MAKING YOUR WORKLOAD LIGHTER & YOUR DAY A LITTLE BRIGHTER



A TEACHER'S GOAL-SETTING GUIDE FOR



Created by Teacher Toolbox



DEAR TEACHER,

As the year comes to a close, it's the perfect time to pause, reflect, and set intentions for the new year. This festive journal is designed just for teachers to help you unwind, recharge, and prepare for the new year with clarity and inspiration. With a mix of reflective prompts, goal-setting tools, and habit trackers, you can create a meaningful plan for both your professional and personal growth.

Get cosy with a warm drink, a cosy blanket and your favourite notebook or journal, then write your responses to the prompts and goals included in this guide. Feel free to adapt the ideas to suit your needs as you go.

There's no better time to put yourself first. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

Teacher Toolbox





JOURNAL PROMPTS

WORK-RELATED:

What is one skill I want to develop or strengthen in the new year?

How can I create better work-life boundaries next year?

What is a professional milestone I'd like to achieve in the new year, and what steps will I take to reach it?

What's one way I can make my classroom environment more inspiring or engaging?

How can I celebrate small wins in my career throughout the year?

BUILDING BETTER HABITS:

What's one small thing I can add to my mornings to set a positive tone for the day?

How can I make my evenings more restful and rejuvenating?

What's one habit I want to focus on building consistently in the new year? What's an activity that always brings me joy, and how can I include it in my weekly routine?

How can I create a "reset" routine each week to reduce stress?

SELF-GROWTH:

What's one thing I want to try for the first time in the new year?
Who inspires me, and how can I embody some of their qualities in my life?

What are three things I want to do just for fun in the new year? What limiting belief do I want to let go of in the coming year? How will I celebrate myself and my growth, big or small?





This table is designed to help you break down your aspirations into clear categories so you can create a balanced and fulfilling year. Use it to brainstorm specific, achievable goals. By setting intentions in these three areas, you can ensure you're addressing multiple aspects of your life. We suggest creating a table like the example below for this.

YEARLY GOALS

PROFESSIONAL	(e.g., attend a new workshop, network)			
PERSONAL	(e.g., develop a hobby, travel)			
WELLBEING	(e.g., create a self-care routine)			

QUARTERLY GOALS

What will I accomplish by 31st March, 30th June, 30th September and 31st December 2025?
How will I celebrate my progress at the end of each quarter?
What steps will I take to stay motivated?



HABIT TRACKING

Habit tracking is a powerful way to stay consistent with your intentions and build meaningful routines. Use a tracker to monitor daily or weekly habits that align with your goals. Whether it's morning journaling, evening unplugging, or practising gratitude, checking off your progress can be both motivating and rewarding.

For added convenience, we've created a downloadable habit tracker template available on our website. You can print it out and customise it with your own habits to make tracking even easier. Here's an example of weekly habits you could track and what a tracker could look like. I like to highlight the boxes when I've completed them.

HABIT	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Morning journalling				
evening unplugging				
gratitude journalling				





HABIT EXAMPLES

DAILY HABITS

Morning journaling (e.g., gratitude or reflection)

Drink 2 litres of water

Unplug from screens an hour before bedtime

Practice mindfulness or meditation for 5-10 minutes

Read for 15-30 minutes

Stretch or light exercise

Pack a healthy lunch

Send one positive email or message to a colleague or friend

Clean your desk or workspace

Write a "win of the day" in a notebook

WEEKLY HABITS

Plan lessons or activities in advance

Have a self-care session (e.g., face mask, bath, or quiet time)

Call or text a family member or friend

Spend one hour on a hobby

Do a meal prep session for the week

Clean and organise a specific area of the house or classroom

Practise a creative activity like sketching, playing music, or crafting

Go for a nature walk or exercise outdoors

Review and adjust your goals or progress

Declutter emails and sort out priorities

MONTHLY HABITS

Schedule a fun outing or "date" with yourself

Review your budget and financial goals

Update your professional development log or portfolio

Declutter your classroom or workspace

Set goals or intentions for the upcoming month

Host or attend a social gathering

Reflect on achievements and lessons learned for the month

Try a new recipe or restaurant

Engage in a big creative or DIY project

Attend a local workshop or online class for skill development

"SUCCESS IS THE SUM OF SMALL EFFORTS, REPEATED DAY IN AND DAY OUT."





"EVERY ACCOMPLISHMENT STARTS WITH THE DECISION TO TRY."





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