



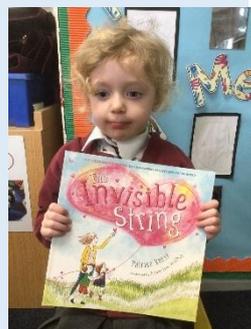
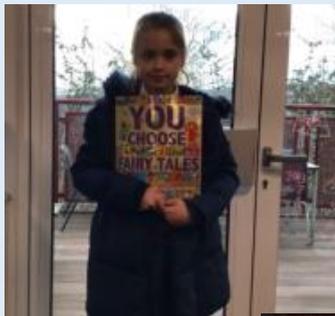
Spring 1 2023 (Issue 4)



Preston Primary Reading Matters

Children's Choice

This half term our school reading for pleasure theme was 'Children's Choice'. Across the school, children have been bringing their favourite books from home to share in class. It has been wonderful to hear children speak with passion and enthusiasm about their favourite books. They shared fiction books, non-fiction books, poetry and magazines. Children have been inspired by one another's book choices and have enjoyed listening to them being read aloud. Here are some of the children's choices.



The Importance of Reading Aloud



We strive to motivate every child to enjoy reading for pleasure. One important element of promoting reading for pleasure is **reading aloud**.

The National Literacy Trust says, reading aloud has astonishing benefits for children. Typically, people relate adults reading aloud to younger children. Yes, it is important that children are read to from a very young age, but this should not stop, even after children learn to read themselves.

My child can read independently. Why would I need to carry on reading to them?

Reading aloud to already fluent readers is still hugely valuable.

- It gives children a chance to listen to books that they might not be able to read independently.
- Listening to an adult read also gives a model for fluent reading. It allows children to hear how a skilled reader brings the words on the page to life.
- It enables book talk – time to discuss ideas and share opinions about what you are reading.
- It extends vocabulary.
- It is a fun experience for both the adult and child – promoting reading for pleasure.

I would like to read to my child but they would rather read on their own.

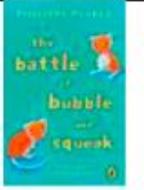
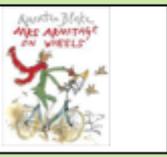
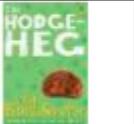
This is quite common, you could try:

- **Let your child pick the book.** It might be one that is being read at school, an old favourite you've read a hundred times before or something you wouldn't pick yourself. Giving your child free choice of the book is a great way of building excitement. You could make a special trip to a bookshop or visit the local library to choose a book.
- **Try a bit of compromise.** Perhaps you read a page to them and then they read a page to you. Or you read one chapter and then they read the next few to themselves, before you read another.
- **Listen to audiobooks.** These can be shared at home or in the car. Audiobooks are also great to use if parents are less confident readers.
- **Offer a variety of texts.** You could read small parts of a non-fiction book or even an article from a magazine.
- **Keep read aloud sessions short to begin with.** Start by reading aloud for 5 minutes. Aim to increase the time to 15 minutes per day.

Once read aloud habits have been established, children enjoy the experience and often initiate the activity.

In school, each unit has their own read aloud book spine planned for each half term.

These are some of the books that have been read aloud across the school this half term. Reading these aloud at home as well would be beneficial.

UNIT 1		UNIT 2		UNIT 3		UNIT 4	
	One Snowy Night by Nick Butterworth		Amazing Grace by Mary Hoffman		Why the Whales Came by Michael Morpurgo.		The Arrival by Shaun Tan
Pie Corbett Reception spine		Pie Corbett year 2 spine Becoming familiar with key stories		Pie Corbett Year 4 reading spine. Fiction. Friendship and belonging.		Pie Corbett Year 6 Spine Becoming familiar with key stories Picture Book Immigration	
	Rosie's Walk by Pat Hutchins		Emily Brown and the Thing by Cressida Cowell		The Battle of Bubble and Squeak by Philippa Pearce.		Where the River Runs Gold by Sita Brahmachari
Pie Corbett Reception spine		Fear of unknown Relating to own experiences		Pie Corbett Year 3 reading spine. Fiction. Animals. Family life.		Book with the main protagonist from a minority ethnic background Family Relationships Poverty Bravery Determination Empathy/loss Diversity	
	Mrs Armitage on Wheels by Quentin Blake		The Hodgeheg by Dick King Smith		Hot like Fire by Valerie Bloom.		Last: The Story of a White Rhino by Nicola Davies
Pie Corbett Reception spine		Road safety rules		Pie Corbett poetry spine.		Picture book Thought-provoking Difference Hope	
	This Little Puffin songs rhymes and games by Elizabeth Mattrerson		Frog and Toad together by Arnold Lobel				
Pie Corbett Reception poetry spine		Friendship – celebrating difference					

The books in our read aloud spines cover a variety of genres and have been purposefully chosen. You can access the full read aloud spines on the school website. [Preston Primary School Academy - Reading Curriculum](http://www.prestonprimaryschool.ac.uk)

Half term challenge for all ages!

