

We are a Reading School.

Spring Reading Newsletter

Welcome to our Spring Term Reading for Pleasure
Newsletter!

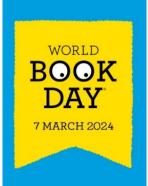
This edition will be jam-packed with activities, information and research to support your child's reading journey and to develop and nurture that genuine love of reading we all want for our children.

We will be celebrating World Book Day 2024 on Thursday 7th March, This year, our theme is "Your World Book Day", and we want celebrations to be inclusive and fun for everyone. It will be filled with lots of exciting, celebratory ways to promote reading for pleasure.

Children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character, their favourite author, a book-themed outfit or to come in their very own comfiest reading clothes. They may bring a donation of their choice which will go towards new books for our school library but this is not compulsory.

More information will be sent out separately on how you can get involved at home and to share some of the activities we will

be doing in school.



Last year, we ran a sponsored readathon. Together, we raised an enormous £857.95! This money went towards getting



books into children's hospitals and enabling very sick children to experience the joy of storytelling and visits from authors. Through your support, we truly lived out our school motto. It was such an achievement that we have just ordered our new kit!

Our 2024 Readathon will commence the week before February half term, giving our pupils a chance to discover their way of reading over the holiday. It's been proven that children who read for pleasure are more likely to be successful and happy throughout their lives (OECD, 2002). The charity, Read for Good, encourages children to read through its unique motivational approach that inspires reluctant readers to give reading a go and keen readers to read more widely. Pupils can choose whatever they want to read - from comics to classics and audiobooks to blogs - they are not being assessed, it's all about reading for fun! Watch this space for more information on how you can help.

Half Term Reading Challenge











Over half term, we would like to challenge all pupils to take a book they love, or a book they would like to read and represent it in their own way. Some suggested ideas are:

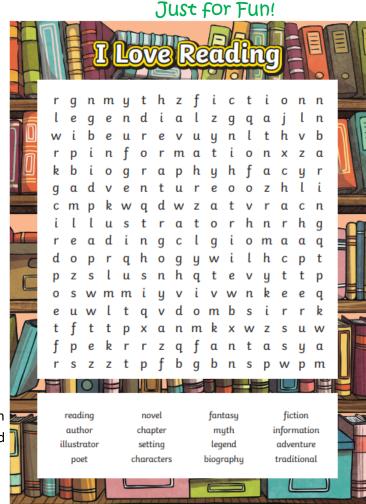
- ⇒ Hand-built lego book characters
 - ⇒ Wooden spoon characters
 - ⇒ Potato characters
 - ⇒ Kitchen roll tube characters
 - ⇒ A book in a box/jar
 - ⇒ Writing their own fan-fiction
- ⇒ Creating their own comic book
- ⇒ Re-creating a book cover using only themselves and household goods
 - ⇒ Visiting a place where a book was set

Or you may have ideas of your own. There will be a winner chosen from each area of the school by our reading ambassadors. Further information will follow closer to the time. (please do not bring any entries in to school before half term) Thinking caps on!

Meet Our Reading Ambassadors...



We are pleased to introduce our team of dedicated reading ambassadors. Their roles within school include: co-curating and running our new school library, running reading clubs, reading with our younger pupils to boost their confidence, hosting book-themed assemblies, recommending reads and helping to organise competitions and fund-raising. They are doing an amazing job and we are super-proud of each and every one.



Encouraging Reading For Pleasure at Home

Children need support to develop the habit and love of reading. Three core strategies support readers, as OU research indicates:

- Reading Aloud
- Time to Read as Family
- * Book Chat

So 'just relax and read'. Time and space to hear stories and to read and talk informally about what you're reading makes a difference to children's pleasure in reading.

Here are some tips for weekends or this coming half term:

* Who said the Icelandic Tradition of a Jolabokaflod has to be kept to Christmas Eve? Snuggling up all cosy, drinking (and eating) chocolate and reading a literally translated 'flood' of books sounds perfect to us! If the freezing cold weather sneaks over this way during half term, why not take the opportunity to set one day/ evening aside to do this as a family and chat about what you are reading?



- * Going on a long journey in the car? Why not download some audiobooks? They could be listened to together or through headphones if you have children of different ages.
- * Rainy Day? Try this Book Treasure Hunt as a family, or why not create your own? E.g. Go find me a book with pirates in, find me a book about magic etc.



* Show your children that you love reading too (even if you don't!) This does not have to be a novel, it can be a magazine, the newspaper, a cookery book. Help them to explore the possibilities that reading can have.

Book Recommendations



There are some amazing new books out there at the minute! Here are some of our recommendations for a range of ages:

Picture books age 3-5 (although not limited to! We say picture books are for everyone)









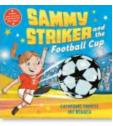






Younger fiction - Chapter books

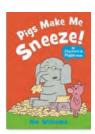








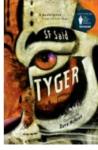






Middle Grade Books (8-11)











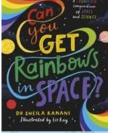




Non Fiction Finds









Perfect Poetry

