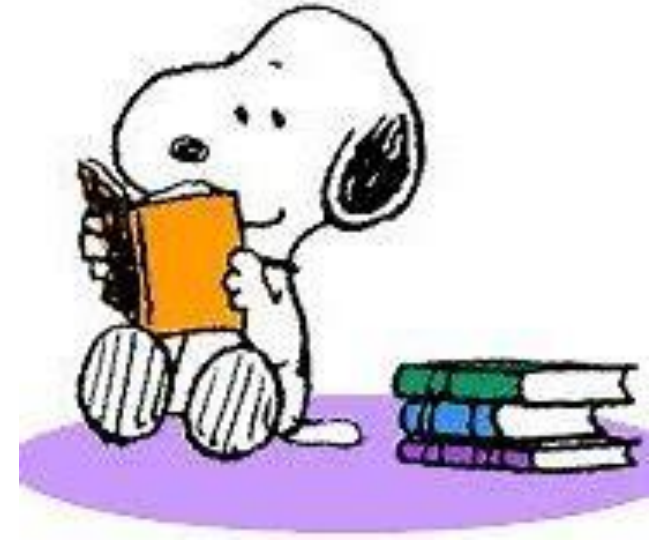


Raising a reader



'Opening a book for the very first time still fills me with the same excitement and anticipation that it did as a child. Books enable children to discover new worlds, meet new people and learn about the past, but they also have the power to transform lives. By sparking growing imaginations, stimulating critical thinking and helping to develop empathy, reading gives children the very skills they need to succeed at school, at work and in life'.

Cressida Cowell



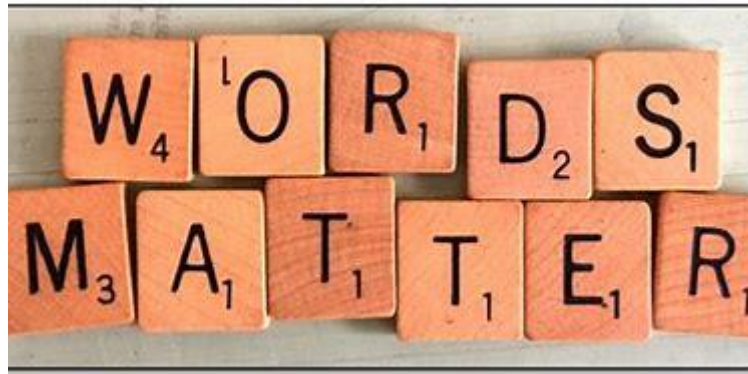
Reading is the gateway
skill that makes all other
learning possible.

Barack Obama

quotefancy



Students who read for pleasure make significantly more progress in vocabulary, spelling and maths than children who read very little (Sullivan and Brown 2013).



Vocabulary at age 5 has been found to be the best predictor of whether children who experience social deprivation in childhood were able to escape poverty in later adult life. (Blanden, 2006)

Building a reading culture at CDS

A revamp of the school libraries. Over £1500 spent on new high-quality texts.

Dedicated 'reading for pleasure' sessions each day where the teacher reads to the class and/or the children read independently.

On the junior site, appointment of reading ambassadors to promote reading among their peers, act as librarians and contribute to displays and special events.

Publication of monthly reading newsletter called The Reading Owl.

Access in the classrooms to books linked to current topic.

Staff sharing their love of reading by book chat, posters that tell the children what the staff are reading.



Celebration of special events throughout the year such as World Book Day and National Poetry Day.

