



Reading Newsletter 22

Feb. 2026

Spring Term 2 edition

We have another jam-packed term ahead with regards to reading.

This year we will be holding our first Book Week to coincide with World Book Day. Over the week (Monday 2nd – Friday 6th March) we will be celebrating reading across the school. Over the week, children will be welcoming authors as part of the Maidenhead's Big Read Programme, starting the week with Breakfast with Books for Years 2 and 3, a book-based art competition and 'Reader of the Week'.

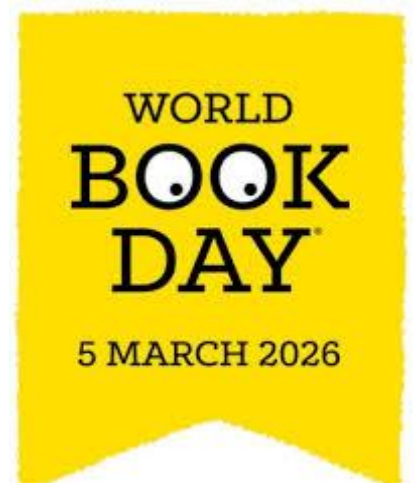
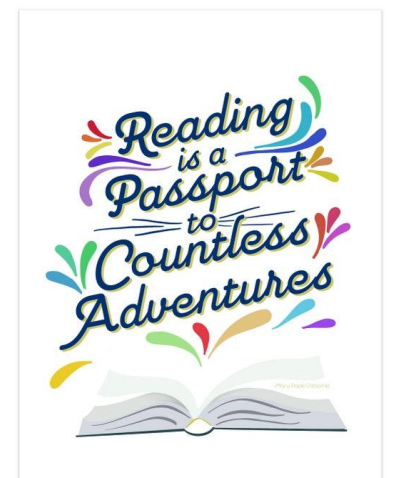
Please note that children will not be asked to come into school dressed up on World Book Day.

We hope the children enjoy Book Week and all of the reading activities planned.

Happy reading!

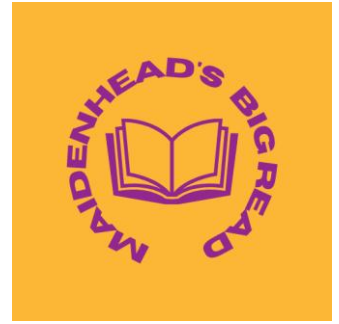
Mrs Amelia Goodson-Smith

Assistant Headteacher and Reading Lead

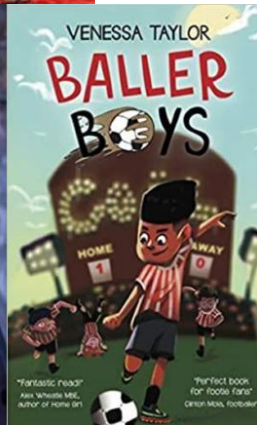


Maidenhead's Big Read

On **Saturday 7th** and **Sunday 8th March** there will be a free reading event held at Maidenhead Library as part of Maidenhead's Big Read. More information can be found online [here](#).



Events over the weekend include author visits, illustration draw-a-long sessions, Once Upon A Bus storytelling sessions and Maidenhead Magpies reading. A prize will be awarded to the school with the most children in attendance.



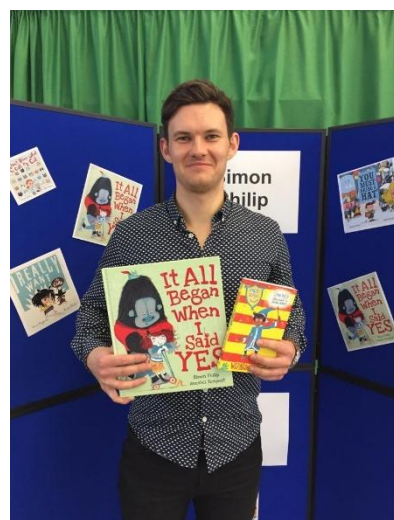
Celebrating World Book Day!

This year we will be celebrating World Book Day across a whole week!



Children from each class will have the opportunity to experience authors visiting them and talking to them about how they were inspired to become author themselves, as well as sharing their

advice and tips to any budding writers. Reception and KS1 will have a visit from Simon Philip, while KS2 will have visits from Philip Kavadias and Iszi Lawrence.



On Monday 2nd March children in Reception and Key Stage 1 will have a teddy bear story time event to start the week – details were sent out on Monday 23rd February. Later in the week, the children will take part in a book cover scavenger hunt around the school.

