

Reading Newsletter Spring 2 2023

Welcome to our fourth reading newsletter!

This term, we are delighted to have partnered up with Limehurst Library! Every class, from our Little Wizards right to our Year 6, has now visited the library. Every child has had the opportunity to be issued their very own library card, a tick on our Limeside Pledge, and borrow their first books.

We have also taken part in the following workshops:

- **Early Years:** Introduction to the library with stories, songs and rhymes
- **Years 1 and 2:** An introduction to key library skills
- **Years 3 and 4:** A focus on fiction and non-fiction texts, how to find books and information
- **Years 5 and 6:** Investigating online resources and developing research skills.

It has been great to hear how many children have enjoyed their visit, and many children re-visiting the library with their family and friends. During the summer term, every class will be visiting the library again. The library asks that all borrowed books are returned within three weeks. If you are unable to do this, please speak to your child's class teacher and we will help!



This half term's events

Our Readathon

On the run up to World Book Day this year, we ran our very first sponsored **Readathon!**

The aim of this was to build excitement, encourage additional reading on the build up to World Book Day and to raise money. The money collected was split between a charity providing story tellers and author visits for local children's hospitals, and vouchers for new books for our school.

Each child received their sponsorship card to gather their sponsors, a bookmark to track their amazing progress and off they went! We have been delighted at the response we received, and the buzz created about reading. *The total raised exceeded a whopping £800!*

A huge thank you to all of our children for their fantastic work and to our parents and carers for their support. We can't wait to share with you how the money has been used.



World Book Day 2023!

This year, we celebrated World Book Day in many different ways:

We all dressed up as our favourite characters from stories. It was fantastic to see the children taking part and sharing their favourite books with their peers in class.

- **KS2** enjoyed a webinar by the fantastic Michael Morpurgo, who shared his top tips on how to be an amazing author.
- **KS1 and EYFS** enjoyed watching a selection of online stories from famous authors.
- All children and staff enjoyed a delicious **Roald Dahl themed lunch!** This included fresh mud burgers (inspired by James and the Giant Peach), wormy pasta with meatballs (The Twits) and even some Wonka bar cupcakes (Charlie and the Chocolate Factory)



It doesn't matter what you read as long as you read what you like!

Here are some genres you could enjoy:

- 1 **A newspaper, magazine or comic**
There'll be lots in your local library - pick one up that you've never tried before, it might surprise you!
- 2 **Read with your ears!**
Listen to a podcast, audiobook or ask your mum to read to you. You're never too old for a bedtime story!
- 3 **Brilliant biographies!**
Think of someone you admire and read their story. From Michelle Obama to David Attenborough - there's no shortage of inspiration!
- 4 **Every song tells a story**
Read the lyrics to your favourite song, then sing it!
- 5 **Read it before you see it!**
Check out upcoming film releases and challenge yourself to read the book first. It might bring out your inner Spielberg!
- 6 **Going for gold!**
Love sport? Read the sports pages of a newspaper or seek out the life story of your sporting hero.
- 7 **An award-winner!**
Take a look at the shortlists for a reading award like Oscar's Book Prize or the Carnegie Award - and see if you agree with the judges!
- 8 **Poems, please!**
If you're looking for a quick reading fix, why not try a poem or six!

Limeside Hub Reading Champions

This term we have launched our new partnership with our wonderful hub - **Hub Reading Champions: Reading Together - Learning Together**. Our Reading Champions are completing a training programme with Mrs Freeman and volunteering to champion reading in our academy by supporting reading groups. Our Reading Champions are also accompanying some of our classes on their library trip!

This half term's staff reader is **Miss Giddens!**

So, what are you reading and what is it all about?

I am currently reading 'The Giver of Stars' by Jojo Moyes which is set in a small town in America during the Depression and is all about the lives of five women who become traveling librarians, delivering books to people all over the small town of Kentucky. I am really enjoying it so far, especially as it focuses on friendship and books!

Who is your favourite author and why?

My all-time favourite author is Charlotte Bronte. I first discovered her when in secondary school for English we started reading her book 'Jane Eyre'. We only read the first couple of chapters for an assignment, but I was hooked! I used my pocket money to buy my own copy and it is still my favourite novel. Charlotte Bronte wrote her novels during the 1800s when women were not allowed to write or publish novels, so when her book was released, it had a man's name on the cover. Fortunately, this isn't the case anymore!

Which book made you a reader and why?

My mum introduced me to stories from a very young age as she read to me every day and took me to the library near my house every week. The book that made me a reader was The Princess Diaries by Meg Cabot. It is all about a teenager in New York called Mia who discovers she is actually a princess of a country called Genovia and how she juggles being a high school student and a royal princess. The book is very funny!

What is your favourite children's book and why?

My favourite children's book is Ballet Shoes by Noel Streatfeild. It tells the story of three adopted orphans who all have names beginning with 'P' - Pauline, Petrova and Posy Fossil. They move to London in the 1930s as babies to live with eccentric explorer (Great Uncle Matthew, otherwise known as Gum), the girls have a good life until the family start to run out of money. Fortunately, the three girls are all given places to learn to be dancers, actresses and theatre performers on the stage.

Tell us about your reading habits!

My favourite place to read is in my room, propped up on my bed with lots of pillows behind me to get comfy which helps me to get settled for reading. I enjoy reading at any time during the day, especially if the book has grabbed me and I want to read more and more!

What would you recommend we read over Easter?

Over the Easter holidays I would highly recommend the Lewis Barnavelt series of books, which starts with The House with a Clock in the Walls. I first came across this series a few years ago after watching the film and then discovered that there wasn't just one book, but twelve! It is a brilliant series full of magic and mystery and my favourite character is Mrs Zimmerman who is a very clever and brave witch who loves everything purple (my favourite colour).