

## Newsletter, 25.10.2023

Discussions, debriefs, dialogues and debates: this week at Tooled Up we're talking about talking! With so many of our families enjoying the half term break, this is the perfect time to reconnect with our children and engage them in conversation. Use the tips, techniques and topics in these resources to create meaningful discussion in your family.

### **Family Talk: Podcast**

Did you know that the amount of dialogue in your home is one of the biggest predictors of academic attainment? "Family talk", as it is referred to in the research literature, can not only boost children's oracy and thinking skills, it has even been linked to improved mental health and self-esteem. Check out our podcast on the topic with Gates scholar, Mishika [Mehrotra](#) to learn more or listen to Dr Weston's [reflections](#) on this.

### **65 Topics for Dinnertime Chat**

Asking great questions can really help to open up children's thinking. Perhaps you want to cultivate greater intellectual curiosity in your home? Try asking them an interesting question about everyday science (knowing you have some clever answers up your sleeve). Take inspiration from our science [resources](#) or just choose a [question](#) from our suggested talk topic list to mull over together.

### **Paintings Every Family Should See**

If interests in your home run more to the artistic and cultural, this list of paintings chosen by Laurence Hedges, Director of Art at Harrow School, will offer brilliant stimulation for conversation and spark children's curiosity.

### **Raising A Bilingual Child: Webinar**

For families who are bi or even tri-lingual, speaking in the language you know best might just be optimal around that dinner-table. Check out this [webinar](#) with Dr Rose Drury on the benefits of bilingualism and do read the summary notes!

Don't forget to follow us on social media to stay up-to-date with all of our latest updates and resources. Find us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

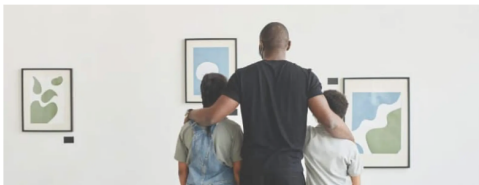




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