



Summer 1 2023

(Issue 7)



# Preston Primary

# Reading Matters

## Poetry Performance

This half term our school Reading for Pleasure theme was 'Poetry Performance'. The whole school came together to perform poems to one another on the school field. Classes have been practising their poems over the half term and perfecting their performance skills including facial expressions, actions, volume, and tempo. Some children even wrote their own poems! Well done to all the children. The poetry performance was a wonderful end to the school year.



Would your child like to try writing some poetry? Children's Laureate, Joseph Coelho, has created some useful videos called 'Poetry Prompts' to inspire and support children. All you need is your imagination and a pen and paper. [Poetry Prompts library | BookTrust](#)



## Simon James - Author Visit

Thank you to FOPPS (Friends of Preston Primary School) for funding a visit by award winning author and illustrator, Simon James.

Children across the school were treated to a day of storytelling, adventure, and laughter. They were mesmerised by Simon's stories and were inspired by his drawings. They enjoyed the stories of Jake and his vacuum cleaner, Sally and the limpet, and Baby Brains, to name a few. During the day, Simon illustrated characters from his books and we will be displaying these pictures around school.

Simon grew up in Exeter and Bristol. He spent many of his days sketching and stapling pages together to make little books. He always wanted to be a cartoonist but had many jobs throughout his life, including training to be a police officer. It was wonderful for children to hear how Simon was inspired to write some of his stories and he encouraged the children to use their experiences and creativity to follow their own ideas.

It was wonderful to have an author/illustrator visit school and inspire so many children.

I like making little books like Simon.

Freddie

Jake was very funny. He sucked everyone up in his vacuum cleaner!

James

Simon was really good at drawing. He made the stories come to life.

Katie



Below is a link to a video about Simon James. Also, a link to his story Baby Brains.

[About Simon James illustrator and Children's Books Author - Baby Brains - YouTube](#)

[Simon James - Baby Brains UK Version - YouTube](#)



## Building a reading Community



### Accelerated Reader Word Millionaires

Congratulations to all the children who became the Accelerated Reader Word Millionaires for 2022/23. These children have quizzed on the books they have read (using Accelerated Reader) which totals over 1 million words. They all received a voucher and certificate in assembly. Well done to the following children:

Rosie, Myah, Drake, Eryk, Emilia, Maisy, Leo, Jack, Rosie, Alfie, Ivy, James, Lizzie, Amelie, Ryan, Maya, Isla, Lena, Serenna, Joseph, Osian, Ryan, Alfred.

A special well done to Rosie in year 5 who has read over 4 million words!



### Library Summer Reading Challenge 2023

#### Ready Set Read!

Are you ready to take part in this year's action-packed Summer Reading Challenge? Head to your local library, sign up, and read six books to complete the challenge. Visit your local library and claim your FREE Summer Reading Challenge pack.

[Summer Reading Challenge - Video for Schools - YouTube](#)

Collect a sticker for every book you read. See if you can read **six** books over the summer holidays!

When you've completed the challenge, you'll receive a certificate and a special finisher's medal to celebrate your achievement.

Let's see how many children can complete this challenge over the Summer holiday.

