



Wood Fold Primary School



Reading Newsletter

Summer 1 - 2024

Welcome back to our Summer 1 Reading Newsletter – a place for us to share reading news, recommendations and ways to support our children and their families in accessing and enjoying great books. Every class in school has been enjoying their class novel or class stories these last few weeks.

It has been yet another busy half term of reading at Wood Fold! Reading is always at the heart of our curriculum and we are always finding ways to promote Reading wherever possible. In this half-term's edition of the Reading Newsletter, we will highlight the importance and benefits of Reading. We will also recommend a number of new books to read as well as focusing on a new author. The 'poetry corner' gives you an insight into some poems for the Summer and we take a closer look at our challenges!

WHY READ?



Benefits of Reading for Children

Here are 10 benefits of reading for children:

1. Their vocabulary is larger and more extensive.
2. They perform better academically.
3. Their imagination can run wild.
4. Their creativity skills develop.
5. They develop empathy.
6. They gain a deeper understanding of their world.
7. Their concentration levels improve.
8. The parent and child bond improves.
9. Their cognitive development is supported.
10. Their social skills and interaction improve.

We place reading and books at the centre of the curriculum as children who enjoy reading achieve highly across the curriculum. Developing a love for reading is one of the most effective ways we can create a love for learning and raise attainment.

We aim for all children to enjoy reading for pleasure. Promoting a love for reading sets children up as readers for life, with all the accompanying benefits that follow.

Being able to read well is a key life skill for children, whatever their background and every child deserves the chance to become a reader and have a lifetime of enjoyment.

We believe that reading is a passport to the world. The benefits of reading go beyond the opportunities offered by being well-read with a good command of English.

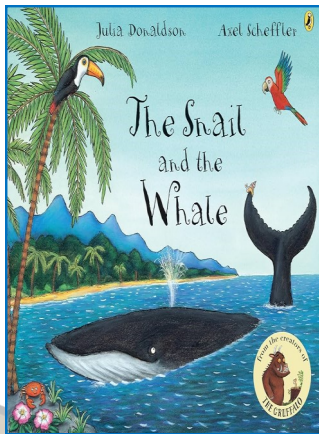
Reading opens children up to ideas, experiences, places and times they might never otherwise experience in real life. Reading for pleasure helps us to enhance opportunities to learn about a multitude of things that may not be covered by a school curriculum.

We believe that the reading environment of our school should appeal to children of all ages and abilities, and to both boys and girls. Our library and book areas are welcoming, working spaces, where children visit, read, choose, enjoy and talk about books.

Recommendations based on our Summer 1 class texts

We read this...

