

## BOOK CLUB – AUTUMN 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

My name is Stephanie Clarkson and I'm a published children's author and national print journalist. I also run the Wallace Fields Book Club as I am passionate about encouraging children to read for pleasure, especially in today's increasingly digital world.

The club takes place once a month at lunch time (Tuesdays Yrs 3 and 6 and Wednesdays Yrs 4 and 5) and aims to encourage your child to discover, rediscover or retain the joy of reading, introducing them to new authors and genres they wouldn't normally choose and widening their appreciation of books and stories. We pick from a choice of titles each month and at each meeting come prepared to talk about what we've read over the past 4 weeks.

This year's activities have included:

- a monthly question from the Book Monster which fosters discussion on wider topics such as 'Should you ever watch the movie before reading the book?' and 'Which book characters would you most like to have over for supper?'
- Sourcing a fun read from a book sale or charity shop – to prove books don't have to be expensive and we can recycle and be sustainable!
- Writing letters to our favourite authors
- Coming up with a title for a new book and creating its book cover
- Penning sample blurbs for our recent reads
- Celebrating the 250 Year anniversary of Jane Austen and discussing her life and patriarchal values in her time such as property and estate being entailed down the male line.

We do a literary-based quiz or game at the end of each term, with prizes and at the end of the academic year children receive certificates to celebrate their reading.

Many of the children who attend book club do so throughout their four years at the school. I have added some testimonials from Year 6 parents below.

The fee per term is £20 per child. You then source the books from a store or library. The wonderful WFJS school library is constantly being updated and so often has copies.

If your child is already a member and would like to continue, or if should you wish to sign them up for the first time, **please contact me at [steph@stephclarkson.com](mailto:steph@stephclarkson.com) so I can add them to my register and send you the full schedule. The fee of £20 per term per child should be paid immediately to the account below to secure your child's place.**

Please put your child's name and Year group in the reference:

Acc Name: Stephanie Clarkson

Acc No: 86035002

Sort Code: 50-30-10

Kind regards,  
Steph Clarkson  
TESTIMONIALS FROM HAPPY PARENTS...

*Just wanted to say a big thank you for all the book clubs. I'm so happy my son has stuck with it until the end. It's been really good for him and he's learned so much about the types of books he enjoys and that it's ok to not like something and to try new things. It's been so good for us both to spend time together in book shops choosing and reading his choices from your list. I will be encouraging his sister to join your group when she starts year 3 in September.*

YEAR 6 PARENT

*Thank you so much for the certificate, my daughter couldn't wait to tell me all about her session today. She's always excited to tell me, and as I usually get very little detail of school out of her, I have always loved listening to her share. She has absolutely loved book club. When she first joined, she was a very capable reader, but she struggled to find her next book and she tended to stick to the same genres. Now, a few years on, she is a voracious reader, willing to try anything. Thank you for opening her eyes to the possibilities. And thank you for your fab suggestions - I have chosen a few to share with my younger child and with my class (I am a teacher).*

YEAR 6 PARENT

*My year 6 daughter has really loved your book club over the years. You have introduced her to new authors and a great variety of stories that have supported her in her mind growth, that she would not have found by herself. Thank you so much.*

YEAR 6 PARENT

*My son was quite emotional yesterday when he came home from school. He did not know it was his last ever book club session at the Junior School and was a little bit sad. I wanted to thank you for everything you have been doing for him and the other students. Very luckily my youngest one will join your club next year since she will be in year 3 in September (one leaving and one coming!). She loves reading too!*

YEAR 6 PARENT

*The first thing my daughter when I picked her up today was 'Mum, book club was so fun today, we had to write a letter with three questions to an author and Mrs Clarkson actually knows how to contact them!' Thank you so much for keeping her so engaged in books and reading.*

YEAR 3 PARENT