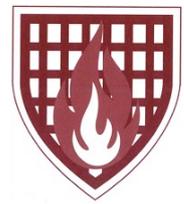


Gnosall St Lawrence Reading Newsletter

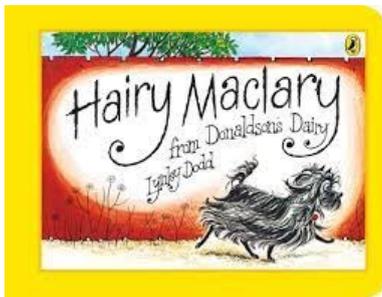
Spring Term 2022



Welcome to our Spring Term Reading Newsletter!

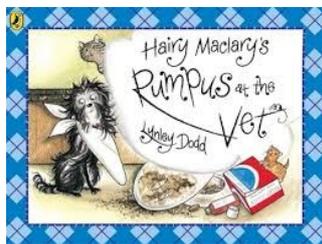
Since Christmas, the whole school has been diving into some fantastic books that we are excited to tell you all about! There were almost too many books to list on our class reading round up so we have chosen a few of our favourites to share with you. This newsletter also includes information about how poetry is becoming part of our day-to-day life in school and about the up-coming relaunch of our "Reading Challenge".

Reception

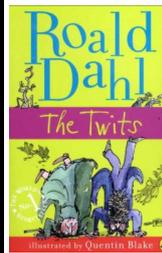


As part of their Pets topic, Reception have enjoyed reading 'Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy' by Lynley Dodd. They have especially enjoyed listening to all the

rhyming sentences in the story! Did you know there are lots of other books in the Hairy Maclary series? Why not have a look in your local library to see if they have any available.

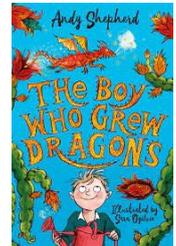


Year 1/2



Across Year 1 and 2, there have been some fantastic books this term! Mrs Sherratt's class have loved listening to The Twits by Roald Dahl- they loved the funny, mischievous antics of Mr and Mrs Twit!

Mrs Sproston's class have been reading "The Boy Who Grew Dragons" by Andy Shepherd. This is a story about a little boy who accidentally finds himself with a dragon-growing tree!

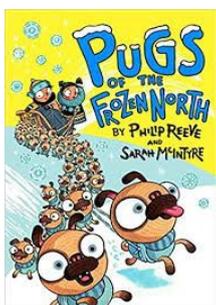


Cops and Robbers



Mr Anderson's class have been busy reading books linking to the value of justice. "Cops and Robbers" by Janet and Allan Ahlberg has been one of their favourites.

Year 3/4



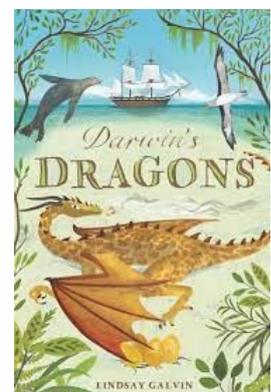
This term, our Year 3 and 4 classes have LOVED going on a snowy adventure to the top of the world with 66 pugs! They have been reading this book both within English lessons and as part of their reading for pleasure story times.

Year 3 and 4 have also enjoyed reading and performing a selection of Allan Ahlberg poems which are all about school life. Lots of the poems made us laugh as they describe school life so accurately; while other poems made us laugh because they were a bit silly!



Year 5/6

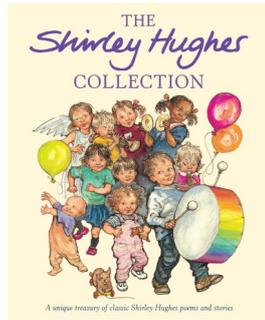
Year 5 and 6 have jetted off to the Galapagos Islands this term with their book "Darwin's Dragons." Based on Charles Darwin's expedition to the Galapagos Islands in 1835, this book tells the story of a cabin boy who becomes stranded on an island with big secrets.



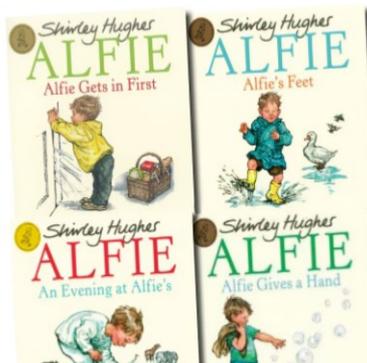
The description in this book is absolutely stunning and our Year 5 and 6 children have enjoyed using it to inspire their own creative writing in their English lessons.

EYFS and KS1 Author Focus- Shirley Hughes

Shirley Hughes is a much-loved author that I am sure lots of you are already huge fans of. She has written over 50 books including the “Alfie and Annie-Rose” stories and “Dogger”.