...so now try this

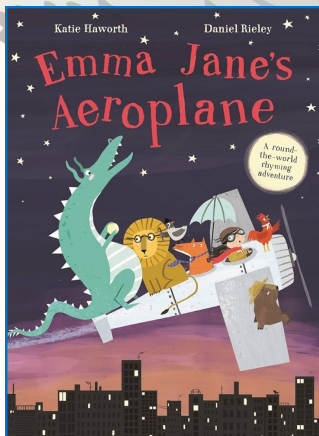


The Snail and the Whale
Julia Donaldson

Reception



A Midsummer Night's Drama
Louie Stowell

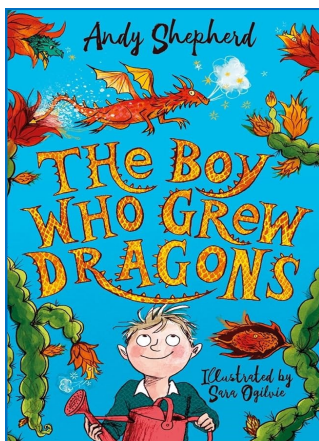


Emma Jane's Aeroplane
Katie Howarth

Year 1

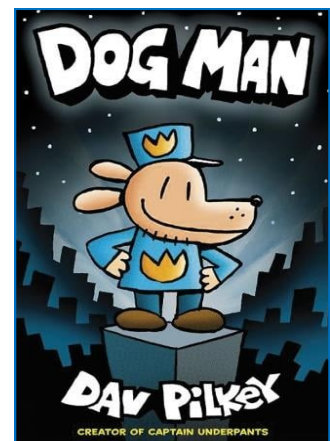


What We'll Build: Plans for Our Together Future
Oliver Jeffers



The Boy Who Grew Dragons
Andy Shepherd

Year 2

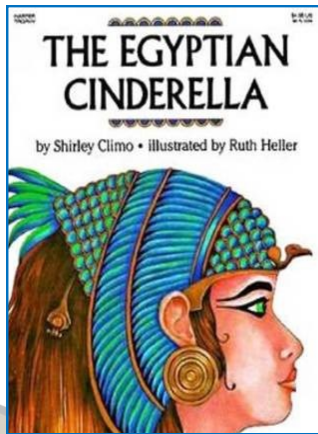


Dog Man
Dav Pilkey

Recommendations based on our Summer 1 class texts

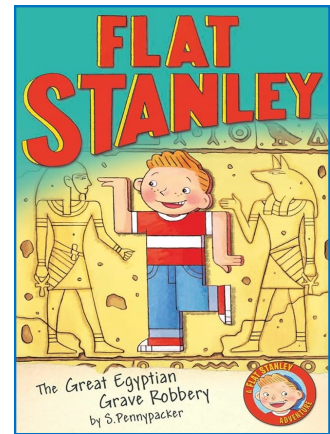
We read this...

...so now try this

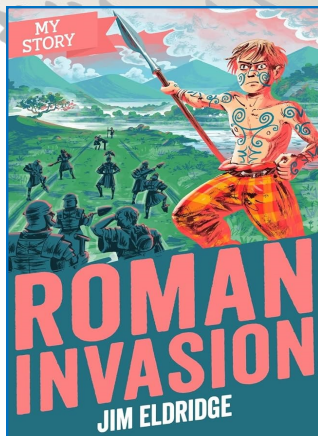


Egyptian Cinderella
Shirley Climo

Year 3



Flat Stanley: The Great Egyptian Grave Robbery
Sara Pennypacker

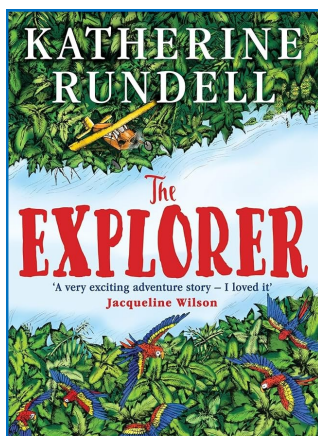


My Story: Roman Invasion
Jim Eldridge

Year 4

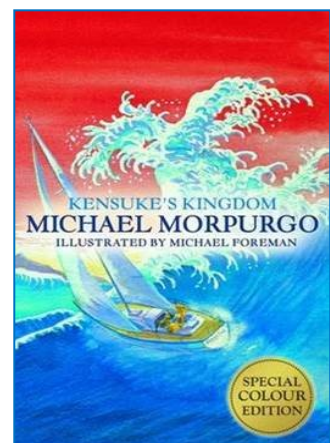


Sky Chasers: a soaring adventure from the queen of historical fiction
Emma Carroll



The Explorer
Katherine Rundell

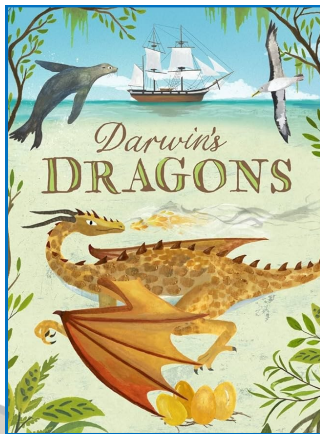
Year 5



Kensuke's Kingdom
Michael Morpurgo

Recommendations based on our Summer 1 class texts

We read this...



