

Reading Newsletter - Spring 2024

Welcome to our Spring term Reading Newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading it!

We encourage you to read with your child as much as possible, every day ideally. It is so important to hear them read and to talk about what they have read. The table below shows the difference between reading for 20 minutes per day compared to only reading for 1 minute per day.

CHILD A	CHILD B	CHILD C
reads 20 minutes per day	reads 5 minutes per day	reads 1 minute per day
hears 1,800,000 words per year	hears 282,000 words per year	hears 8,000 words per year
scores in the 90th percentile on standardized tests	scores in the 50th percentile on standardized tests	scores in the 10th percentile on standardized tests

Our children take part in lots of reading activities at school. They visit the library every other week and learn about how the books are organised in a library, about the importance of browsing and about the features of books such as the contents, index and glossary. The children hear their teacher read stories during the day and read their own books to an adult during the week. During reading lessons the children share a class text, discuss this and answer questions to show their understanding. The class texts that are currently being used in key stage two are shown below. Key Stage one texts will be included in the summer term newsletter. We also hold events such as World Book Day. This year the children joined the staff in dressing up, they shared books with children from another class, shared their bookmarks that they made at home with their class and listened to another adult read their favourite children's story.

Year 3	Year 4
	
	

Year 5	Year 6
 	 

West Sussex Picture Book Awards

Each year we take part in the West Sussex Picture Book Awards with other schools across the county. The whole school takes part and reads four different picture books which have been shortlisted by the Library service. We read and discuss them and then each class votes for their favourite. The votes are collated and sent to the West Sussex Library service. The overall winner is announced on World Book Day. The winner this year was 'The Search for the Giant Arctic Jellyfish' by Chloe Savage. Here are the shortlisted books that we all enjoyed.



Year Group Recommended Reads

Each of our Year Group Recommended Reads lists contains **50 books** specially picked out for reading for pleasure in each primary year group, from [Preschool](#) to [Year 6](#). The lists are designed to provide recommendations of age-appropriate and accessible books across a range of genres and styles. These lists differ from our [topic booklists](#), as the books are purely selected for the purpose of reading for pleasure at each age group.

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/recommended-reads/>

New 'Blue Peter' Book Badge!

Blue Peter have introduced an exciting new Book badge, designed by one of the UK's best-known illustrators, Sir Quentin Blake; who you might know from bringing to life characters such as Roald Dahl's BFG and Matilda! To earn your badge, you need to share your love of books by answering a few questions. Maybe you could achieve the Book Badge? Visit the Blue Peter website to find out more:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/findoutmore/blue-peter-apply-for-a-book-badge>

Remember to bring your badge into school for Celebration Assembly if you do achieve it!



More information can be found on the website

<https://quentinblake.com/news/bbcs-blue-peter-launches-new-book-badge>

Reading for Pleasure

Reading for pleasure is so important but a recent survey of 71,400 children and young people by the National Literacy Trust early in 2023 has revealed that **fewer than one in three children (28%) aged eight to 18 read daily for enjoyment**. Reading for pleasure helps to develop children's language, imagination and creativity. It also helps children to understand more about the world around them and develop vital social-emotional skills.

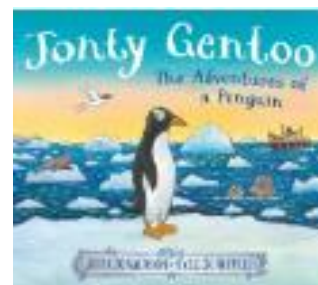
At school we have introduced a 'Reading Passport'. This is given to children once they are a free reader to encourage them to read a range of genres rather than just reading the same style or series of books or books by the same author. Once children complete this they are rewarded with a certificate in assembly by Mrs Jagger and given another passport.

New releases

Jonty Gentoo - The Adventures of a Penguin by Julia Donaldson, Alex Scheffler

Release date – 12.09.24

Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler return with another irresistible rhyming picture book all about the titular penguin who escapes from the zoo on an adventure-packed bid to reach the South Pole.



Where to Hide a Star by Oliver Jeffers

Release date – 10.10.24

A hugely endearing addition to Jeffers' classic Boy series of picture books, Where to Hide a Star finds our young hero journeying to the North Pole to find out what has happened to his cosmic friend.



Diary of a Wimpy Kid Hot Mess by Jeff Kinney

Release date – 22.10.24

Greg Heffley returns in a side-splitting, summery Wimpy Kid story, as the two halves of his extended family come together with riotous consequences.



The Swifts: A Gallery of Rogues – The Swifts by Beth Lincoln, Claire Powell

Release date – 22.08.24

In this mischievous and mystery-filled sequel to The Swifts, a trail leads Shenanigan and her sisters to Paris where they are plunged into an adventure involving long lost relatives and highly artistic thieves.

