

Dear Mid-First week Folk,

Some house keeping:

as you maybe know we are supping* together tonight down in the shadow of the place where they preached the Crusades, a House of God festooned with the flags of war, down in the Thomas Beckett pub. Though this is more a winter than a summer pub, I know that we will be well treated there, despite the normal UK tradition of iffy service.

The Beckett is on the corner of Orange Street which is 50 yards from the High Street and a stone's throw from the Cathedral entrance. As people often say to me with a sweet, hopeful smile on their face *You can't miss it!*

I will find out from Sarah what time we have been booked in for- it will certainly be between 7.00 and 8.00.

Yesterday I was thrilled, when you were doing the pitch matching exercise, to see the degree to which you were also body mirroring. Here we had real behavioural success and real skill success, which in turn presupposes a belief acceptance, or, at least, a suspension of disbelief.

I was also happy yesterday to see a kind of change in physiology in some folk, a lightness of step and a change in face colour that seemed to denote a kind of positive feeling. (NLP tells me to notice physiology, to observe closely, but not to leap to wild conclusions about inner states- after observing I should check out with people and not indulge in "mind-reading", however human it may be to do so)

I hope you enjoyed the breath of fresh air that Bonnie could well have been for many of you.

It is hard to balance a group's need for diversity of input with the need for continuity and the need a group to form with stability of leadership.

I wonder what you think about this question.

Heike noted that Bonnie seemed to focus more on our classrooms as she explained NLP. Heike suggested that it would be useful if I were to do the same.

I am happy to do this, if this is a majority wish. Perhaps you could comment on this?

It is exciting for me to be on this course, but I am acutely aware that each of us is on a different course and the more we are able to share our personal map of the quiet Senior Common Room territory the more we will enrich our own map. I am curious to peep in on P's course, on R's, on N's etc....

Don't for one moment believe you are on the same course as your neighbour.

Language..... we are all language specialists... I wonder how the course is affecting your English..... I firmly believe that the best language courses are those that warm you up well and then use language entirely instrumentally, as we are doing. And I could well be wrong, since learners come in all shapes and sizes.

Enough of musings

I'd better get to the photocopier. Warmly yours, Mario

* to sup ⇒ jocularly ardaic