



Reading Newsletter – Issue 2

Welcome to the last half of the summer term and our last reading newsletter of the year.

It has been good to see so many children reading and enjoying our books over the past few months. Firstly, I would like to thank you all for the fabulous costumes you sent the children in on World book day. Everybody enjoyed themselves and we hope that the pleasure of *reading your way* has filtered back home. The children enjoyed discovering what books they like to read, along with exploring how they like to read them and how to make reading more fun. During this term the Reading Ambassadors will help to ensure that the school's library will be easy to use and come up with ideas to promote reading during other times throughout the day.

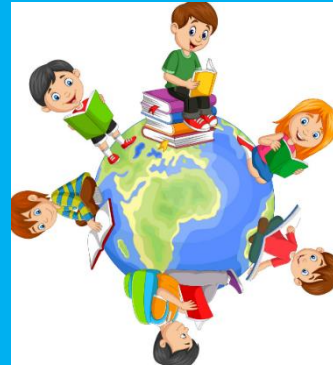
It has been great to see the continued dedication of children reading at home and I hope this will continue to the end of term and beyond. We still have plenty of gold cards to hand out, let's see how many more we can give to our fantastic readers!

Mrs. Goodchild

Reading Leader

National reading days

Did you know, there are many opportunities to celebrate reading? Almost every week there is a national reading day!



June – Audio Appreciation Month

23rd – National Typewriter Day

July – National Anti-Boredom Month

4th – Alice in Wonderland Day

17th – World Emoji Day

30th – Paperback Book Day

31st – Harry Potter Day

August

2nd – National Colouring Book Day

9th – Book Lovers Day

14th – Love Your Bookshop Day

18th – National Bad Poetry Day

21st – National Poets Day

25th – National Hug a Librarian Day

Choosing a reading book

Many times, we have all heard the phrase “I don’t like reading” from someone we know. Yet we can all strive and try to encourage children to read for pleasure. This can become increasingly difficult to achieve what with modern life, but how can we encourage a love for reading and books?

When a child is given complete free reign to choose a book, sometimes it can be overwhelming with the amount of choice that they have. They may choose the first book they see or they might pick a book that is too challenging.

Here are some tips to help you encourage a love of reading.

Tip 1: Five finger rule: Ask them to read the first page of the book, if they struggle to read more than five words on that page then the book is not right for them just yet.

Tip 2: Try different genres: Ensure that you expose your child to fiction and non-fiction books, such as child friendly magazines, newspapers, comics on a subject they might be interested in. Even find an author your child likes and research other works by that author.

Tip 3: Listen to the audio version: Listening to someone else read the book can inspire the child to read the book themselves.

Tip 4: Play I spy: playing I spy encourages the children to find words beginning with....? Ask if they can find a picture of a....? How many.... can you see?

Tip 5: Find out what they are reading in school: The children will be reading books with their teacher in class. Find out if they are enjoying the class book and see whether you can find something similar.

Tip 6: Create: Using reading to inspire drawing, crafts and creating other stories.

Tip 7: Apply for the Blue Peter Book Badge: the children will need to read a book and submit a review of the book to receive this badge.

Tip 8: Be seen: Make sure you are seen reading. Keep books, magazines, comics etc at easy reach.

Reading Comprehension

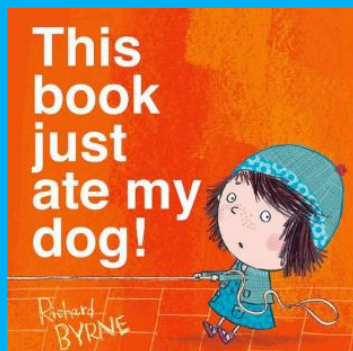
There is more to reading than just reading the words (decoding). Sometimes a child might be great at decoding but can struggle to understand the text and this is where questioning about what their reading becomes useful.

Here are some questions to ask your child whilst reading together:

1. Look at the front cover. What could the book be about?
2. Who is the author?
3. What is an illustrator? What do they do?
4. What does this word mean? Read the words around it to help you figure it out (context).
5. How can you read an unfamiliar word? Can you sound talk and blend?
6. Who are the main characters?
7. What do you think will happen next?
8. How do you think the character feels? Why? How would you feel in that situation?
9. Can you predict how the book will end?
10. Who is your favourite character and why?
11. Can you retell the story in your own words?
12. Can you think of another way to end the story?