The teaching of reading at CDS

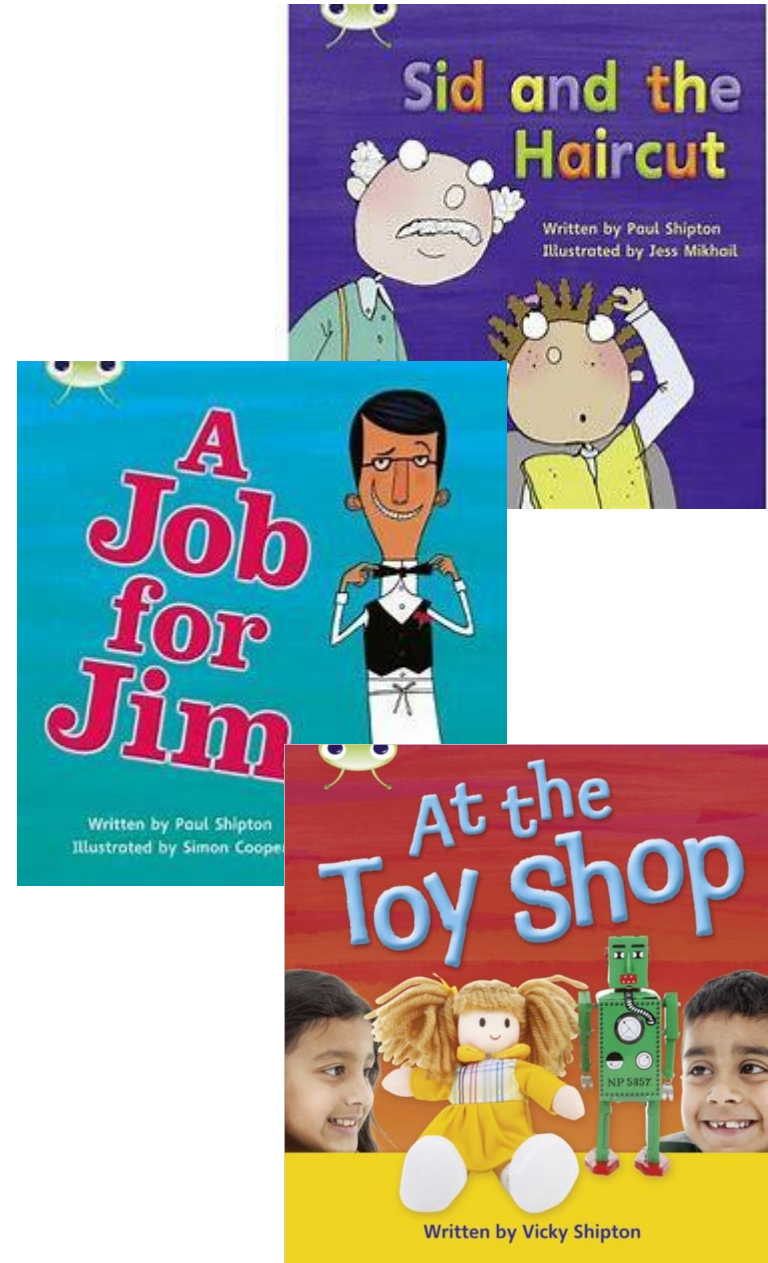


Reading at KS1

Reading books connect closely to the phonics knowledge pupils are taught when they are learning to read. The sharp focus on ensuring that younger children and those at the early stages of reading gain phonics knowledge and language comprehension necessary to read, and the skills to communicate, gives them the foundations for future learning.

Enjoying daily story time with the class teacher or TA.

The chance to visit the school library and choose from our newly updated selection of picture books, chapter books and non-fiction.