Darwin's Dragons

Lindsay Galvin

Year 6



...so now try this



The Boy Who Flew

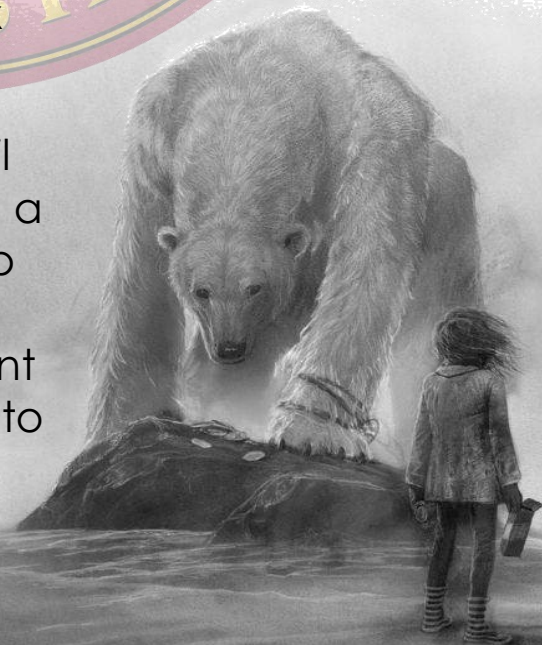
Fleur Hitchcock

Miss Prescott Recommends

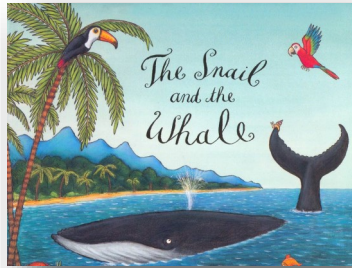
This book is moving story from cover to cover! If you particularly like animals and have experience of forming a close relationship with a pet, this is a wonderful book to try! There are no polar bears left on Bear Island. At least, that's what April's father tells her, when his scientific research takes them to this remote Arctic outpost for six months.

But one endless summer night, April meets one. He is starving, lonely and a long way from home. The friendship April forms with the bear, is like no other. April begins the most important journey of her life, she is determined to save him...

THE LAST BEAR



BOOK IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Julia Donaldson • Axel Scheffler



From the creators behind *The Gruffalo* is a delightful tale of adventure and friendship with Julia Donaldson's trademark rhyming text and Axel Scheffler's brilliant, characterful illustrations--a perfect gift for any special occasion

When a tiny snail meets a humpback whale, the two travel together to far-off lands. It's a dream come true for the snail, who has never left home before. But when the whale swims too close to shore, will the snail be able to save her new friend?

MEET THE CHARACTERS

A brave and adventurous mollusc, Snail longs to escape her rock and explore the world. Though tiny in size, Snail's courage and determination are huge, and she thinks of a creative way to pursue her exciting dream.

It's not long before Snail's clever tactic works, attracting the attention of the majestic Whale. Hitching a lift on great big humpback's tail, Snail is so amazed and overwhelmed by the size and beauty of the natural world that she starts to feel small and vulnerable. Though being the feisty creature that she is, Snail continues her voyage and rescues Whale when he gets into a sticky situation.



Snail



Whale

Whale is a generous and caring mammal who loves to explore the open ocean, travelling from the cold southern pole to warm tropical climates. His adventurous personality is much like that of the tiny and brave Snail, which is why he is intrigued by her ad for a lift around the world. He offers Snail a ride on his tail and shows her the beauty and wonders of planet earth. The pair soon become best friends, and despite her sudden insecurities and travel sickness, Snail will stop at nothing to help the much-loved Whale when he becomes beached on a bay.