Children across the school will also take part in a 'mystery reader' event whereby they will be able to visit a different classroom and listen to a story from a different teacher.



Finally, on Friday we will celebrate with 'Reader of the Week' instead of Star of the Week.

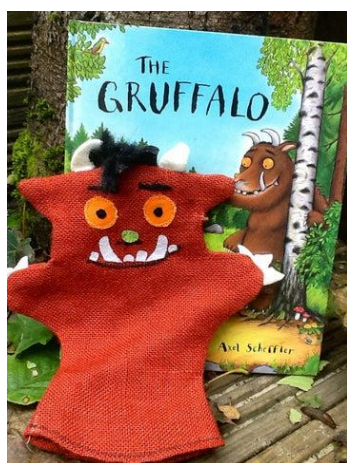
World Book Day Art Competition

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we are excited to announce a Book-Themed Art Competition!

Children are invited to create a piece of art inspired by a book or story they love. The artwork can be in any media – drawing, painting, collage, or mixed media – to let their creativity shine!

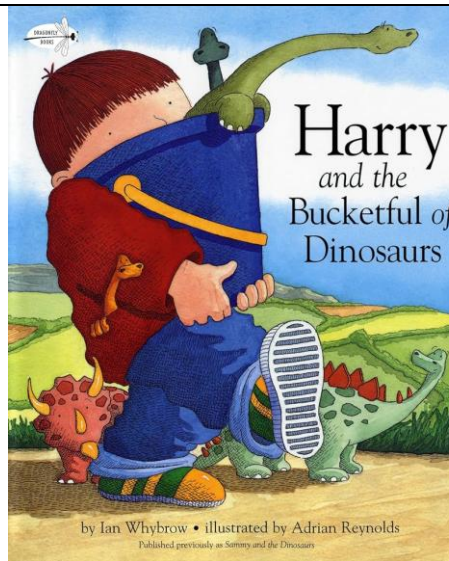
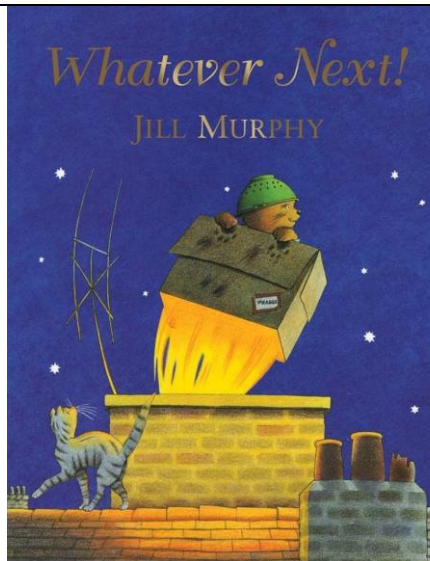
Please send completed artwork into school via the School Office for Mrs Goodson-Smith by **Friday 27th February**. This will allow us time to display and share the wonderful creations during Book Week the following week. All pieces of work should be named and have the title of the book that inspired the artwork.

I can't wait to see the imaginative and inspiring pieces the children create!

