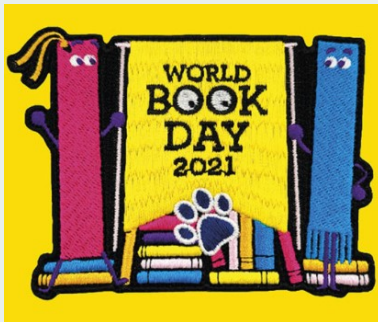




## READING MATTERS

Welcome to Treeton C of E school's first newsletter that is dedicated to reading. You can find out about what we are doing across school to promote reading and also gain additional ideas for reading at home. As well as book recommendations, each publication aims to inform you on reading matters including how you can best support your child to become a fluent reader. You will also be informed about any exciting reading related events taking place in school. **Miss Brooks, Literacy and Key Stage 2 Leader**

**Mrs D H Ball, Head teacher**



**Don't forget that you need to spend your £1.00 voucher before 28th March**



**"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Dr Seuss**

This year we celebrated World Book Day in school and at home. Children wore some incredible costumes and created props linked to their favourite characters. The children were all encouraged to write to their favourite authors and one child even conducted an interview with the famous Michael Rosen.

We thank you all for your contributions including the poster competition entries we received to motivate and inspire others to read.

We can now announce that the winners are:

**KS1 - Isla Dale**

**LKS2 - Luke Staniland  
- Sophie Dexter**

**UKS2 - Elisha Zindonda  
- Scarlett Allott**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Which books should your child be reading?
- Book bands explained
- The importance of phonics
- Recommended reads
- Encouraging the love of reading
- Virtual libraries
- EYFS: Early Literacy

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

- World Poetry Day - 21st March
- Poetry competition closing date - 26th March

The picture books in Year 1 offer deeper exploration of emotions and wonder. They are mainly rooted in the everyday crises of life. Again, most of these books lend themselves to setting up a variety of play situations – using toys, costumes and puppets – but the children also need to be involved in careful reading of the books, paying close attention to the detail and entering imagined worlds to experience the stories deeply – then talking it all through.



**Peace at Last**  
Julia Murray  
Ask the children: What is peace? Make a list of peaceful times (if any) and peaceful places. You might need to explain 'peace' before reading the book! Ask: Why can't the bear sleep? Make a list of all the noises he can hear. Turn this into a hot potato and add other ideas. For example: At night, I hear the cats fighting outside. I can hear the buses driving by. I hear the kitchen tap dripping.



**Can't You Sleep Little Bear?**  
Martin Skott  
Follow both bears and talk about what they feel or are thinking. Ask: Is Little Bear really trying to go to sleep? How does Big Bear comfort Little Bear? He reads this book many times, so it is about comfort and being safe. (See the Read & Respond title for further ideas.)



**Where the Wild Things Are**  
Maurice Sendak  
Look at the cover. Ask: What might happen? Who is creating mischief? What really happened in Max's room that night? Create a 'Wild Thing' dance – to the left and then to the right. Create a 'Wild Thing' dance to the dance and music to accompany the movement. Create large monster paintings. Ask: What are the monsters and why does Max send them to bed? What do you think his parents are like?

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Read all year at [www.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading-spine/](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading-spine/)

## WHICH BOOKS SHOULD YOUR CHILD BE READING ?

With the enormous amount of choice on offer when it comes to choosing books, it is not surprising that sometimes the decision-making can be tricky, so what books should you be choosing for your child?

Ideally, children should have the opportunity to read a range of books—from fiction to non fiction and poetry covering a variety of genres such as adventure, mystery and the classics to name a few.

As a school, we ensure that each class has a full range of books from Pie Corbett's Reading Spine. Pie Corbett's Reading Spine is a range of age appropriate books for each year group. They engage children at a deeper level with a variety of classic and essential reads. As well as this, each classroom has books from a Poetry Spine and a Rich and Diverse Reading Spine ( a collection from a wide range of heritages by creators of colour).

For more information about books, please see the school website. Under the curriculum tab you will find English and within this section there is lots of useful information including the details for the reading spine for each year group.



**Read 20 minutes a day and your child will read 1,800,000 words per year.**



## READING BOOK BANDS EXPLAINED

In UK schools, Book Bands are used across different reading schemes to indicate the reading level and difficulty. They are identified by the coloured band on your child's reading book. Each book band has its own colour.

The link below provides additional information to show what reading age each book band relates to.

<https://cdn.oxfordowl.co.uk/2019/07/19/13/52/18/160/OxfordLevelsAndBookBands.png>

However, it should be remembered that children progress at different speeds and the chart only indicates an 'average' band for a child.

