do please get in touch if you are interested in discussing this further.

Meanwhile, please don't hesitate to share my contacts with parents or teachers and let me know if there is any other assistance I can offer. I look forward to continuing and extending our working relationship.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scilla', written in a cursive style.