

# STM Reading for Pleasure Newsletter

Issue 1. January 2020

As a school, over the last year, we have been working hard on promoting a 'Reading for Pleasure' ethos throughout the school. All staff have worked exceptionally hard and really been 'on board' with all activities and events. The aim of this newsletter is to let our parents and carers as well as the wider community know how we are getting on with our 'Reading for Pleasure' initiatives and how we are moving towards becoming a leading school in 'Reading for Pleasure' but most importantly how this can benefit our children and help them to develop a love of reading.

So, what have we done so far?

Firstly, Key Stage 2 Book Clubs. These have been a huge success and I have been inundated with more and more children wanting to join the various book clubs I have been running. The first book club ran in October 2018 and there has been a book club every Wednesday with different groups of KS2 children since. During these book clubs children have enjoyed reading and sharing a book with their peers, discussing the various characters and plots of these books as well as engaging with a range of authors.

Book clubs so far...

Autumn 2 2018 - The Storm Keeper's Island by Catherine Doyle (year 5/6)

Spring 1 2019 - The Infinite Lives of Maisie Day by Christopher Edge (year 3/4)

Spring 2/summer 1 2019 - Seaglass by Eloise Williams (year 5/6\_

Autumn 1 2019 - The Titanic Detective agency by Lindsay Littleton (year 4)

Autumn 2 2019 - The Girl who Saved Christmas by Matt Haigh (year 3/4)

Spring 1 2020 - Nevermoor by Jessica Townsend (year 6)

*The aim to begin some KS1 book club in the summer of 2020.*



You may also remember The Book People Book Bus, which came to school in Autumn 1! The children were so excited about choosing their own books to read! As a result of parents being so generous and spending so much money on books, school have been able to order new books for your children to enjoy in school!





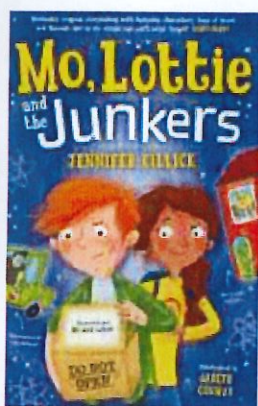
In school, all classes now have a 'class read' text and every class throughout the school are read to daily. This has proved very successful as the children love to settle down with their cushion, turn the lights down and sit by a (digital) roaring fire and just enjoy listening to a good book!



In order to add an extra dimension to this, throughout the last half term the teachers and children have been enjoying 'class read swap' where the children are read to by a different teacher. This way staff have been able to share the books they love with a wider audience than their own class. The feedback from both teachers and children has been very positive.

Also, throughout Autumn 2 children have been engaging in The Random Reading Challenge 2019! There were so many fantastic entries and in the end all staff had to vote for the winners of each key stage.

All teachers now display a 'currently reading' poster on their classroom doors so that children can identify teachers as readers too.



School have developed a calendar of reading events to take place throughout the year so look out for these! The next one being a very exciting author visit from children's author Jennifer Kilick.

There are also 'book box swaps' in every classroom where children can bring in a book they have read and swap it for another book which someone else has brought in. Children are encouraged to give a recommendation for the book they have read.

As well as all of this I recommend books via Twitter and connect with authors, the children love to hear from the actual authors of a book they are reading and even a 'like' or a 'retweet' means the world to them! To see how I do this follow me on @mrscravenstm

#### Upcoming events:

Author visit February 2020 - letters will go out about this as books can be bought and signed

World Book Day - March 2020

Book in a jar competition - TBC

Issue 2 will be out April 2020 (Easter Holidays)

Mrs Craven - Whole School English Lead