Choose one or two books to read aloud to your child this half term. If you already read aloud to your child that's great. Set aside a small amount of time each day to read aloud to your child. If you need inspiration on which books to read, there are many great websites that recommend quality texts to read. We also recommend visiting your local library to find inspiration as well. You could also try an audio book.

Oxford Owl [Bookshop - Oxford Owl for Home](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk)

The National Literacy Trust [Activities | Words for Life](http://www.national-literacy-trust.org.uk)

The Book Trust [Bookfinder: find children's books for every age | BookTrust](http://www.booktrust.org.uk)

We would love to hear about your read aloud experiences over half term. Please send your comments, photos and experiences to foundation@preston.torbay.sch.uk

We would like to build a reading community. Reading aloud encourages a love of reading.

World Book Day – Friday 3rd March

Reading is at the heart of our curriculum. **As a school we will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday 3rd March.** Children can come to school dressed as a character from a book.

There will be various activities throughout the day enabling children to share and talk about their love of books. As part of the celebrations, this year we have arranged for storyteller, Malou Evans, to visit school. She will share some wonderful stories with every unit. Thank you to FOPPS for funding this event. It was a huge success last year, the children are very excited.

If you would like more inspiration, please go to the World Book Day website.

[Families - World Book Day](#)

Torquay Library are giving parents the option to borrow a costume for World Book Day. Also, if you have any unwanted World Book Day costumes, they would gratefully receive donations. Please contact Torquay Library for more information 01803 714452.

Libraries Unlimited

Costume Library

Our costume Library will be back from
10th February just in time for
World Book Day 2nd March, 2023

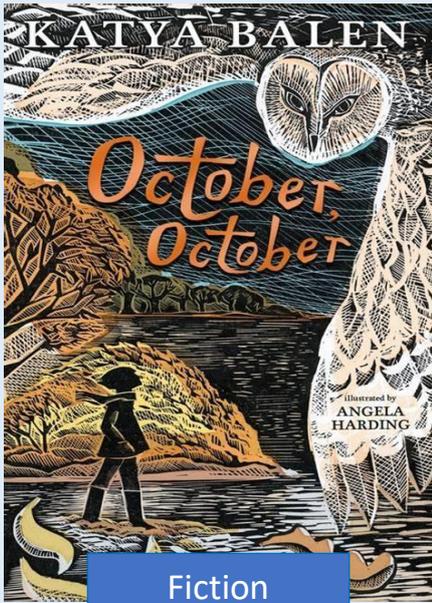
There is no charge for borrowing a costume, however a
donation to our charity would be welcomed.

Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity 1170092.
To donate, please visit librariesunlimited.org.uk

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Recommended Reads

The teachers would like to share their passion for reading by recommending some great books to read. After you have read one of these book recommendations please come and talk to us about it. We would love to hear your thoughts and if you enjoyed it we can recommend further reading.



Fiction

October, October

By Katya Balen

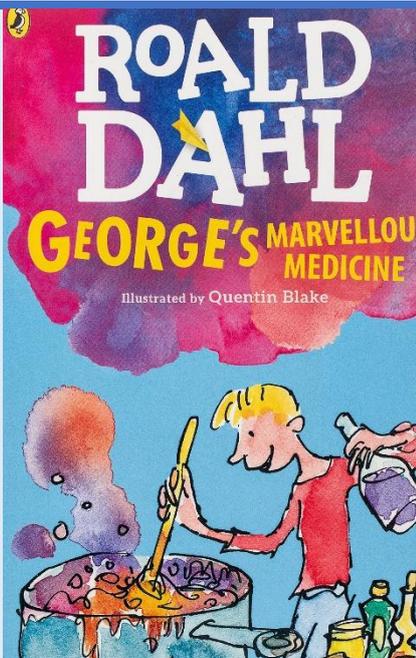
Aimed at 9–11-year-olds.



Why would I recommend this book?

This beautiful story follows a girl called October, who lives off the grid with just her father. On her eleventh birthday her father gets into a terrible accident and October is forced to live in one of the biggest cities in the world and attends school for the very first time. I would recommend this book because it is beautifully written and captivating. This book made me feel many different emotions. The author immersed me into a wonderful, wild world of adventure, heart ache and triumph. This excellent book taught me that it is okay to be different. I am excited to read this book with my class.

Miss Treleven



George's Marvellous Medicine

By Roald Dahl

Aimed at 7+ years

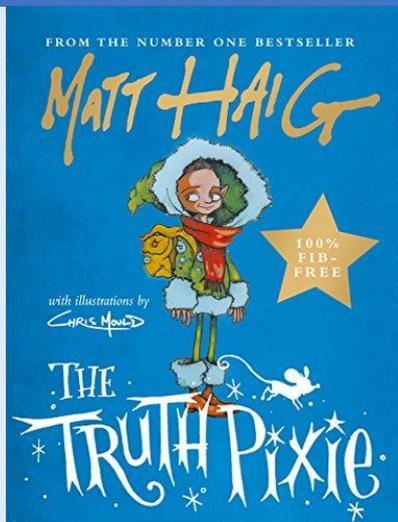


Why would I recommend this book?

