

Welcome to our Spring 1 Thurlstone Primary School Reading Newsletter! Here is another update about what is going on to promote our love of reading across school! Unfortunately, life's craziness took over towards the end of last year, and my own reading for pleasure seemed almost non-existent! So, my New Year's Resolution is to make more time for reading. When I read, I feel much more relaxed, calmer and just better about myself! Hopefully, this newsletter will give you some ideas to further explore reading with your child. Happy Reading!

Miss Houghton x



EYFS and KS1:

In our FS class, they will be starting the new phonics scheme and we have a full set of new reading books to match their learning! Our youngest children will also be moving onto digraphs in phonics and have been working really hard on their common exception words. At the moment, their bookshelf is full of wintery books like 'Betty and the Yeti', 'Snow Angels' and 'Snow Lambs'!

The new phonics scheme for both EYFS and Y1 has amazing interactive big books for the classes to read together online and, soon, you guys at home will have access to eBooks to read too! They even have a quiz at the end!

Y1 will be finishing the book 'My Naughty Little Sister' by Dorothy Edwards. This half term, they'll be enjoying 'The Queen's Hat' by Steve Anthony and 'Dick Whittington'. Their story time book will be a classic – 'A Bear Called Paddington'! Y1 will also be starting the new phonics scheme that has a full range of new reading books to match their learning. Their reading corner will soon be full of books all about London and monarchs, to match their topic learning!

Y2 are still very keen readers, and I know they'll be making lots of progress this half term! They will be finishing 'The Twits' as well as reading 'Daisy and the Trouble with Life' by Kes Gray and 'The Big Book of Bugs' which links to their topics sessions last half term. Don't forget, Year 2 also bring home a reading book each week, a library book and, for some, a phonics book. Plenty of practice!

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 will be reading 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' by Philip Pullman, a beautiful story that links to their topic 'Rocks and Relics' (all about earthquakes and volcanoes!). They will also be finishing 'Stig of the Dump' and Mrs. Smeaton allows the class to pick a story they'd like to hear, for their class story. In their linked reading and writing sessions, Y3 will also be looking at 'Stone Age Boy'.

Y4 will be starting to look at 'The River' by Valerie Bloom, a poem with beautiful description. It also links in well to one of the Y4 topics, 'Misty Mountain, Winding River' (full of geography)! Their story time text will be 'Demon Dentist' by David Walliams. A lot of our children seem to love his books!

Because our writing is based on a video, we're looking at a few different texts in reading. One of them will be 'Unspoken', a fantastic book with no words – only pictures. What the children are able to infer about stories like that always blows my mind! We will also be finishing our class story 'Clockwork' by Philip Pullman and will be starting 'The Kite Rider' by Geraldine McCaughrean, set in 13th Century China and linked with our previous topic, The Shang Dynasty.

Y6 will be starting to look at 'Paperman' by Walt Disney Animation Studios. Not only is it a video, but there are also texts to go with it! Their story time book, 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' by Onjali Q. Raúf was a firm favourite of theirs last year, and I know they'll love to hear it again this year!

**CHILDREN READ MORE
WHEN THEY SEE OTHER
PEOPLE READING**

Children are made
readers on the laps of
their parents.
- Emily Buchwald

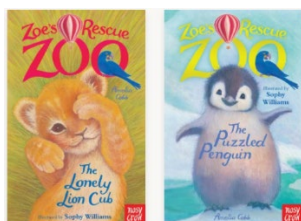
An Interview with Mrs. Gibbins!

1. **What are you reading at the moment?** *'The Terror' by Dan Simmons. It's a historical horror and was adapted into a TV series.*
2. **What is your favourite children's book?** *All-time favourite – 'Clockwork' by Philip Pullman. I absolutely love it!*
3. **Where is your favourite place to read?** *In bed. I get nice and cosy and it helps me to feel relaxed before going to sleep.*
4. **Real book or Kindle?** *Can I choose something different? I love Audible! If I'm feeling too lazy or too tired to use my eyes, it's much easier to use my ears! It was really good to use when I had Covid and felt really poorly too!*

EYFS and KS1 Author Focus: Amelia Cobb

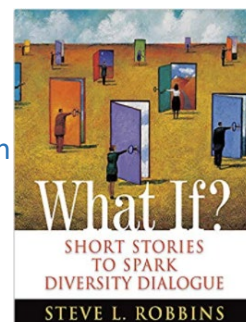
Amelia Cobb isn't actually a real person! The real person behind the books is unknown. On the official website, it says: 'If Amelia did exist, we like to think that she'd live by the sea with her two goldfish, Flip and Flop, and write her stories at a small desk by the window, listening to the radio and wearing a brightly-coloured scarf at all times.' Miss Collins recommended this author to me, as she loves reading some of these with her class! They are all about little Zoe who lives at an animal rescue zoo with her mother, a vet.

Zoe's uncle travels the globe and finds all sorts of animals who need rescuing. It is Zoe and her mum's job to settle them into their new home.



KS2 Author Focus: Steve Long-Nguyen Robbins

When Steve Long-Nguyen Robbins was growing up, his mother routinely told him, "Long, you walk on a path cleared by others, so it is your responsibility to clear the path for others." His goal was simple: to clear the path and inspire more 'pathmakers' and, in doing so, create a better world. Robbins' book includes inspiring, lively and personal stories, offering advice on how to create more unity. Each chapter ends with questions, an activity, and an assignment to inspire you to be more open-minded and inclusive.



A review by Y2 Jude Worth – Captain Underpants (series) by David Pilkey

A mean guy principal called Mr. Krupp hates kids, especially George and Harold. George and Harold buy a hypno ring which changes the mean guy into Captain Underpants! I especially like Captain Underpants because he's just a naked guy with a red cape and pants! It's hilarious! He stops bad guys and once, to stop some bad guys robbing a bank, he stood in front of the door. The robbers just looked at him then burst out laughing, long enough for the police to come and arrest them! These books really make me laugh!

Reading at Night Event!

Before Christmas, Miss Houghton and the librarians hosted a 'reading at night' event! There was a HUGE amount of interest which was fantastic! If your child didn't get to attend, I'll be sending out letters for another event before half term. 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...

Autumn Book Fair

Thank you so much to those of you who bought from the book fair (especially as you had to be tech-savvy this year!). You guys spent £815, meaning each class got to spend £60 each on new books from the book fair...without having to pay a penny. THANK YOU SO MUCH!