Book Recommendations

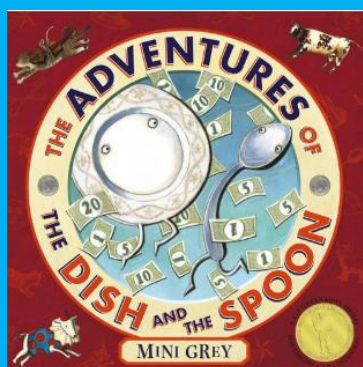
Please find below some book recommendations that your child may like to read with you



This book just ate my dog!

Author: Richard Byrne **Publisher:** Oxford University Press

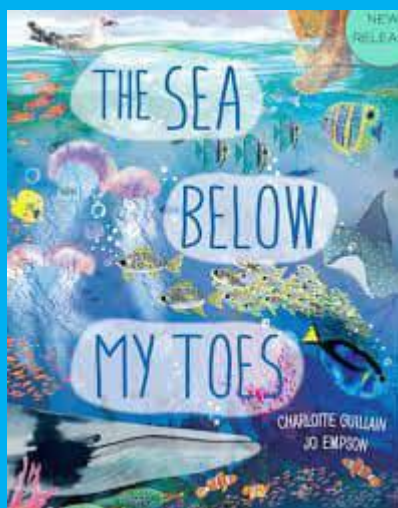
This wonderfully inventive book sees Bella taking her small dog for a stroll across the page but halfway across he disappears! Unable to quite believe what's just happened Bella watches, transfixed, with changing emotions of only to disappear herself! At this point, the book has consumed its characters and it's down to the reader to step in to help. A note from Bella appears directly appealing for assistance and, with a rigorous shake, the characters reappear. Normality is restored and Bella is finally able to take her dog for an uninterrupted walk . . . or is she? This is a fun interactive book, which the children will love to get involved with.



The Adventures of The Dish and the Spoon

Author: Mini Grey **Publisher:** Red Fox Picture Books

Following on from Hey diddle, diddle, the cat and fiddle rhyme. This book discovers what happened next and follows the adventures of the dish and the spoon. Narrated by the spoon himself, a rags-to-riches tale is told about the most dazzling crockery-cutlery duo of all time. With its terrific rhyming and stunning illustrations this book is equally perfect for shared reading or encouraging your child to read independently.



The Sea Below My Toes

Author: Charlotte Guillain **Illustrator:** Jo Empson **Publisher:** QED Publishing

A follow-up to The Street Beneath My Feet, this visually stunning book ventures to the very bottom of the sea on a journey of discovery. It takes you through the waves and into the deep. You'll spot all kinds of weird and wonderful marine creatures, explore the seabed and discover the impact humans have had on the underwater world. As well as animals you can discover the technology which is used under the sea, from scuba breathing apparatus to oil pipelines and deep-sea submarines. This book is part of the Look Closer series, a set of concertina books which help teach us about the mysteries which can be found in the world around us. It is a fantastic non-fiction book, which many children love to look at time and time again.

If you want to ensure your pupils continue their reading journey over the summer holidays then look no further than the Summer Reading Challenge, designed by The Reading Agency, delivered by libraries. The theme this year is **'Story Garden – Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors'**. This exciting new theme will inspire children to tap into a world of imagination through reading, exploring the magical connection between storytelling and nature.

The Summer Reading Challenge is aimed at primary aged school children, but children and teens of all ages can sign up for free at their local library from **Saturday 5th July**. The aim of the Challenge is to keep children reading over the summer holidays when there can sometimes be a 'reading dip'. Children are encouraged to read up to 6 books before Saturday 13th September. Children will need to be a member of the library to participate, but joining the library is free and can be done online or in your local branch.



The poster features a vibrant illustration of a large, mossy rock formation shaped like a smiling face. Several children are depicted interacting with the 'Story Garden': a girl sits atop the rock reading, a boy climbs the side with a book, a girl sits on a rock reading, a boy stands at the base holding a book, a girl sits on the ground reading, and a boy stands nearby. The garden is filled with books, butterflies, and small plants. The background is a bright blue sky with white clouds.

THE READING AGENCY **Summer Reading Challenge**

Delivered in partnership with libraries **2025**

Story Garden
Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors

summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

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