I enjoy reading books written by Roald Dahl and this is one of my favourites by this author. This book tells the story of a miserable, grumpy grandma who treats her grandson, George, terribly. After realising Grandma's medicine is not fixing her selfish-ways, George decides to try and transform her by creating a marvellous medicine.

One of the things I enjoyed about this book is hearing the awful, but hilarious, ingredients that George adds to the medicine! The best part of the story is when George finally gives Grandma the medicine... the results were worth waiting for!!

Miss Farmer



Fiction

The Truth Pixie

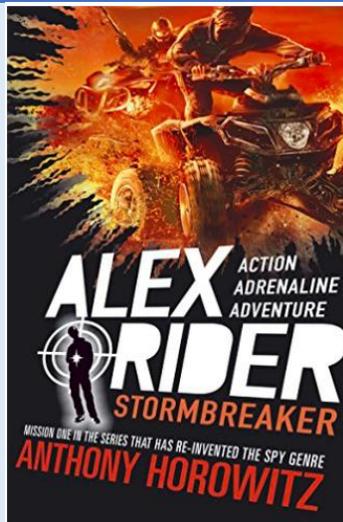
By... Matt Haig

Aimed at...4-12 year olds

This is a charming book about a poor pixie, who's power is that they can only tell the truth. As you can imagine, this often gets them into lots of trouble. This is the story of how the Truth Pixie overcomes their self-doubt and learns how to love themselves the way they are.

I would recommend this for a range of ages, as no matter how old, there is a lesson to be learned from this beautiful story. The illustrations are stunning in their simplicity and it truly is worth a read.

Mrs Stevenson



Fiction

Book Title Stormbreaker

By... Anthony Horowitz

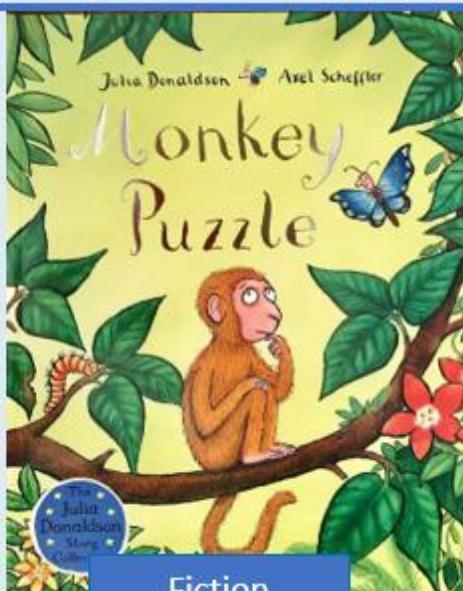
Aimed at... children who like adventure, intrigue and excitement

Why would I recommend this book?

This book is a real page turner. Alex Rider is an orphan who discovers the real identity of his uncle after he is killed in mysterious car accident. Alex then finds clues that lead him to reveal the secrets behind his uncle's job and he himself becomes a teenage spy for MI6. He then continues his uncles mission working undercover in Port Tallen. Can Alex save the day?

This book is the beginning of a series of Alex Rider adventures and all my children, and I enjoyed every single book.

Mrs Blatchford



Fiction

Book Title Monkey Puzzle

By Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler

Aimed at 3 - 7 year olds

Why would I recommend this book?

This is a lovely book with bright colourful illustrations of different animals you might find in the jungle. The story is based on a monkey trying to find his mum. He has help from a beautiful butterfly but is sometimes misunderstood. The book describes the differences between the animals using rhyming and repetition.

This is a fun story to read. I hope you will love it as much as I do!

Miss Lewis





Fiction

Book Title -Skandar and the Unicorn Thief

By... A.F Steadman

Aimed at... 9-12 year olds

Why would I recommend this book?

Skandar has always dreamed of becoming a unicorn rider, so is thrilled when he successfully hatches his very own unicorn. However, Skandar soon learns that he has a very unique unicorn. This is a compelling fantasy adventure with imaginative characters and an exhilarating plot. It is a story of friendship, loyalty and teamwork. I am looking forward to the next edition being published in April.

Here is a link to the author reading an excerpt from the book.

<https://youtu.be/2m943yT9Edo>

Mrs Bastin

Staff Book Club – Mrs Braddon

As part of our challenge to develop a community of readers, encouraging reading for pleasure is a key priority for both the children and the adults in school. The staff book club meets once every half term to share our thoughts about the books we have read. I suggest an adult book to read, a key stage 2 book and a key stage 1 book. These are books which have been recommended to me by other teachers and are on the UK Literacy Association long list. We feel it is important as teachers to keep as up to date as possible with children's literature and to keep increasing our own knowledge of high-quality books.

Teachers who read, recommend books to readers in their class.

Books we have read recently include:

