

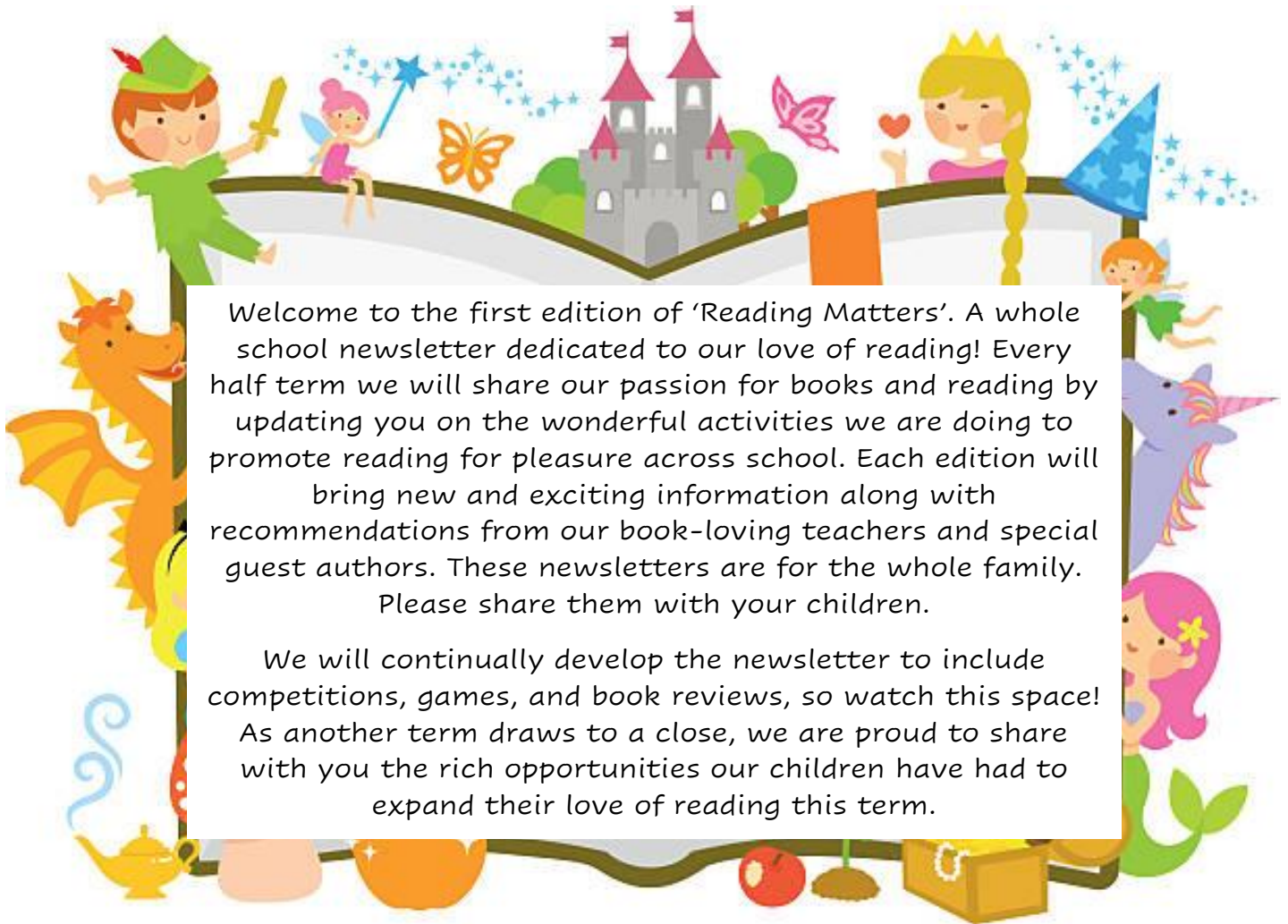


Summer 2022



Preston Primary

Reading Matters



Welcome to the first edition of 'Reading Matters'. A whole school newsletter dedicated to our love of reading! Every half term we will share our passion for books and reading by updating you on the wonderful activities we are doing to promote reading for pleasure across school. Each edition will bring new and exciting information along with recommendations from our book-loving teachers and special guest authors. These newsletters are for the whole family. Please share them with your children.

