

Reading Newsletter

Spring 2025



Welcome to our reading newsletter for children, parents and school staff. It will provide recommendations of books to read as well as updates on reading across the school. What a busy reading term it's been!

Reading Ambassadors



Our Reading Ambassadors have been very busy. They have been listening to some of the younger children read and have applied for their Blue Peter Reading Badges. If you are interested in applying for a badge too, you can apply on the Blue Peter website.

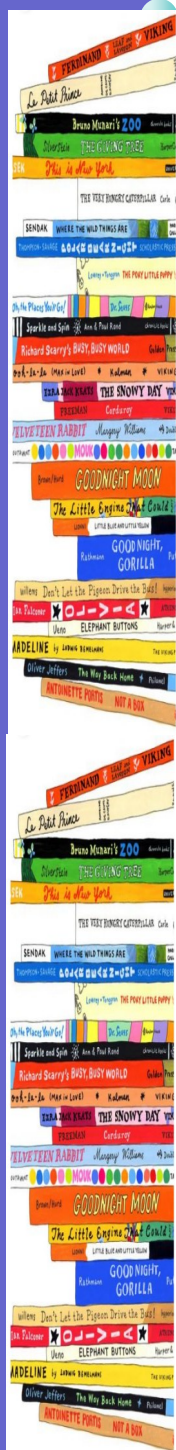
Our Reading Ambassadors were also lucky enough to meet the author Luke Temple when he visited us in January.



I will never cease to be amazed by books.
Seriously. Just think about it:
thousands of people read the same book
but in each one's mind the characters
look different and the setting changes
and we're all reading the same thing but
it's so unique to each of us.
That is insanely cool.



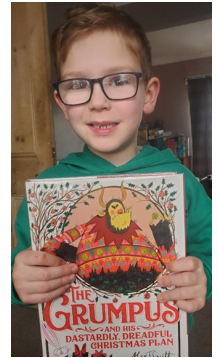
The Bookish Elf
WWW.BOOKISHELF.COM



Key Stage One Book recommendations

Year 1 recommendations:

Lewis borrowed this book from the library and his mum read it to him at bedtimes. He absolutely giggled his way through it. It's a lovely story about friendship and kindness.



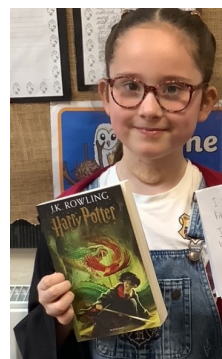
Dottie (1MS) recommends 'Down in the Jungle' by Vivian French. "I chose this because giraffes are my favourite animal. The book is full of other animals too."

Aidan (1LC) "I have a Dinosaur book by Julia Donaldson and a fact book with lots of facts. I love reading about Dinosaurs!"

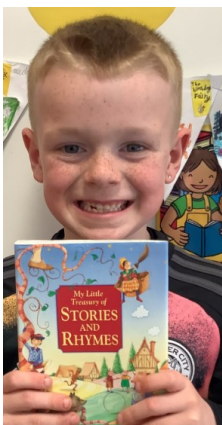


Year 2 recommendations:

Delilah in 1JJ is enjoying Harry Potter because she likes magic, mystical animals and owls.



Vinnie (1SSm) " My favourite book is Stories and Rhymes. It has lots of stories to read and my favourite is Goldilocks and the Three Bears".



In 1JW, Rupert and Aleah are enjoying Harry Potter. Rupert enjoys the flying and quidditch; Aleah enjoyed the part with the patronus. Lianana loves the Frozen books because they are interesting and teach her new words.



Governor book review for parents/carers...

Why Don't Things Fall Up?

Alom Shaha

Alom guide you on delightful and insightful journey into the heart of science through seven simple questions;

Why is the sky blue? | Why Don't Things Fall Up? | Why Does Ice Cream Melt? | What Is the Smallest Thin? | What Are Stars? | Are Fish Animals? | What Am I Made of?

Aimed at curious minds of all ages—especially those who may have felt left behind by science in school—this book invites you to reignite your sense of wonder about the world around you, be that curious child again!



Shaha, as a former physics teacher and well-known science communicator, he has an amazing gift for transforming everyday observations into a more insightful science. Questions are not just answered—they're unpacked with humour, clarity, and a deep respect for the reader's intelligence. He's not just throwing facts at you—he shares stories, using everyday experiences and moments we all recognise to make the science ring true. This storytelling style makes the science feel alive!

Shaha writes as if he's chatting with a friend, making hard to explain ideas digestible without ever talking down to the reader. Whether he's talking about gravity, thermodynamics, or how light works, Shaha keeps things easy to follow and genuinely fun to read. It's the kind of book that could spark curiosity and will reignite a sense of awe in an adult who hasn't thought about science in years.

Another standout feature is the way Shaha subtly weaves in the scientific method—observation, questioning, experimentation—throughout the book. In doing that, he doesn't just answer questions—he shows you how to ask better ones. And with all the confusion and misinformation out there these days, that feels especially important and refreshing.

Why Don't Things Fall Up? is more than a science book. It's an invitation to think, to wonder, and to see the world a little differently. Whether you're a student, a teacher, a parent, or simply a curious reader, this book will leave you looking at everyday phenomena with fresh eyes—and maybe even asking your own "why" questions.

[Thank you to our Governor Dan Roberts for this book review.](#)

Author Visit: Luke Temple

In January, we were visited by author Luke Temple. He spoke to all of the children about his books and played some funny language games. He returned the following day to sign books that the children bought.



Top tops for reading at home...

READING WITH YOUR CHILD

20 Minutes a day is all it takes to build key reading skills. Here are 6 ways to build a better reader during the elementary school years:

1. Create reading rituals and read every day.
2. Snuggle up close with a book before bed.
3. Talk about pictures and ask questions while reading.
4. Share all different kinds of books (stories, nonfiction, poetry).
5. Read favorite books again and again.
6. Read with expression.

'Good readers are made on the laps of parents.'

Why not join the local library?



They run a colouring club, a singing café, Stay and Play Saturdays, Wriggly Readers and more. See their website for full details.

World Book Day: 6th March

A successful book swap!



World Book Day: Poetry fundraising

Thank you for your generous donations for new poetry books for our library. We have bought many new poetry books as well as anthologies for each classroom!



The Jungle Book: 7th March

The day after World Book Day, children in years 3 to 6 watched a theatre production of 'The Jungle Book' from M&M production. What a treat! The children had studied the story in their reading lessons prior to the production.



EYFS reading drop-ins

Every Wednesday afternoon, the EYFS classes have a reading drop-in. Family members are welcomed in to the classrooms to read with the children and share in their reading for pleasure. Thank you to all of the adults who have attended.

