



Welcome to our very first Thurlstone Primary School Reading Newsletter! In this and subsequent issues, we will be sharing updates about what is going on to promote our love of reading across school! A love of reading is the most important gift we can give our children; it builds empathy, strengthens vocabulary and is often a chance for our children to escape to another world! Hopefully, this newsletter will give you some ideas to further explore reading with your child.

Happy Reading!

Miss Houghton x



SF Said  
@whatSFsaid

A kind of magic happens when adults READ ALOUD to kids. It's the kind of magic that can change their lives forever, and will never, ever be forgotten. #literacy

### EYFS and KS1:

In our FS class, our youngest children have been working hard with their phonics! They've also been enjoying reading shared books with Miss Brown/Mrs. Clayton in class and I know they've been taking books home to read too! I love looking at their reading journey on the wall. It has books like: 'Don't Eat the Teacher', 'A Great Big Cuddle' and 'Owl Babies'!

Y1 have been enjoying the book 'Beegu' by Alexis Deacon and, before half term, enjoyed 'Dogger' by Shirley Hughes! Soon, they'll be starting to read 'My Naughty Little Sister' by Dorothy Edwards. They take home a reading book every day to read at home, as well as reading lots in school too. Ask your child about the daily poem they share in class!

Y2 have been avid readers too! Being The Wise Owls means getting to read lots of brilliant owl-related texts! As well as focussing on 'The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark' in literacy, they've also read 'The Sleepy Owl' in story time! Soon, they'll be reading 'The Twits'. Don't forget, they bring home their reading book each week, as well as a phonics book for some children! And they even get a library book! Super readers!

### KS2:

In KS2, we look at the same text in our reading and writing sessions. That way, we get a real in-depth understanding of the book!

Y3 have been focussing on 'The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs' and will soon be doing their independent writing based on the book! It's a hilarious book that shows there is always two sides to every story! Their story time book, 'Stig of the Dump', links perfectly with their topic. A classic text all about an unlikely friendship.

Y4 have studied two texts already – 'The Iron Man' and 'The BFG'. Two classics that never seem to get old! As well as having an amazing understanding of these texts, Y4 also produced some beautiful artwork of The Iron Man. The class are now reading 'The Saga of Erik the Viking' by Terry Jones and Michael Foreman. This is fantastic, as it also links to the 'Invaders' topic, full of Viking history!

Y5 have also studied two texts this year – 'Cosmic' by Frank Cottrell-Boyce: a hilarious book about kids going to space! We have also been studying the narrative poem, 'The Highway Man'. A classic full of love...and murder! Our story time book is 'The Boy at the Back of the Class', all about what best friends would do to help their new friend, a refugee, be reunited with his family again.

Y6 have just started their second text! Their first text, The Graveyard Book, was pretty hefty... but brilliant! A graphic novel, it was an amazing text to start off the year. They've just started their next text, The Journey by Francesca Sanna, a beautifully illustrated book which really gets you thinking! Their story time book, The Railway Children, is a classic. Full of charm, delight and friendship, it has characters you can't help but fall in love with.

IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO ALWAYS READ  
A BEDTIME STORY...ELSE HOW WOULD YOUR  
DREAMS KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN.



## An Interview with Mrs. Warttig!

1. **What are you reading at the moment?** *'The Girl at the Gates'. I read a lot on holiday, and started this last week!*
2. **What is your favourite children's book?** *Right now – 'Stick Man'! I absolutely love it! It's fab to read with my grandkids!*
3. **Where is your favourite place to read?** *Oh, definitely at the side of the pool, laying in the sun on holiday.*
4. **Real book or Kindle?** *Hmmm...I'll say Kindle. I love real books and I have all of them from years gone by, but a Kindle is so much easier and a lot cheaper!*

### EYFS and KS1 Author Focus: Rachel Bright and Jim Field

Rachel Bright and Jim Field are author/illustrator team who produce some fantastic picture books! The Whale who Wanted More, The Lion Inside, The Way Home for Wolf, The Koala Who Could are all some of their fabulous works. If you haven't read any yet, pop to Penistone Library on High Street, or Barnsley Library in the midst of the new Glassworks to see if they have it in. It's even better to have a library card – you can borrow books whenever you'd like!



### KS2 Author Focus: Piers Torday

*In 1945, the main characters enter a library and discover it's a magical world where the books are at war. The Reads, The Unreads and The Never Reads are battling for control...can the main characters save them?* This is the blurb of one of Torday's fantastic books 'The Lost Magician'. However, the prize-winning author has so many amazing reads to try! My advice? If you get it, definitely read along with your child! Reading stories together is one of the best things we can do for each other and reading aloud is so important to instil a love of reading.



### A review by Y6 Sophie Vickers – The Dragonfly Pool by Eva Ibbotson

The books starts in London during WWII. Tally, the main character, is sent to a boarding school in Devon. It's a totally different school to any before – they don't even have proper lessons! The school are invited to a country in Europe for a folkdance festival and Tally really wants to go. There, she finds a deep and everlasting friendship. It's perfect for people who like wildlife books or books like 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. It's a story you don't want to put down!

### Reading at Night Event!

Before Christmas, Miss Houghton and the librarians will be hosting a 'reading at night' event! This will be held after school, 3:30pm to 4:30pm. Children going are welcome to bring blankets, teddies and torches to school...as well as their favourite book, obviously! It's a chance to come and just enjoy reading! Share books with your friends and older/younger pupils, or just read on your own. Make dens and cosy spaces to snuggle up and be transported into your favourite place – inside a book! More info to follow soon...

### Book Fair!

Coming... Monday 29<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November! Closer to the time, I will be allocating specific times/days to different year groups, so keep your eyes peeled! The more you buy from the book fair, the more rewards we get as a school! Teachers are able to get freebies to have in the classroom, so please help if you can!