Her series of “Alfie” stories are perfect for sharing with younger children as they explore lots of childhood life events that children will be experiencing themselves. Shirley Hughes has also written many poems for children. Her collection “Out and About” is a book full of poems about nature and the natural world.



Sadly, Shirley Hughes passed away earlier this year at the age of 94. Many other authors joined together to celebrate her life and the stories and poems she created.

KS2 Author Focus- Struan Murray



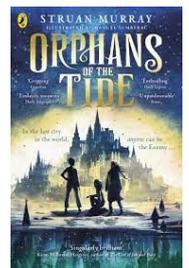
This relatively new author is one for our Year 5s and 6s to look out for! Murray is Scottish author who has recently released the final novel in his Orphans of the Tide trilogy.

Miss Birtles has only read the first two so far, but has the third on her Easter reading list!

These books are perfect for anyone who enjoyed Philip Pullman’s “His Dark Materials” as they are utterly gripping fantasy adventure stories. They are packed with amazing vocabulary that really brings the settings to life and they tell the story of some pretty inspirational characters!

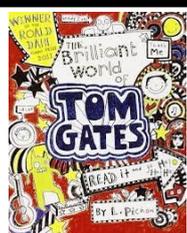
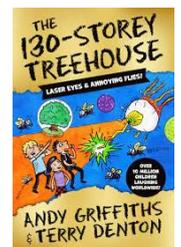
Make sure you read them in order to help understand the story properly!

- 1.) Orphans of the Tide
- 2.) Orphans of the Tide: Shipwreck island
- 3.) Orphans of the Tide: Eternity Engine



The 130-Storey Treehouse. Reviewed by Zac in Year 4

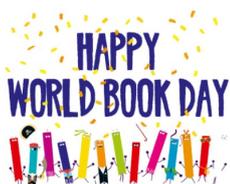
I definitely recommend this book because it has amazing illustrations, lots of funny jokes and characters and it’s also part of a series of books that I can continue reading! The story is about a giant flying eyeball that abducts the three main characters. What starts off as a fun space adventure, soon turns scary when the children realise they are in an intergalactic death battle!



Tom Gates. Reviewed by Bella in Year 5

This is a book about a boy with an annoying sister! I’d recommend it to people who enjoy a funny book. I love the doodles and pictures that match the story too.

World Book Day



Earlier this term, we had a fantastic day celebrating World Book Day. Children and staff came to school dressed as their favourite book characters and all classes completed work linked to the world of books and reading. It’s been lovely to see that lots of children used their book token to purchase their World Book Day book...I’ve heard great things about Michael Morpurgo’s “Jemima the Pig and the 127 Acorns.”

An Interview with Mrs Sproston

What are you reading at the moment? I have just finished reading Vet Man by Noel Fitzpatrick it's a great read for KS2

What is your favourite children's book?

This is so hard! I love Julia Donaldson books and Sue Hendra. Year 2 have just finished reading Traction Man which was very funny!

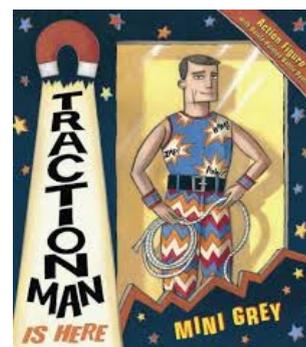
Where is your favourite place to read? On a beautiful hot sunny day by the pool or the beach (it's been a while since I have had chance to do this though!)

Which book character do you think you are most like?

Mildred Hubble - try my best but don't always get it right first time

Real book or Kindle?

Definitely a real book



Relaunch of our Reading Challenge

Back in 2019, we launched our Reading Challenge for children who are "free readers". Children were given bookmarks and were set the challenge of reading a certain amount of books for each level. Over the summer term, we will be updating and relaunching this challenge. There will be new book marks and new challenges for children to complete. We hope to incorporate different authors, genres and text types to help expand the variety of books children are reading. Miss Sweet and Miss Birtles are currently working on this challenge and are also working on updating our classroom libraries to include new titles and a range of diverse texts. More details will be given in a letter sent out later in the summer term... watch this space!



Daily poetry

Across the school, we have introduced opportunities in the school day for all children to experience poetry. For our younger children, rhymes are shared every day alongside daily story time; while for our older children, a variety of poems are shared 2-3 times each week alongside daily story time.

Poetry can have many benefits, especially to early readers. Firstly, poems are a fabulous way of introducing children to new vocabulary and helping them explore imagery and figurative language. One poem, read aloud every day, helps to expose children to thousands of new words every year!

Poetry can also inspire reluctant or emerging readers. Because poems can be "short and sweet" children can feel less intimidated by them and they can be easier to engage with than books or stories.

Also, poems can help children explore events, thoughts or feelings...and let not forget, they can make us really laugh! We have loved seeing the children's enthusiasm for our daily poetry and look forward to continuing this next term.

Pictured are some of the age-appropriate poetry anthologies we are reading in school at the moment.