Reading at KS2

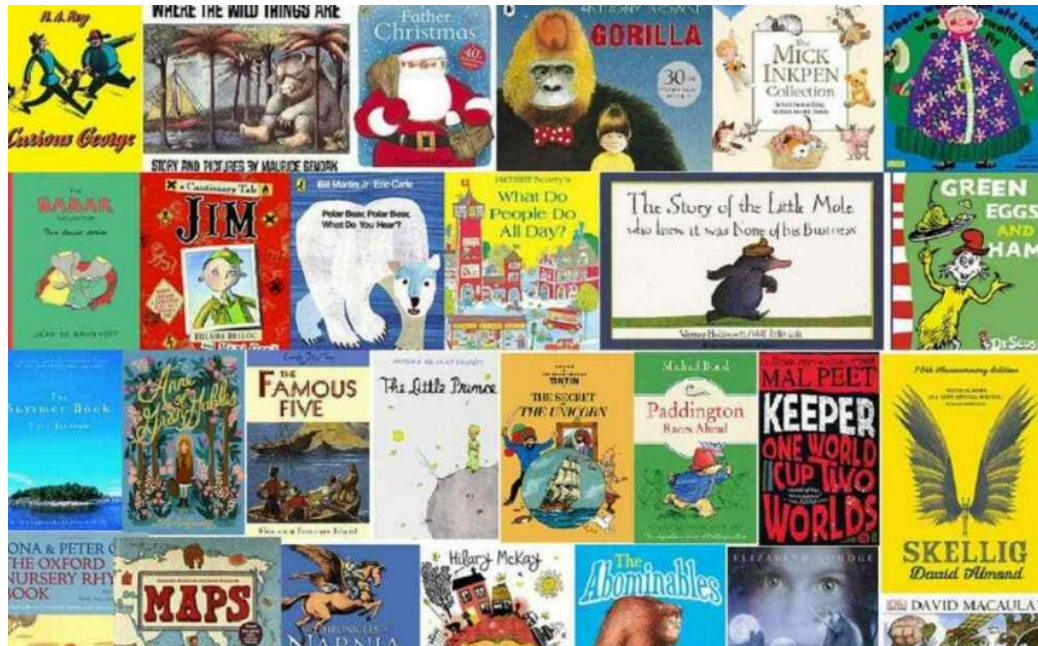
- Some children continue with phonics sessions either with the class teacher or a TA, using a scheme called Rapid Phonics. These children will have a Rapid Phonics reading book to read in school.
- All children have either a banded reading book or a library book that they can read in school and/or at home.
- All children have access to the school library.



- The library is open every breaktime and children can also request the help of a reading ambassador at lunchtime to change their library book. The library is open until 3.50pm after school on a Monday.
- In all subjects, significant emphasis is placed on vocabulary. All classes have a word tree where children can add new or exciting words they have discovered and want to share. Technical/subject-specific vocabulary is displayed on working walls.
- Starters and early morning activities often focus on word play – prefixes and suffixes, breaking up words to make new words, definition matching games, dictionary dash...
- Children are always encouraged to share their writing by reading aloud to their peers, either 1-1 or to the whole class.
- Booster groups are in place to support targeted children with both decoding and comprehension skills.



High quality texts – why are they so important?



The use of high-quality texts within the reading curriculum is at the heart of a school's successful approach to engage and support children to become motivated and independent readers. If children enjoy reading, they read more frequently and become better readers. Centre for Literacy in Primary Education

Furthermore, we know the inextricable link between exposure to high quality literature and the raising of standards in writing.

Reading is an inhalation of ideas; when we write, we're simply breathing out.

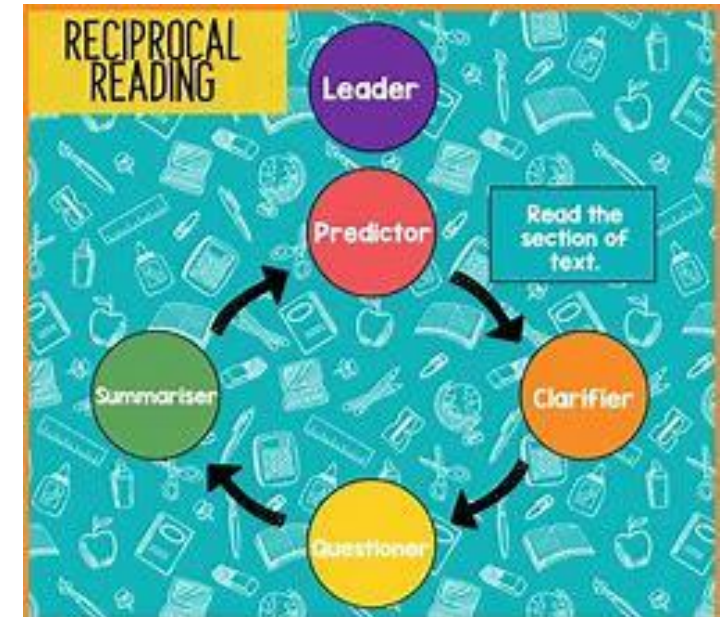
Reciprocal Reading - Why?

