



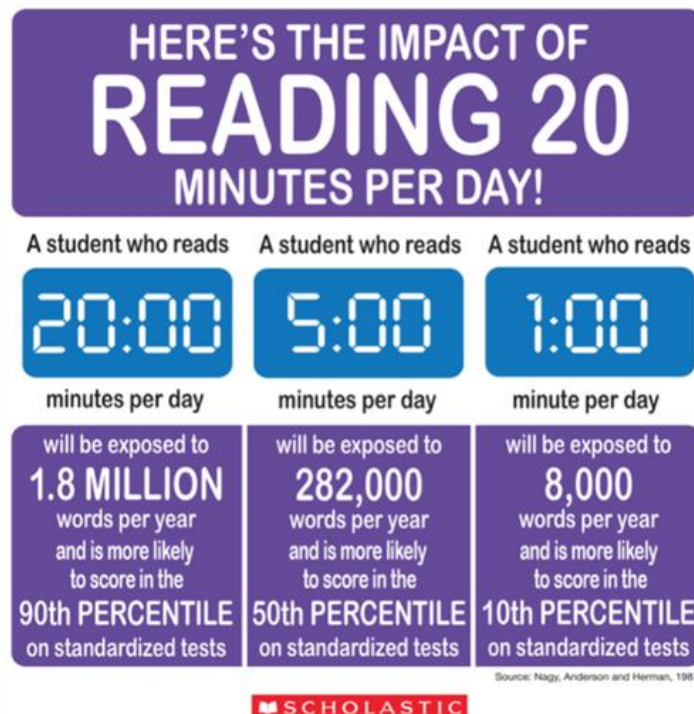
READING NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term 2020

Welcome to Archbishop Benson's reading newsletter. This newsletter is brand new and will be released every term. It's a chance to find out about new, high quality fiction, non-fiction and poetry as well as a chance to get tips and up to date information about helping your child with their reading journey. You can dip in and out or read it in one whole bite! Reading truly is the key to open so many doors -no matter what age you are.

As always, your support is hugely appreciated,
Mrs Fleet (Reading Lead)

The Impact of Reading



There is overwhelming evidence that literacy has a significant relationship to people's life chances. Reading for pleasure is more

important than either wealth or social class as an indicator of success at school.

If your child isn't a 'book worm' yet, don't worry! There are so many wonderful and exciting authors, that there's a book to engage and inspire your child out there... they just may not have discovered it yet!

In school, we will be continuing to encourage a love of reading by sharing lots of exciting authors, old and new. We read to the children every day and share our passion for reading.

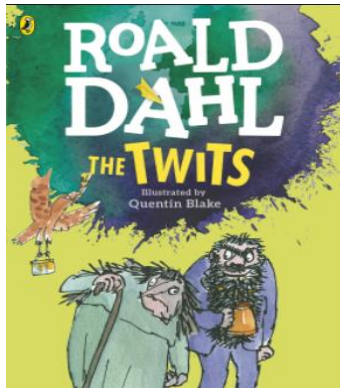
The Importance of Reading for Pleasure



There is consistent evidence that age affects attitudes to reading and reading behaviour; that children enjoy reading less as they get older. This means it doesn't get easier to support children in their own reading practice. Developing a true love of reading is vital in the early years of primary school. Reading has also shown to be positive for mental health - reducing feelings of loneliness, strengthening understanding of identity and developing empathy.

The benefits of reading are broad and far-reaching. Evidence shows that by the time children are around 8 years old, the majority of children are no longer read to by an adult at home. This is a key area of reading for pleasure because it allows children to dream, imagine and question. Children are more likely to continue to be readers in homes where books and reading are valued.

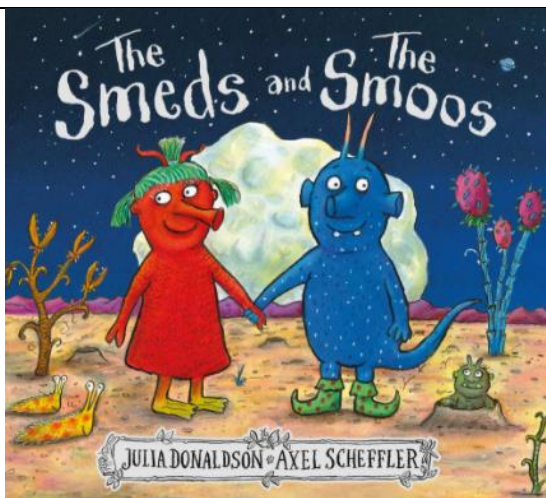
Books to Share as a Family



The Twits by Roald Dahl

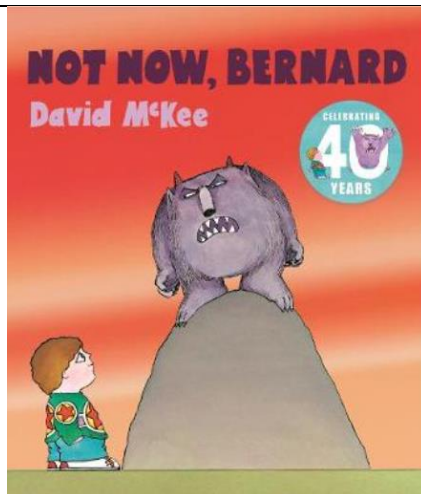
This is the classic tale of two horrible Twits who love nothing better than to play horrible tricks on each other. As the events play out, one thing becomes clear from their unkind actions...

“...if you have good thoughts they will shine out of your face like sunbeams and you will always look lovely.”



The Smeds and the Smoos by Julia Donaldson

This is another brilliant edition from the Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler partnership. The story reflects a current and highly relevant tale of race, equality and togetherness in a child-friendly way. It teaches us to learn from the tales of generations that came before us and make our own paths. Very uplifting!