We will continually develop the newsletter to include competitions, games, and book reviews, so watch this space! As another term draws to a close, we are proud to share with you the rich opportunities our children have had to expand their love of reading this term.

Reading for Pleasure – What is it?

The term 'Reading for Pleasure' means reading for fun and enjoyment. Children can independently choose their reading material, where they would like to read and who they would like to read with. It is a relaxed, informal, and social time when children can share books (fiction, non-fiction, poetry, magazines). The children have ownership of this time, and they can share their interests and talk about books with their friends.

Every child is on a reading journey and although some children may not yet be able to read fluently, they are still able to enjoy books through illustrations and book talk. We have a passion across the school to inspire all children to find pleasure in reading. We have implemented a whole school strategy to promote the love of reading and we are delighted to extend this passion to you through our reading newsletter, 'Reading Matters'.

Unit 1 (Foundation)

In Foundation the children have embraced their 'Reading for Pleasure' time. They demonstrate such passion and enthusiasm for reading. The wonderful weather has enabled them to take their enjoyment outside to explore different areas of the school to enjoy a book.



To inspire children to explore different books and to teach them new vocabulary, we introduce a variety of rich texts around our learning. The book 'Bonkers about Beetroot' has been very popular and Puffins and Penguins enjoyed a variety of activities to help immerse them in the story. They used drama to retell the narrative, made story maps, they innovated the story to create their own twist on the ending and they tasted beetroot brownies and made beetroot smoothies. All of these activities help children to have fun with books and help inspire a love of reading.



Unit 2 (Years 1 & 2)

The children in Unit 2 have thoroughly enjoyed visiting other classes throughout the school to share a book with a book buddy. It has been lovely to see the older children in Key Stage 2 taking a lead in reading to their younger school friends. New friendships were forged, and old friends enjoyed catching up and looking at a story together. Sharing books across the school has promoted a sense of school community and a shared love of reading.



We have continued to visit the school library once a week, where the children can pick a library book to bring home to share with a grown up. Using the library regularly helps the children to value and appreciate books and reading.

Unit 2 cont..

They relish the opportunity to take responsibility for choosing their own book and remembering to return it safely each week.

We take time to learn those skills involved in selecting a book to enjoy. Looking at the front cover, reading the title, recognizing a familiar author, flicking through a few pages, looking at the illustrations, chatting to a friend who recommends it, reading the blurb...

Unit 3 (Years 3 & 4)

The children in Unit 3 have enjoyed reading for pleasure throughout the year. With great enthusiasm, Unit 3 children have seized every available opportunity to demonstrate their love of reading by regularly (and often passionately) discussing their favourite books in class. Their recommendations have inspired others to read new and unfamiliar authors and widen their reading territory. They relish the opportunity to for time to use the outside spaces, such as the balcony or woodland camp, to immerse themselves in their chosen books.

Children in Unit 3 have spoken about the joy that 'escaping into a novel' can bring. Their use of vocabulary has flourished because of these experiences. Additionally, the children have raced to grow their sunflowers on Accelerated Reader to show their understanding of the books they have read. The children have looked forward to sharing books with children from other Units and have enjoyed planning reading and choosing books that they felt others would also enjoy. Use of the school and public libraries has enabled many of children to expand their reading choices and has created an excitement and 'buzz' around book selection. It has been a delight to watch children waiting and looking forwards to another child finishing a book so they can read it too. Books have inspired children to become aspirant adventurers, scientists and activists and have encouraged them to see the real world, and imaginary worlds, in whole new ways.



Unit 4 (Years 5 & 6)

In Unit 4 the children have enjoyed their 'Reading for Pleasure' time where they have had the opportunity to choose from a rich variety of texts and explore these independently or with their peers. It has been wonderful to see the children so immersed in book talk and developing their love of reading. Unit 4 have taken great pleasure in our 'Book Buddies' time where they have explored books with children all across the school – all the way down to Foundation Stage! A selection of children have also helped to develop reading for pleasure across the school and have continued to read to children on the KS1 playground during lunchtimes; they are fantastic role models who have encouraged the younger children to pick up a book and read. At the end of the day, Unit 4 have enjoyed their 'Read Aloud' time where their teacher reads a high-quality fiction, non-fiction, or poetry book with them, exposing the children to a variety of outstanding authors, and giving them a choice on what book they would like to read as a class – creating autonomous readers. We are very proud of the whole of Unit 4 and their continued determination with achieving their Accelerated Reader targets for the last two half-terms. It is clear that their love of reading and pleasure for reading has helped them to reach this significant achievement.