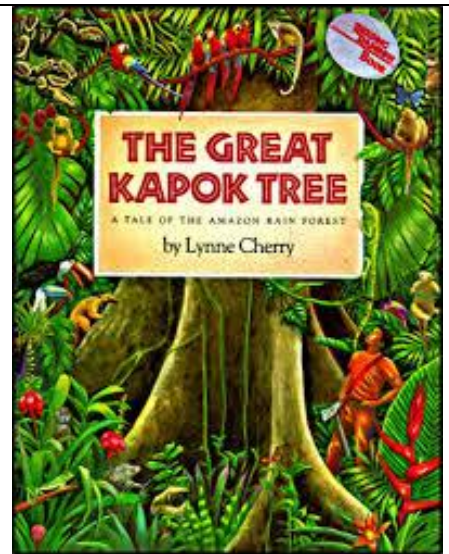


What we're reading this term

Reception



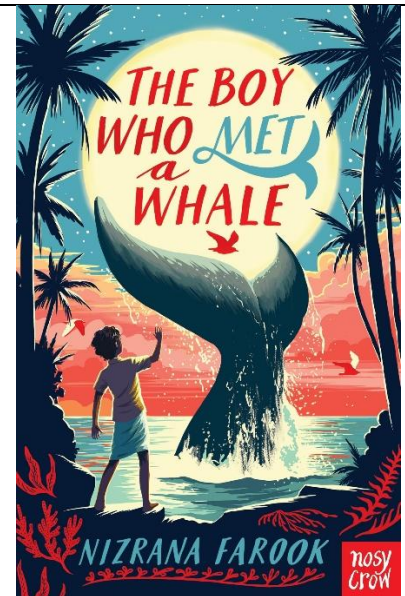
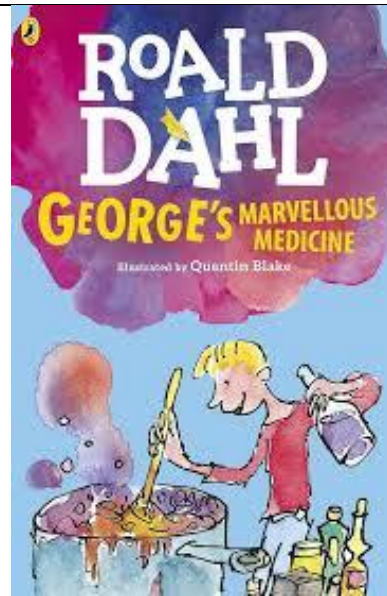
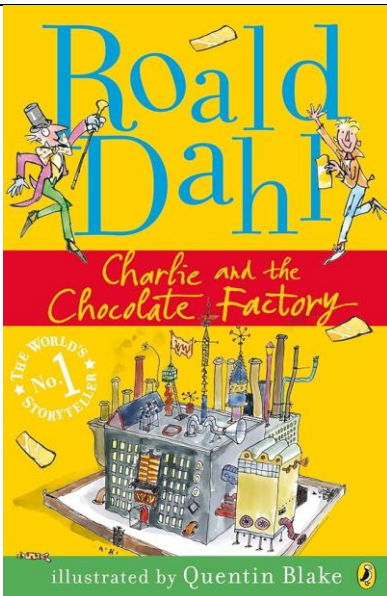
Year 1



Year 2

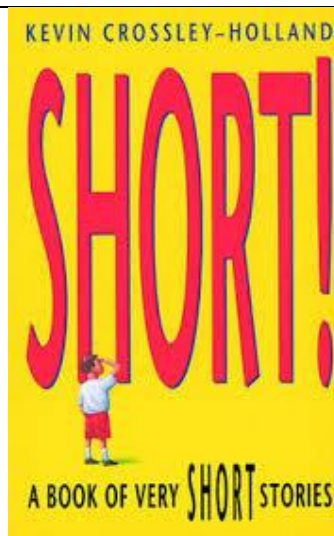
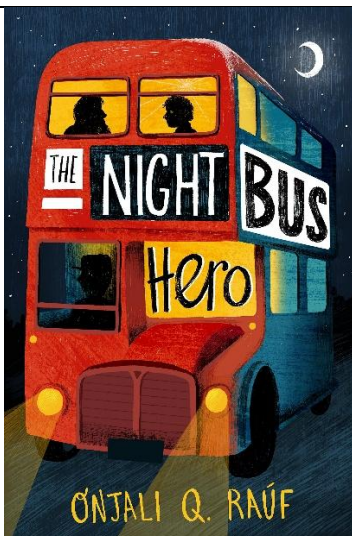
Year 3

Year 4



Year 5

Year 6



Recommended reads



Do you ever wonder what to read next with your child? [Books for topics](#) have put together a great list for each year group of recommended reads. Lots of these books are available at Maidenhead Library where children can borrow up to 30 books at a time for free!

Click on your child's year group to go to the link:

[Reception](#)

[Year 1](#)

[Year 2](#)

[Year 3](#)

[Year 4](#)

[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)





If you like...

The Final Year



...try these!



Visit www.booksfortopics.com for more ideas!



If you like...

Julia Donaldson



...try these!



A new Gruffalo adventure from Julia Donaldson

Announced by the book's author, Julia Donaldson - there's a new pair of knobbly knees padding through the deep dark wood.

Following on from *The Gruffalo* and *The Gruffalo's Child*, the latest story will introduce Granny, a brand-new character who joins the Gruffalo family – along with familiar faces Fox, Snake, Owl, and of course, the clever and courageous Mouse.