What the research says....

Reciprocal Reading is an effective and proven approach to developing reading and comprehension.

It will help children who:

- Can read but struggle to understand.
- Can't explain their understanding to others.
- Lack confidence when reading new or unfamiliar texts.
- Only read for plot events not the details within the writing.
- Have impaired understanding through limited understanding of vocabulary.
- Read text avidly but never question the meaning of words or what they have just read.



Reciprocal Reading – what is it?

The children work in a small group of 6 or 7 with an adult. The teacher selects a piece of text – poetry, fiction, a newspaper report, a biography...

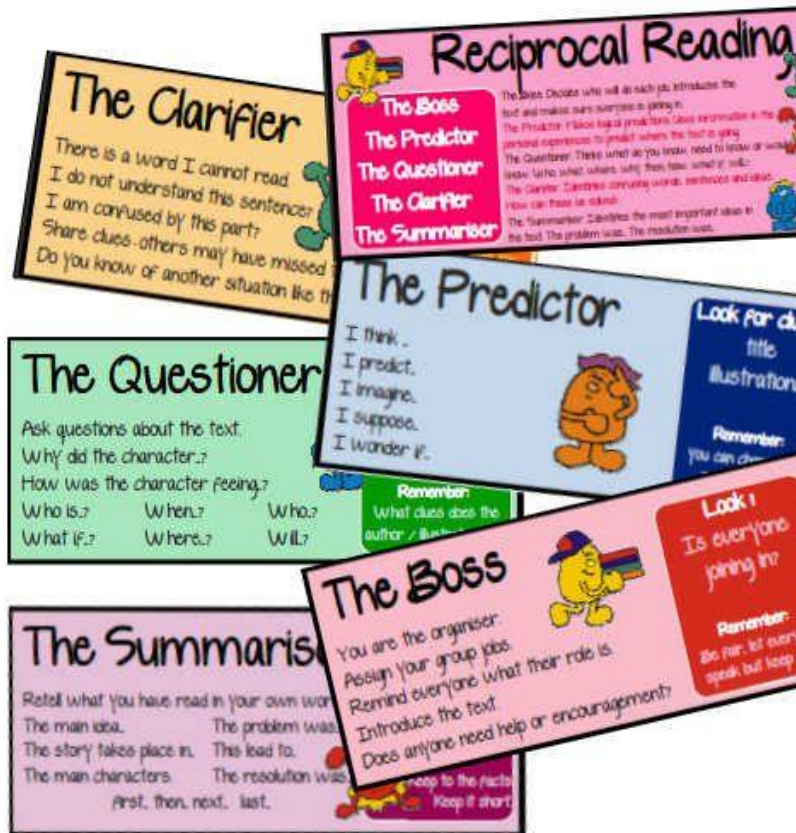
The children take on one of four roles; summariser, predictor, clarifier or questioner.

The summariser explains what the text is about; what is the main idea?

The questioner asks questions about the characters or the plot.

The clarifier highlights important or unknown vocabulary.

The predictor use stem sentences such as 'I wonder if...' or 'I think that...' to make predictions about the characters, the vocabulary or the plot.