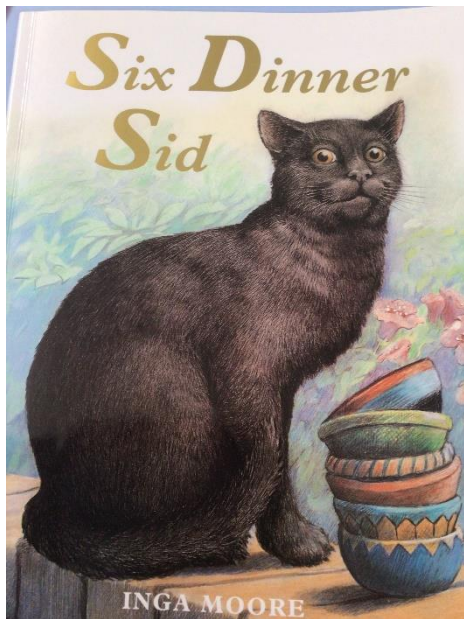
Poetry Performance

Every half term we provide children with opportunities to enrich their reading experiences and interests through different themes. This half term the whole school participated in a poetry recital. The children worked hard to rehearse and learn many favourite poems, some with actions. This week the children had the opportunity to perform the poems to other Units across the school. Every performance was wonderful. They performed with such enthusiasm and expression. Reading and performing poetry is a fantastic way to inspire reading for pleasure. There are many wonderful poetry books, and we encourage you to read and share poems at home. Does your family have a favourite poem?



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

Six Dinner Sid

By Inga Moore

Aimed at age 4-11 years

Recommended by Miss Dyer

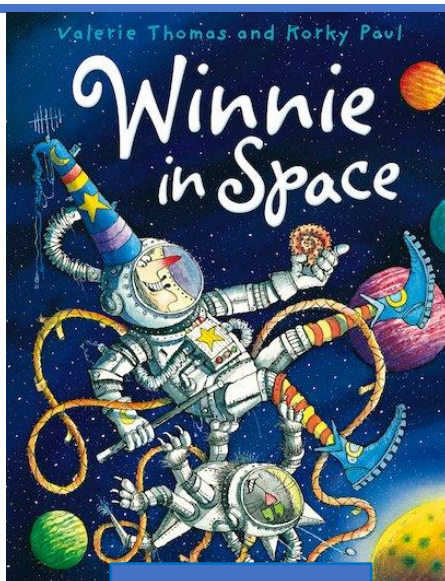


Why would I recommend this book?

This is a delightfully funny book about a black cat called Sid who leads multiple lives. A must read for anyone who likes cats. Sid is like many cats you may know of in your neighbourhood, and he reminds me of ones I have known.

Sid is looking for food, fuss, comfort, and friendship. The illustrations tell the story beautifully.

I like the moral of the story, that you can have too much of a good thing and taking advantage of a situation may land you in trouble. Will everything turn out alright in the end for Sid and will he change his ways?



Fiction

Winnie in Space.

By Valerie Thomas and Korcky Paul

Aimed at age 4 -11 years

Recommended by Mrs Shaw

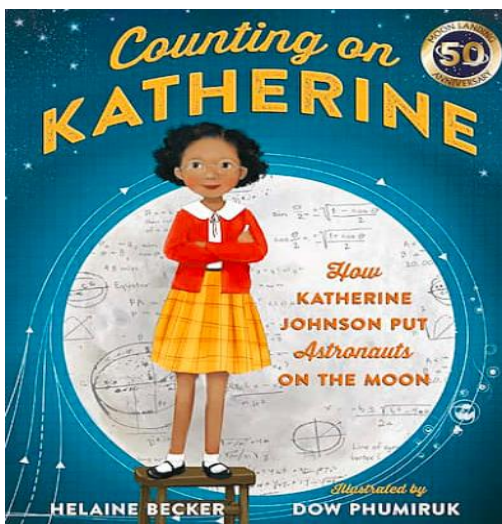


Why would I recommend this book?