Meet Zillah Bethell

Zillah Bethell was born in the shadow of the volcano Mount Lamington in Papua New Guinea. She grew up without shoes, toys or technology. Consequently she spent a lot of time in the sea swimming and in canoes. Zillah's family returned to the UK when she was ten, and she now lives in South Wales. Zillah is a storyteller and has written numerous stories for all ages.

I contacted Zillah and she kindly wrote these words for our school community about reading for pleasure:

"When I came to the UK I lived with my grandmother who owned a pre loved shop so all I had to do was read old annuals and polish antiques. Reading helped me to adapt to a new country and to learn and understand its customs and more. Sometimes I was homesick for Papua New Guinea but reading fiction gave me freedom and helped me to escape from the more challenging aspects of being the new girl from Papua New Guinea."

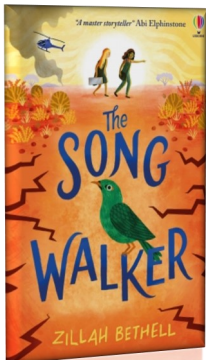
The Song Walker is Zillah Bethell's newest title.

Read the blurb below to find out more:

Where am I?

What am I doing here?

And ... Who am I?



When a young girl wakes up in the middle of the desert, she has no idea who she is. She's wearing one shoe, a plain black dress and she's carrying a strange, heavy case. She meets Tarni, who is on a mysterious quest of her own.

Together, the two girls trek across the cast and ever-changing Australian Outback in search of answers. Except both are hiding secrets ...

Spring Reading Bingo

Congratulations to all the children who completed the Spring Reading Bingo! Everyone who participated earned themselves a certificate and a lucky student from each year group earned themselves a book from the Reading Vending Machine.



Congratulations to:

Reception: Charlotte Foster

Year 1: Blossom Lowe

Year 2: Lizzie Hesketh

Year 3: Ella Hazlehurst

Year 4: Heidi Dawber

Year 5: Pearl Lowe



Keep an eye out for more opportunities to participate in Reading Challenges.

EXTREME READING CHALLENGE

This half-term, we are hosting a challenge for our students called the '2024 Extreme Reading Challenge'. We would like children to get a photo of themselves reading their books in unusual and out-of-the-ordinary places. An example could be up a climbing frame or on a trampoline. Children have been asked to be mindful of being safe and to check with an adult first. The more creative – the better! We would love for families to get involved as well so please feel free to join in. Children can either bring in a hard copy of their photographs throughout the course of the term and give them to Mrs Dawber.

All of the pictures will be added to what we hope will be a fantastic display of our children reading in a whole host of weird and wonderful places.

Photos should be given/sent to Mrs Dawber no later than Tuesday 9th July!

Thank you for your support!

THE POETRY CORNER

Poetry provides a freedom of expression for students to express themselves and their identities with metaphor, imagery and symbolism. Being able to use language freely in this way will help students to gain new perspectives on life and ordinary experiences. Poetry often explores a complex array of emotions and encouraging students to recognise these will help them develop greater emotional intelligence. It will also help them develop a greater sense of self-awareness that they can carry with them through life. Poetry might become a way students can share their thoughts which they may have otherwise found hard to communicate and express, and in this sense is a truly freeing experience.

Summer is one of the most enjoyable seasons, with long days and short nights, providing plenty of opportunities for your children to play and participate in exciting activities. One such activity can be reciting summer poems for kids, which can be fun and interesting. When you are enjoying the sun, you can recite these playful poems to make your days more fun.

MICHAEL ROSEN

Over my toes
goes
the soft sea wash
see the sea wash
the soft sand slip
see the sea slip
the soft sand slide
see the sea slide
the soft sand slap
see the sea slap
the soft sand wash
over my toes.



Summer, Summer by Sarah Griffin

Summer, summer,
I'm so glad you're here!
Summer, summer,
Let's give a cheer!
Summer, summer,
I'll meet you at the park.
Summer, summer,
Let's stay up till dark!

