



Winslow Church of England School

Reading Newsletter – Spring 2021 (1st Edition)



Welcome to Winslow CE School's first reading newsletter. In this, and subsequent issues, we will be sharing updates about what we are doing to promote reading across the school, as well as highlighting some of our favourite reads at the moment.

A love of reading is the most important gift we can give our children; it builds empathy, strengthens vocabulary and is often a chance for our children to escape to another world. We hope this issue gives you some ideas of the wonderful books that are available at the moment.

Thank you for all the reading you have been doing with your children over this lockdown period. It has been lovely to see and hear what the different year groups have been doing to celebrate World Book Day and this will continue during the first week of our return. We hope you enjoyed our 'Masked Reader' competition - did you guess who each staff member was?! Please look out for a World Book Day 2021 voucher coming home soon and these are the same as the PDF version in my recent World Day letter to parents and carers. This year, these are valid beyond the end of the month when hopefully you will be able to enjoy going into a bookshop once again.

Take care and happy reading everyone!

Mrs Epps (Reading Lead).

We are reading....

This term, year groups are reading:

Rainbows are reading different fairy tales.

Foundation Stage are reading, 'The Gruffalo,' by Julia Donaldson.

Year 1 are reading a selection of non-fiction texts about plants and animals.

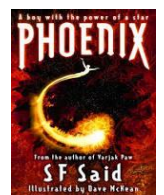
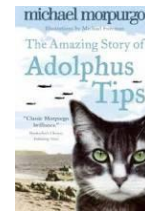
Year 2 are reading a selection of non-fiction texts about Australia and rainforests.

Year 3 are reading, 'The Amazing story of Adolphus Tips,' by Michael Morpurgo.

Year 4 are reading, 'Secret Lake,' by Karen Inglis and 'Rooftoppers,' by Katherine Rundell.

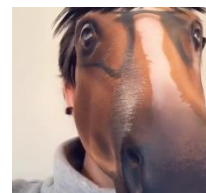
Year 5 are reading, 'Phoenix,' by S. F. Said to accompany their Science unit.

Year 6 are reading, 'Alex Rider's Stormbreaker,' by Anthony Horowitz.



Our World Book Week Masked Reader Quiz

Thank you for taking part in our World Book Week Masked Reader Quiz. We hope you enjoyed listening and had fun trying to work out who the masked readers are! If you haven't heard them yet, do head over to our school YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k3lfs2CovhY>



Accelerated Reader news



I am delighted to see so many children doing Accelerated Reader quizzes. If your child has been unable to access quizzes, it maybe because they are trying to use the Home Connect link which is designed for parents to check their child's results.

Since March we have enabled children to use the hosted site, which gives them access to quizzes; so this is the one they should use.

<https://ukhosted39.renlearn.co.uk/2233402/>

Children log in using their first initial and first four letters of their surname as their username and their library number as their password.

Many of you have found that books you have at home have quizzes, which you can access by typing the title of the book into the quiz search box.

Mrs White (School Librarian)

Bucks libraries and ebooks

You can also access free e-books from Bucks libraries

<https://buckinghamshire.overdrive.com/library/kids>

If your child is not already a member of the library, I have received the following advice from Bucks libraries

“With libraries all closed at the moment anyone under 13 will have to rely on a parent joining online as a library member, assuming they are not already a member and using their credentials to log their child in to the various online library services.



For younger children you may like to try the free ebooks available on the Oxford Owl website: <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>

They may also enjoy trying to read their favourite picture books. Enjoying books together really is the key to developing children's reading skills.

Review Corner

By Florence Gall (Y6 Reading Ambassador)

Book Title – The Polar Bear Explorers Club series by Alex Bell

Age range – 9-12 years



Review:

I like the Polar Bear books because they're very unique as they are both an adventure spy story, yet also a fantasy story at the same time. They are incredibly well illustrated with a few pictures throughout the books. The main concept is Stella Starflake Pearl makes friends with some junior explorers called Ethan, Beanie and Shay. They go on missions and explorations to help others in need. I like the way that Alex Bell writes as it gives me a lot of inspiration due to some great vocabulary. I would highly recommend this series to you.

Thank you Florence!

An interview with Mrs White



What is your favourite children's book and why?