If you are ever concerned about your child's reading progress, you should speak to your child's class teacher. Reading for some may present as a challenge, but by reading regularly with your child at home the process of learning how to read will only get easier.

Did you know that many free books can be found online? for example, Oxford Owls has a free eBook Library — see the link below.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>

## THE IMPORTANCE OF PHONICS

As children enter school and progress through their school career you'll hear a lot about phonics, but what exactly is the purpose of phonics?

Phonics is a way of teaching children to read and write. It is the ability to hear, identify, and manipulate sounds and understand the link between the sound (phoneme) and the way it is written (grapheme). When phonics is taught in a structured way it is the most effective way of teaching young children to read. A child who has received good teaching of phonics will progress to read any kind of text fluently and confidently, and most importantly to read for enjoyment.

At Treeton we follow the 'Letters and Sounds programme' using 'Active learn online resources'. This is a phonics programme in which individual letters or letter sounds are 'blended' to form groups of letters or sounds, and those groups are then blended to form complete words. Phonics is taught through phases and begins in nursery and extends through to KS1.

Children learn best when their phonics sessions are active and fun. Playing games is one of the most effective ways to teach and embed phonics. There are many resources online that can support you. One particularly good website to use is [www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk).

**Mrs Minhas Assistant Head Teacher and Key Stage 1 Leader**

## VIRTUAL LIBRARIES

Since the first lockdown, we have been unable to visit our local library, but did you know that there are many virtual libraries that we can access at any time of the day. A virtual library can be defined as an internet-based digital collection of books.

The book trust is just one of many sites offering children a wealth of books to read online

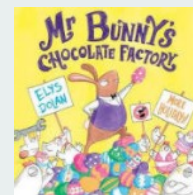
[https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/storybooks-and-games/?gclid=CjwKCAjw-YT1BRAFEiwAd2WRtjH819L\\_2HoJn780Dz5HXz4WvuSjpR6aiNA4k-hsZpGyC9DpK8KPvx0CawoQAvD\\_BwE](https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/storybooks-and-games/?gclid=CjwKCAjw-YT1BRAFEiwAd2WRtjH819L_2HoJn780Dz5HXz4WvuSjpR6aiNA4k-hsZpGyC9DpK8KPvx0CawoQAvD_BwE)

Lastly, it is worth noting that every week a popular children's author or illustrator will provide you with free books and exclusive videos. This is a great addition for both children that are learning at school or at home. The link is <https://library.thenational.academy/>

## RECOMMENDED READS FOR EASTER



EYFS/KS1



LKS2



UKS2

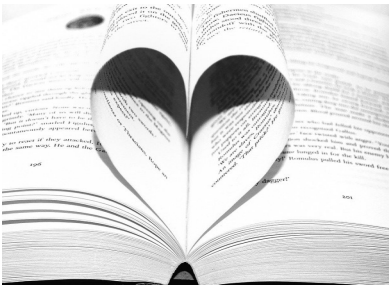
**There really is a book  
for every occasion.**

With local libraries opening very soon, visiting is a great way for children to explore and build their interest in books. You can order books you would like to read and most libraries now provide a click and collect service.



#### IN THE NEXT EDITION OF READING MATTERS

- Useful links to support reading development
- Ways to include reading into your home routine
- More recommended reads
- Treeton's poetry competition winners
- Reading VIPERS



### EYFS: Early Literacy



From an early age children enjoy exploring their world including how to make sounds and make marks. At this stage it is instinctive not taught or modelled – every situation is a learning opportunity, even ones like the picture shown here.

These early explorations provide young children with opportunities to develop their communication skills.

It is important to develop these early explorations and build on children's natural curiosity, their desire to communicate and their enjoyment to enable our children to grow into enthusiastic and successful readers and writers.

### The importance of speech and language

- ♦ Before children can learn to read and write they need to develop their understanding of the English language. For all of us this happens through talk.
- ♦ Through talk we learn new vocabulary and the knowledge about how to structure sentences.

### Reading with your child

Reading to children provides them with a wealth of language to draw upon when they speak, read and write. Sharing books and rhymes helps us incorporate speech and language into children's daily life.

**Mrs Hall Assistant Head Teacher and EYFS Leader**

### World Poetry Day

Poetry can be defined as a piece of writing that uses imaginative words to share ideas, emotions or a story with the reader

Since 1999, World Poetry Day has been celebrated every year on 21st March. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about poetry and enjoy the work of British poets and also from others around the world.

This year, to celebrate the event, we will be holding a poetry competition. The poem can be in any form known as 'free verse' which means that the poem you write is free from any limitations. The only rules are that your poem fits on one side of A4 and is on the subject Spring.

The closing date for entries is on Friday 26th March. A winner from each year group (Y1—6) will be chosen and everyone who enters will receive a certificate.