Other opportunities for reading

- KS1 - reciprocal reading strategies are introduced using short pieces of text, pictures or even a piece of music. Picture books are used as a fantastic source of inspiration for discussion, speech and drama.
- 1-1 reading as often as possible
- KS2 - Whole class reading sessions using a piece of text from the class novel, from a non-fiction text relating to topic or Science or any other high-quality literature. Children are taught specific retrieval skills and how to draw inferences from what they have read.
- Paired reading sessions – builds collaboration and teaches peer-support skills. Children read the higher- level text and use reciprocal reading strategies to discuss and make predictions.
- Reading comprehension activities in which children apply the strategies they have learned, to work independently answering questions about a text.

What can you do at home?

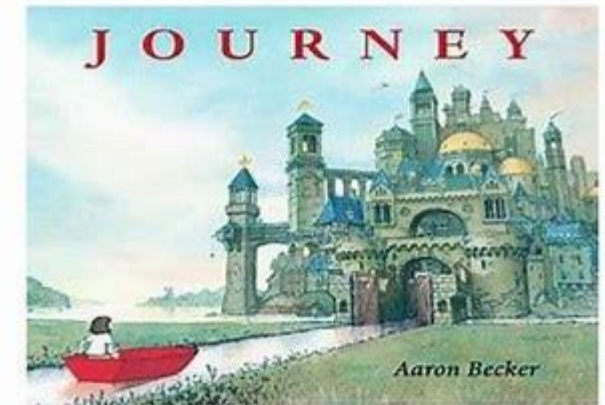
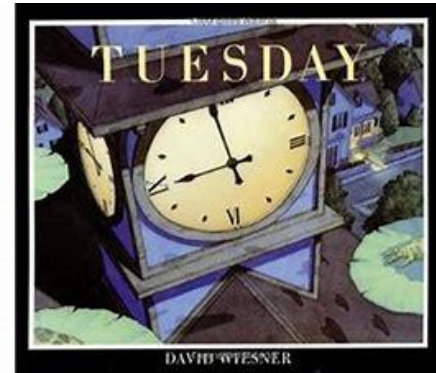
- Listen to your child read and use the reciprocal reading strategies to ask questions, discuss, clarify words... There should be a booklet in the front of your child's reading diary with question prompts. It's all about quality rather than quantity of reading.
- Read **to** your child.
This is good for mental well-being; promotes good reading habits; gives children access to ambitious, higher level vocabulary that they would not be able to de-code themselves; improves the child's speaking and listening skills; models how intonation can improve the reading experience.
- Play word/ reading related games.
- Picture books are not just for the very young.

Role Models for Reading

*'I write my *How to Train Your Dragon* and *The Wizards of Once* books to be read aloud, because books read to you in your parents' voice live with you and send an important message: books are important; books are powerful, magical things that can make your dad cry or your mum laugh, and they contain the sort of wisdom in them that can change your life'. Cressida Cowell*

Wordless picture books are great for encouraging a child's ability to infer what is happening in a story. With no words for guidance, they have to figure this out, using only the illustrations and their imagination. This develops sound comprehension skills and an overall understanding of how stories are structured.

Children need to practice retelling stories. The adult can model storytelling techniques, make connections, predict and question. The children can be encouraged to discuss, to recreate the story in drama, can write their own version.