I would recommend this book because the illustrations are fantastic! There is so much going on in the pictures for the reader to look at, funny looking creatures, washing hanging on the roof, and alien rabbits!

The book is bright, colourful, and very funny.

The story is brilliant, it gets the reader involved on every page. It's a feel-good story, with lots of adventure for Winnie and her black cat Wilbur.



Non-Fiction

Counting on Katherine

By Helaine Becker

Aimed at 7-9 year olds

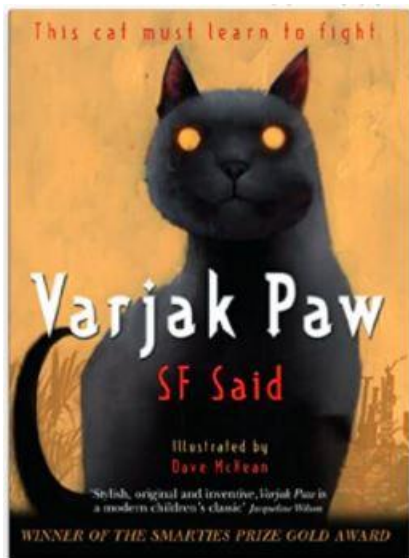
Recommended by Miss Pettitt



Why would I recommend this book?

I have really enjoyed learning about the amazing life of Katherine Johnson and her incredible achievements as a woman of colour working for NASA. I love how it touches upon important historical events (for example, segregation in the USA) and how Katherine was able to overcome the negative impact of this through her hard work and dedication to her passions.

I was so pleased at the end when I found out exactly what she had achieved working at NASA. Her contributions to the NASA space programme are wonderful to read about and I really enjoyed looking at the bright and detailed illustrations that work so well with the story. I felt so proud of her at the end!



Varjak Paw

By SF Said

Aimed at 9 – 11 years

Recommended by Mrs Winter



Why would I recommend this book?

I thoroughly recommend Varjak Paw because it is an exciting adventure story which has strong underlying messages about the value of friendship and overcoming your fears.

The main character is Varjak Paw. At the beginning of the story, he is treated like an outsider in his own family because he looks different. The story follows Varjak as he overcomes threatening situations and learns to believe in himself.

I particularly enjoyed sharing this book with a whole class because there are some very dramatic scenes which are made even better by being read aloud! If you do read this book, you may also enjoy the sequel, The Outlaw Varjak Paw.

Community Library Summer Reading Challenge

Exciting News! Libraries across Devon and Torbay are calling for children to sign up to the Gadgeteers Summer Challenge and read at least six books this summer as part of the 2022 Summer Reading Challenge. The challenge encourages children aged 4-11 to enjoy the benefits of reading for pleasure over the summer holidays.

The challenge runs from Saturday 9th July to Saturday 10th September. Children will need to sign up at their local library. As they read more books, children will collect stickers along the way to add to a poster. Children who complete the challenge, by reading at least six books over the Summer, will be awarded a certificate and medal for their achievement. Children can find their local library and get more information about the challenge using this link [Summer Reading Challenge - torbay \(torbaylibraries.org.uk\)](http://torbaylibraries.org.uk) We cannot wait to hear about all the wonderful books you read over the summer.



Our School Needs Your Vote!

As a school we are passionate about reading and are committed to ensuring each and every child has the skills, knowledge and confidence to read. Our library is a valuable resource that is enjoyed by all pupils.

We would be very grateful if you could vote for our school in this competition. We have the opportunity to win £1000 of National Book Tokens. If we win, we will be putting the money towards purchasing new books to make our library an even more special place for pupils to read and fall in love with books. You can vote for us here:

https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools?utm_source=nbt&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rebuild-the-library&utm_campaign=20220607_schools&fbclid=IwAR39S6h-0bLY7yOJiO0dbXmDuVlLuGjutXriIMvIHkwNpRnNwj047l47AOc

Please encourage friends and family to vote. Every vote counts, this is a national competition. Thank you for your support