Over the Line 2016
Writing activity 1

In school staffrooms up and down the country there is an argument raging: should teachers let pupils watch the Wales v England game? The problem is the match kicks off at 2pm, before the end of the afternoon’s lessons this Thursday.

What do you think?

Some of you will want to watch it: some of you won’t. There are reasons for and against missing important school lessons to watch a big football match.

We would like you to write three reasons for or against your school ending lessons early to watch the match. Not just a quick list, but three well-thought-out, clearly written reasons.

Here are five ways you can make your reasons strong:

- Have a think about your reasons before you write them down. Talk to your friends about them first
- Write your reasons down in rough
- Read through them and check if you could make them sound even more convincing
- Show them to a classmate and ask them how they would improve your reasons
- Read them aloud to make sure they sound perfect

Once you’ve done it, you could, perhaps, read them to each other and vote on whether you think the school should be able to watch the match.

If your school decides to watch the Wales v England match, you could host a Euro 2016 Match Day Party which includes literacy activities and challenges. You could even invite parents along. There is more information on page 25 of the Euro 2016 and Battle of the Somme Literacy Toolkit and in the match day party pack.