That is such a hard question because there are so many excellent children's books. Every time I buy a new batch of books for the library there is a new favourite; but a book that stands out for me is Oi Frog! By Emily Gravett, which we bought a few years ago. When it arrived, I loved it so much that I just wanted to read it aloud, so Mrs Burman let me read it to her class straight away.

What book are you currently reading?

Giver of Stars by JoJo Moyes. It is set in Kentucky in the 1930s and is based on the true story of a group of women who set up a mobile library service on horseback. They rode out to remote areas delivering books to people who would not otherwise have had access to them. As well as being a really exciting story it explores issues of racial prejudice and women's autonomy.

Why is reading important to you?

I have read every day of my life since I learnt how, so it's actually hard to say why it is important to me - I just can't imagine not reading. Reading gives me the opportunity to experience different places, cultures and periods of history from the point of view of the characters involved. No other medium gives you such in-depth insight into the thoughts, beliefs and emotions of others.

World Book Day books

This year, parents and carers will be able to download a £1 voucher for World Book Day. Unfortunately, these cannot be used online. Shops (when open) will continue to exchange them for the £1 books after the usual deadline, for as long as stocks last.

Here is a link to this year's £1 book token:

https://www.worldbookday.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/booktoken_PrimaryUK.pdf



Mrs Epps recommends...

Key Stage 1:

Super Tato by Sue Hendra.

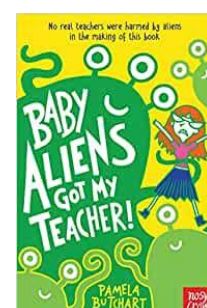
A supermarket hero with eyes everywhere and he has many adventures. Great illustrations too. I know that quite a few of you made potato book characters with our World Book Day week activities.



Key Stage 2:

Baby Aliens Got My Teacher by Pamela Butchart

This is the first in a great collection. Funny characters and plot. An enjoyable read.



Check out these sites for great booklists and activities:

www.booksfortopics.com

www.booktrust.org.uk – use the bookfinder for inspiration if you are wondering what to read next.

The Rainbow Children

The history books will talk of now,
That time the world stood still.
When every family stayed at home,
Waved out from windowsills-
At those they loved but could not hold,
Because they loved them so.
Yet, whilst they did they noticed all the flowers
start to grow.

The sun came out, they can recall,
And windows, rainbows filled.
They kicked a football in their yards,
Until the night drew in.
They walked each day but not too close,
That time the world stood still.
When people walked straight down the roads,
That once the cars did fill.

They saw that people became ill,
They knew the world was scared.
But whilst the world stood still they saw,
How much the whole world cared.
They clapped on Thursdays from their doors,
They cheered for the brave.
For people who would risk their lives,
So others could be saved.

The schools closed down, they missed their
friends,
They missed their teachers so.
Their Mum's and Dad's helped with their work,
They helped their minds to grow.
The parents used to worry that,
As schools were put on hold,
Their children wouldn't have the tools,
They'd need as they grew old.

But history books will talk of them,
Now adults, fully grown.
Those little boys and girls back then,
The ones who stayed at home.
They'll tell you that they fixed this world,
Of all they would fulfil.
The RAINBOW children building dreams,
They'd dreamed whilst time stood still

Gemma Peacock



Our Winslow Story Corner

Please visit the following YouTube pages to hear
a selection of stories, read by our staff:

Mrs Thomas reading Stick Man by Julia
Donaldson <https://youtu.be/jlgTMNbXix8>

Mr Boyer reading Phoenix by S F Said
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HM-RpAIDdWw>

Mrs Epps reading The Highland Falcon Thief by
M G Leonard and Sam Sedgman
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=diEi_N7tM6U

Mrs White reading from The Book of Hopes by
Katherine Rundell
https://youtu.be/_FVSnBMDNwE

Mrs Colmer Rumble in the Jungle by Giles
Andreae and David Wojtowycz
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LOJmhFSJuUs&list=PL9V--oc1EJIJyFSbYF8g2fGEUn5ncM1Mg&index=13>



**We will be back soon with our second
edition of our Reading Newsletter. Our Y6
Reading Ambassadors will be introducing
themselves.**

Happy reading everyone!