Re-create your favorite book cover



Ideas for games

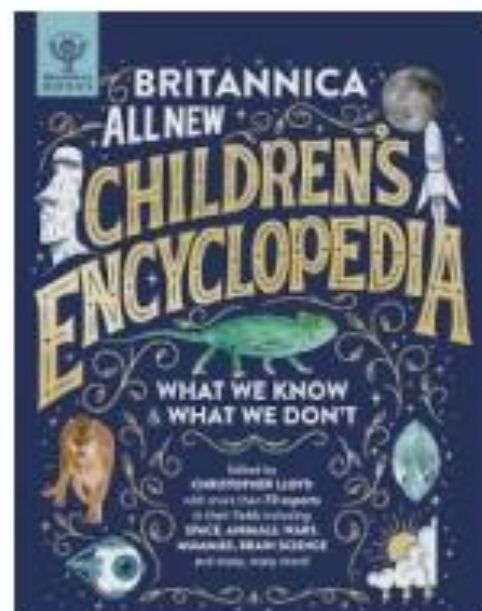
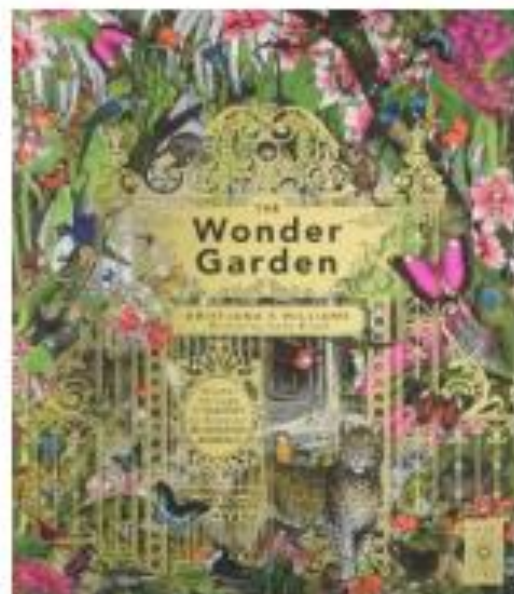
- Which book character am I? (a bit like Guess Who)
- Do the 'Book Cover Challenge'
- Desert Island Book Game
- Reading Bingo
- How many words prediction game

Reading for Pleasure: Branching Out

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/books-for-fans-of-julia-donaldson>



Sumptuous Non-Fiction



www.thephoenixcomic.co.uk

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Phoenix comic website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'THE PHOENIX SHOP', 'BLOG OF AWESOME', 'Downloads', 'Stories & Creators', and 'SCHOOLS & LIBRARIES'. Below this, there's a main content area with two columns. The left column is titled 'THE PHOENIX IS ...' and lists features like 'An awesome 32 page comic available through your post box, in shops, or on iPad' and 'Packed with amazing comics from some of the best creators in the world!'. The right column is titled 'Get The Phoenix...' and offers a 'Free Sample - is here!' and 'A whole issue of The Phoenix, available to read right here, right now (did we mention it's free?)'. There are social media icons for Twitter and Facebook, and a 'SIGN UP TO OUR NEWSLETTER!' button.

The Week Junior Science+Nature is a monthly magazine for 8-15s, created by the award-winning team behind The Week Junior.

Published every four weeks, this 60-page page-turner is jam-packed with amazing information, inspiring stories, mind-blowing facts, incredible pictures and fun activities — designed to spark curiosity and ignite a passion for discovery.

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- ✓ Never miss an issue with your magazine delivered free (and plastic-free!)



<https://theweekjunior.co.uk/>



Using Kindles



Sneak in opportunities for reading when out shopping, cooking, travelling, writing messages to your children...

The Benefits of Using Audio Books

- Great for supporting less able readers
- Can be used to challenge more able readers
- Great for motivating reluctant readers
- Can be enjoyed by all the family
- Can be listened to alongside the 'real book'
- Can be used as a spring board for writing

Audio books



Add sub-titles to films and television programmes you watch so that the children can read the words as well as watch.

Free Audio Books

<https://www.worldbookday.com/world-of-stories/>

A screenshot of the World Book Day website. At the top, there is a blue banner with the text "WORLD BOOK DAY" and "Changing lives through a love of books and shared reading". Below the banner is a navigation menu with links for "BOOKS", "SCHOOLS/WORKSHEETS", "FAMILIES", "EVENTS", "FUNDRAISING", "GET INVOLVED", "NEWS", and "ABOUT". The main content area features a book recommendation for "A Sprinkle of Sorcery" by Tracy Stapp. The book cover is visible on the left, and the text on the right describes the book as a "wonderful of lightness, and accompanied by a will of the wisp, it seems certain adventure has landed on their".

