

# STORY CENTRE AUTUMN OVERVIEW

## SEPTEMBER



Local author Laura McLennan paid Year 2 a visit. She read her wonderful stories all about friendship, teamwork and confidence and worked with the children to create their own characters.

Year 5 joined a special live zoom with author S.F.SAID whose book 'Varjak Paw' they have been reading throughout the term. They found out about his journey to becoming an author as well as being introduced to his new book 'Tyger'.

Year 6 met Maz Evans via Zoom - author of 'Who Let the Gods Out?'. Her enthusiasm was very infectious and there was an immediate queue for her new signed book when it arrived in school.

Year 6 joined in with the live BBC 500 words lesson before embarking upon their own stories. All of the children in Year 5 and 6 had the opportunity to enter.

## OCTOBER



On the 20th of October, local author Jodie James came in to school to work with the Year 4 children. They listened to her beautiful story and then they had a go at some creative writing of their own. Some of the children bought their own copies of the book and had them signed.

On National Poetry Day, Poetry Club was launched in the Story Centre for Year 4. It started off very small but grew each week. Over 8 weeks, the children read, wrote and explored poetry. They drank hot chocolate, ate biscuits and even had a special zoom with children's poet Attie Lime before Christmas.

We were very fortunate to be gifted a class set of 'The Last Bear' by Hannah Gold. Year 4 were able to join a Zoom with the author herself alongside incredible illustrator, Levi Pinfold.

In this month, we opened up the Story Centre doors on a Saturday and ran our very first community workshop making Autumn Wreaths. We worked with local business 'The Creative Workshop' and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

## NOVEMBER



Nursery and Reception had an AMAZING time with one of the incredible story catchers from SEVEN STORIES. It went so well and the children loved it so much that we will be organising another session in the spring for the parents and carers to come along to as well.

In November, Year 3 met a member of staff from the local library service who read to them and explained how easy it is to join one of the local authority libraries nearby.

Year 2 children and their parents and carers, were invited to join a special story time. The children listened to Rachel Bright's brand new story 'The Pandas who Promised' while the parents enjoyed a cup of coffee and a chocolate. Everyone stayed behind to have a go at the story activities set up around the library and every child went away with a sticker and a smile on their face.

## DECEMBER



After much fund raising, and with huge thanks to Rachel Shayler (Usborne partner) we were able to book Jenny Pearson for a KS2 assembly and Year 5 workshop. The class had been reading her book all through the term had no idea they would get to meet her. She delivered a brilliant assembly and then worked with Year 5 to create inspiring story plans. We were so excited to be able to gift the whole class a copy of her book 'The Boy Who Made Monsters' after a generous donation from a member of the local community.

December also marked the second year of our Book Tree project where we invite families to gift books rather than presents for staff. It is a brilliant way to boost our Story Centre shelves. We turned the Story Centre into a café during our school Christmas Fair and showcased our fabulous new space.



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