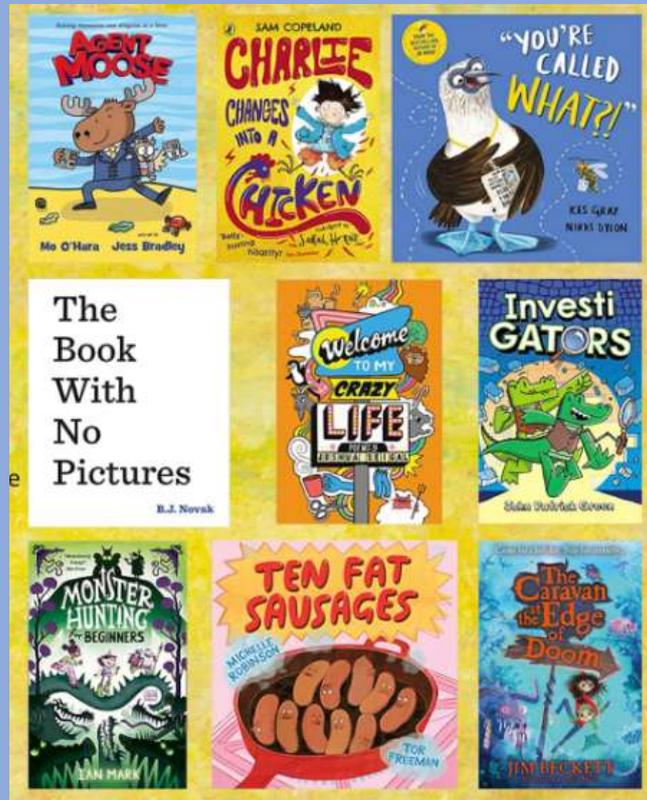
This year, the library also has an exciting prize draw. You'll be automatically entered into the draw when you finish the Summer Reading Challenge. Who knows, you could win you and your family a great day out at one of Devon's best-loved attractions!

- 2 x £100 Crealy gift cards
- 1 x Woodlands Family Ticket
- 2x pairs of Go Ape Treetop Adventure vouchers
- 2 x Exmoor Zoo family tickets
- 1 x Family ticket to Milky Way Theme Park
- 1x Family ticket to River Dart Country Park
- 1 x Family ticket to Scott Cinema

Click on the link to visit the website for more details [Summer Reading Challenge](#)

## Recommended Reads

Here are 9 books that will make you laugh out loud for the summer holidays.



1. **Agent Moose** by [Mo O'Hara & Jess Bradley](#).
2. **Charlie Changes into a Chicken** by [Sam Copeland](#).
3. **You're Called What?** by [Kes Gray & Nikki Dyson](#).
4. **The Book With No Pictures** by [B.J. Novak](#).
5. **Welcome To My Crazy Life** by [Joshua Seigal](#).
6. **InvestiGators** by [John Patrick Green](#).
7. **Monster Hunting for Beginners** by [Ian Mark](#).
8. **ten Fat Sausages** by [Michelle Robinson & Tor Freeman](#).
9. **The Caravan at the Edge of Doom** by [Jim Beckett](#).

# BBC 500 Words Competition

# BBC 500 WORDS 2023

Calling all 5-11  
year-olds!  
Can you write an  
amazing story of  
500 words or under?

Your story could  
be read on TV to  
millions!

Competition opens  
26th September - 10th November.  
We can't wait to read your stories

Head to  
[bbc.co.uk/  
500words](http://bbc.co.uk/500words)



## **BBC 500 Words Competition**

We would like to encourage as many children in school as possible to enter the 2023 BBC 500 Words Competition. Entries do not open until 26<sup>th</sup> September, but the summer holiday is a great opportunity to start writing.

This year there are two age categories, 5-7 year-olds and 8-11 year-olds. Children of all abilities are encouraged to use their creativity and imagination to write a story. Here is some guidance from the website:

Here on 500 Words we want children to have fun writing their stories, be as creative as they can and make us laugh, cry or just be blown away by what we are reading. Over the years there have been incredible stories submitted. There are very few rules on 500 Words but a few points to remember.

### **All the stories must:**

- Be 500 words or less (title is not included in number)
  - Be written by an individual and not a group
    - Be a child's own original idea
    - Be prose, not rap or poem

### **Stories must not:**

- Give any personal details of the child, including their name
- Recount an historical event (but they can use a real person or historical character as a source of inspiration)

### **All stories will be judged on the following criteria:**

- Characterisation
  - Plot
  - Originality
  - Language
  - Enjoyment

Please click on the link to read more guidance and support for the competition.

[Information page: 500 Words 2023 - BBC Teach](#)

We will share more information in the Autumn term. In the meantime, we hope you are inspired to write a 500 word story.

Good luck and have fun!