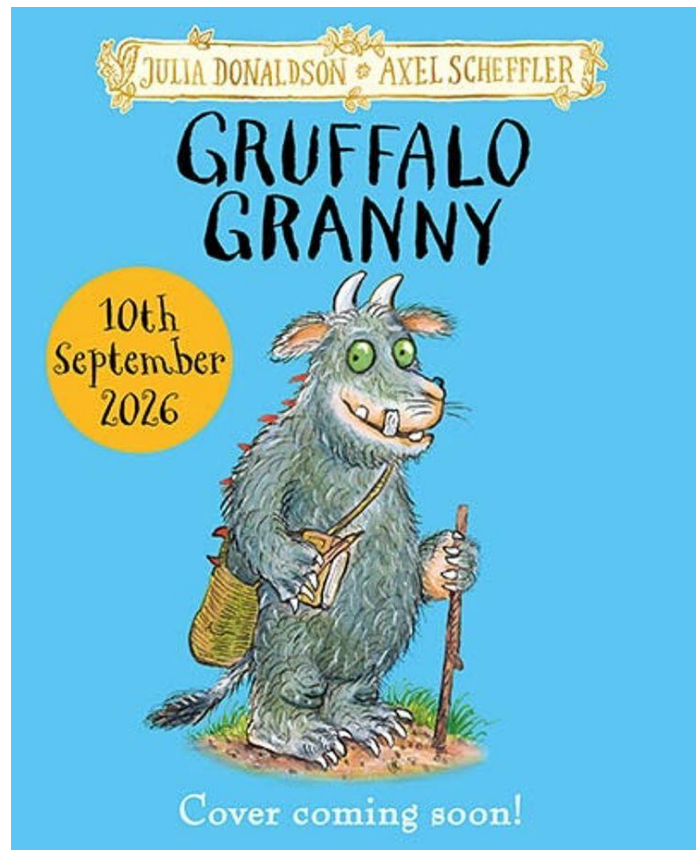
The new adventure will once again be illustrated by the original artist Axel Scheffler, bringing granny Gruffalo to life for the very first time.

Julia Donaldson told the BBC, "I've had this idea for two decades but I've just been so busy writing other things... and now I'm a granny myself maybe that's what spurred me on."

We can't wait to read the *Gruffalo Granny* when it is published in September!

Amazon Wishlist

Thank you to those who have donated books via the Amazon Wishlist. Children have thoroughly enjoyed choosing new books from the reading scheme, or having additional supporting titles to support them in their English lessons. If you would like to donate books via the link you can [here](#). We have also added on 4 pre-order copies of *Gruffalo Granny* for September for our Reception and Year 1 classes.



Recommended reads from pupils at Oldfield

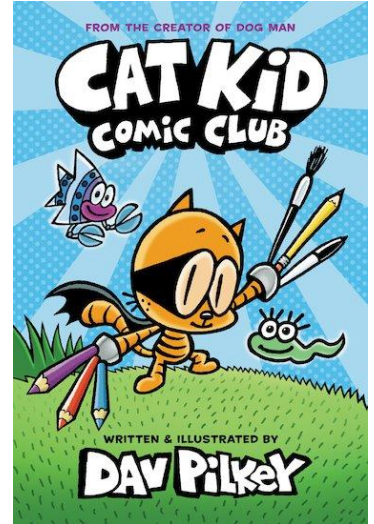
Cat Kid Comic Club by Dav Pilkey – Taransh

What is the book about?

Frog is going to a comic club and he learns a new lesson everyday.

Who would you recommend the book to? Why?

I would recommend it to people who love comics because this is going to be very good for them.



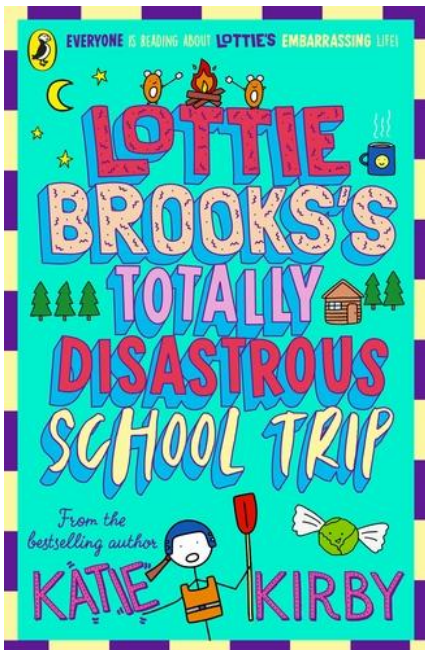
Lottie Brooks Totally Disastrous School Trip **by Katie Kirby**

What is the book about?

How Lottie's best friend (Jess) makes friends with Isha and Lottie gets jealous of them. To add on top of that, Angela (the flying imaginary cabbage) keeps on putting things in her mind!

Who would you recommend this books to?

Anyone!



If you would like to have your recommendation shared with the school – please complete a book review from the reading display outside the Office →