Other places to go for inspiration

Words for Life
<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/>



- Words for Life is created by the [National Literacy Trust](#), funded by Kindred, the Department for Education, and supported by UK publishers. It provides parents, children and young people with activities and support to improve their language, literacy and communication skills from home.
- The National Literacy Trust's Virtual School Library, also funded by Kindred, is a free platform for primary schools, offering pupils access to free books and activities from the most popular children's authors.

<https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/>

Simple, fun activities for kids from newborn to 5



Simple, fun activities

Book Trust Great Books Guide



www.shakespeareandmore.com



Shakespeare and More
Great Literature. Great Resources.

Books We Love

Wow, just what could this be about?

Yep, below are some of books we've returned to time and time again. We've read them aloud in class and they're always popular. They also make great recommendations for children to read independently. You could plan some amazing English units based on them too.

Wonderful Contemporary Fiction



Perfect Poetry

Classic Children's Literature



Amazing Picture Books

Beautiful Readings



www.oxfordowl.co.uk



100 fiction books all children should read before leaving primary school – according to teachers



<https://www.tes.com/news/school-news/breaking-news/100-fiction-books-all-children-should-read-leaving-primary-school-%E2%80%93>

The Reading Owl



Welcome to the first issue of our school reading newsletter.

Over the summer, I was fortunate to be able to research and purchase a considerable number of new books for our libraries as well as books to support our topic work. This is largely due to the generosity of current and previous pupils and their parents. So, thank you very much. Your gifts of money and support for the Sponsored Read before the first covid lockdown have enabled us to re-vitalise the libraries and re-kindle a love of reading in the children. Their enthusiasm for all things 'bookish' is infectious.

We have planned events throughout the school year to continue to promote the reading culture at CDS and will be sharing these with you and the children over the coming months. Please read below about our celebration of National Poetry Day and the launch of a poetry writing competition.

Mrs Chaplin



Reading Ambassadors

The following children applied for and have been appointed as School Reading Ambassadors. So far they have been busy learning how to operate the library computer system and have been instrumental in helping to make the junior site library a bright, engaging space and in sharing their passion for books.



Library Opening Hours

On the junior site, the children are able to change their library books each break time and during other slots as agreed by their class teacher. We are pleased to announce that after half-term, the libraries on both sites will also be open one day each week after school.

Infant site: Friday 3.10 – 3.30pm
Junior site: Monday 3.25 – 3.50pm

National Poetry Day

On 7th October we celebrated National Poetry Day. Both sites were plastered with poems, English lessons focused on poetry reading and writing and staff led assemblies in which they read their favourite poem or even poems they had written themselves. The children were surprised to find poems stuck to the toilet doors and were heard to be apologising to their teacher for taking so long in the toilet because they wanted to read all the poems!

Poetry Writing Competition

The children's enthusiasm that day and since then has led us to launch our first poetry writing competition. Entries need to be submitted by **Monday 8th November at 3.30pm**. The poems can be typed and emailed to the school office or hand-written and delivered to the Year 4 classroom or to Mr Mackriell on the infant site. The judging panel will choose winners from each keystage and we hope to publish the entries in a school poetry book.

Don't forget to download and share our Reading newsletter that will be emailed once a month. The newsletter is also available on the school website.

Do you have any spare time?

If so, we would love to welcome you into school to listen to children read.

We are also looking for an enthusiastic book-lover to help in the KS2 library for a few hours each month. The role would include general administrative duties, tidying the shelves and putting up displays.

Finally, encourage your children to write a book review for our Reading newsletter. It should be short and explain why they loved the book so much.

And finally, Thank you for giving up time tonight. We hope it has been useful.