Not Now, Bernard by David McKee

Bernard tries unsuccessfully to get his parents' attention, getting the same reply each time. Even when he's being eaten by a monster, his parents don't notice! The BIG question is, who is the monster? Could it be Bernard himself?

Poetry Page



John McCrae

Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae (November 30, 1872 - January 28, 1918) was a Canadian poet, physician, author, artist and soldier during World War I, and a surgeon during the Second Battle of Ypres, in Belgium. He is best known for writing the famous war memorial poem "In Flanders Fields" which he wrote the day after his close friend was killed in battle.

Remembrance Day - 11th November

In Flanders Field



In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

By John McCrae



KALI CIESEMIER

Choosing a book can seem like a commitment, so how can we make that less daunting? Here are a few handy strategies to explore (these work for adult readers too!)

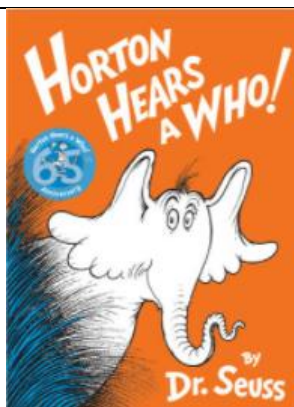
1. **Questioning** why you have chosen it in the first place (do you know why)
2. **Cover and blurb check:** what are your first impressions?
3. **Exploring interests** (reading preferences, character types, genre)
4. **Series:** is it part of a number of books? Do they need to be read in order?
5. **Is it the correct level?** Check the book at www.arbookfinder.co.uk (KS2)

Stories for World Kindness Day and Beyond

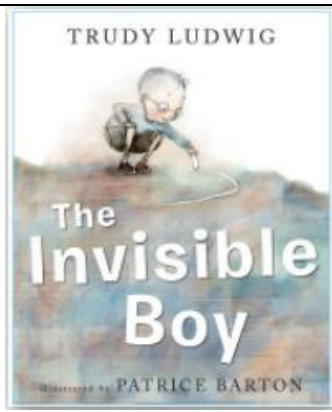


World Kindness Day is being celebrated this year on 13th November and the message this year is 'Make kindness the norm'. The day itself is simply about raising awareness of the virtue of kindness and these stories are wonderful examples of how to spread kindness between

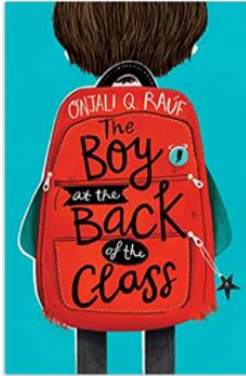
us all.



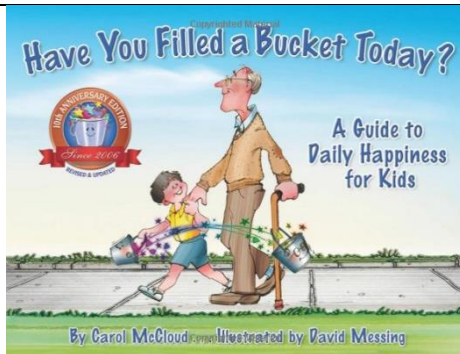
Horton is a rather large elephant with enormous ears. One day, he hears a tiny yelp coming from the smallest speck. The other animals in the jungle cannot hear it and set out to destroy the speck. Horton shows a real strength in persistent kindness in his efforts to protect the Whos who cannot stand up for themselves.



Shy, quiet Brian feels invisible in the lively and energetic classroom in which he finds himself. When a new student arrives, Brian sees an opportunity to make a new friend. The tale that unfolds provides a gentle reminder of how it feels to be left out and how one person's small acts of kindness - as simple as a hello - can make a huge difference to someone's life.



When Syrian refugee, Ahmet, arrives at his new school, in a new country he struggles to adapt to his new life. That is until a 9-year-old child and his friends come up with a plan to reunite him with his family. This is a powerful story of friendship and unending kindness with a strong message about opening your mind and views to the needs of others.



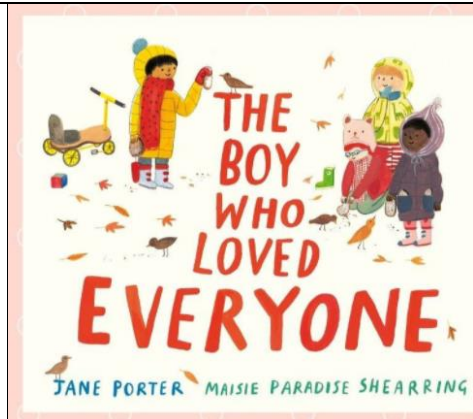
This heart-warming book is on its way to becoming a classic for its support in empowering children to practice kindness towards others. It works around the idea of an 'invisible bucket' that holds your thoughts and feelings. When you do something kind, you fill someone's bucket; when you do something mean, you dip into someone's bucket and remove some good thoughts and feelings.

Exciting dates, events and competitions to get involved with!

Win a signed copy of the award-winning picture book 'The Boy Who Loved Everyone'

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/competitions/the-boy-who-loved-everyone-spread-a-little-love-with-this-award-winning-picture-book/>

11pm on Thursday 26 November



@BookTrust

Want to keep up with what's hot in the world of books?

Since 2000, the enormously popular and influential Blue Peter Book Awards have been recognising and celebrating the best authors, the most creative illustrators and the greatest reads for children.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/awards-and-prizes/current-prizes/blue-peter-book-awards/>

Each year, Santa's elves at the Royal Mail can help you get a letter from Santa, if children write to him by early December

<https://www.royalmail.com/christmas/letters-to-santa>

Santa/Father Christmas
Santa's Grotto



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