

This Week in school...



Year 3 - This week we have finished our class reader '*James and the Giant Peach*' by Roald Dahl and started '*The Sheep-Pig*' by Dick King-Smith. We have also started to look at poetry and shared some examples of shape poetry.

Year 2 have been reading a non-fiction text about the Earth and space linked to drawing planets in Art.

This week the **Nursery** children have enjoyed the story '*Can't you sleep little bear?*' The story is about Little Bear being afraid of the dark, and Big Bear gives him lanterns to help him but he is afraid of the dark outside the cave where he lives. The children have loved exploring in our 'dark tent' with torches. We have talked about things we see in the daytime and things we would see or hear at nighttime. They have made lanterns for Little Bear.

This week **Year 4** finished reading their class English book, '*The Iron Man*'. We explored the theme of courage and compared the two main characters. We really enjoyed this book and some children are now reading the sequel, which is '*The Iron Woman*'! We have also been reading more Greek myths and we read information about the famous Battle of Marathon in history that was written from different viewpoints. This week in **Reception** we have been researching all about animals that live in the water and how we can protect and help look after the planet. The children enjoyed the rhyming verses of '*The Fish Who Could Wish*' by John Bush. We have been pretending that we are the fish who could wish and write our wishes, perfect for practising some of those phase 3 digraphs!

Year 1 - This week we have continued to read '*Chicken Licken*'. We wrote our own versions of the story and hope to read them to Key Stage 2! It was lovely to hear that Elsie has been reading different versions on the internet at home.

Year 6 have been working hard on assessments this week but have maintained their super reading standards both online and on paper. We have also started listening to the audio version of '*The Book of Stolen Dreams*' by David Farr. It is a lovely opportunity to take a quiet moment and enjoy being read to.

Year 5 have made a huge improvement to their online reading this week and a whopping 72% of the class logged on to Bug Club Independent. Next week we will be continuing our poetry topic and reading more of T.S. Elliot's '*Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats*'.



Library News

We have now ordered our new library software which will be installed at the beginning of May. The library itself will be back open for business after the Easter holidays as we have lots of new shelving, and more importantly, lots and lots of new books!

How to support reading at home...

Encouraging a love of reading

As children get older, with lots of other activities competing for their time, how can you encourage them to make time for reading?

Here are some ideas from the BookTrust.

- ✓ Read yourself! It doesn't matter what it is – pick up a newspaper or magazine, take a look at a cookery book, read a computer manual, enjoy some poetry or dive into a detective novel. And get your children to join in – if you're cooking, could they read the recipe?
- ✓ Give books as presents. And encourage your children and their friends to swap books with each other – it'll give them a chance to read new stories, and get them all talking about what they're reading.
- ✓ Visit the local library together. It's always fun choosing new books to read, and keep an eye out for special author events at the library or local bookshops – children love meeting their favourite authors.
- ✓ Encourage children to carry a book at all times. That way, they'll never be bored (this is something you can do, too!)
- ✓ Have a family bookshelf. If you can, have bookshelves in your children's bedrooms, too.
- ✓ Keep reading together. Just because your children are older, it doesn't mean you have to stop sharing stories.
- ✓ Don't panic if your child reads the same book over and over again. Let's be honest - we've all done it!



**Bug Club
Independent**

A huge well done to YEAR 5 this week as they have crept into the lead for online reading.

Why are we using eBooks?

- Your child can enjoy reading books on screen and completing fun quiz questions found in the eBooks
- The quiz questions will help the children practise their reading skills
- The Foundation and KS1 eBooks are also audio-books, so children can enjoy hearing an expressive reading of the story

