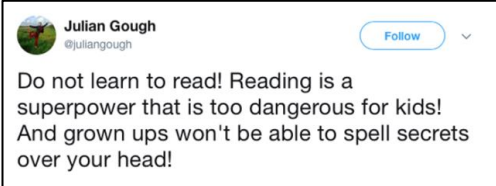


Welcome to our summer 1 Thurlstone Primary School Reading Newsletter! Here is another update about what is going on to promote our love of reading across school! We had a lovely reading event last half term. It was a much calmer one than previously! I loved reading about dinosaurs with one of our reception children, and reading about 'Ava Twist; Scientist' with a few of our KS1 children! We also had a lovely Gold List picnic in the last week of school.

I can't believe we're now in our final term of the year. I'm so excited to have more reading-themed events before we break up for the summer holidays.

Happy Reading! Miss Houghton x



Julian Gough  
@juliangough

Follow

Do not learn to read! Reading is a superpower that is too dangerous for kids! And grown ups won't be able to spell secrets over your head!

### EYFS and KS1:

Miss Brown described our FS class as 'very keen readers!' Both Miss Brown and Mrs. Clayton have talked about how much our little ones LOVE lunchtime Library Club, bringing books into class for their teachers to read to them. Both our teachers have also said they've noticed some of our Rockets have been accessing Rocket Phonics online at home, and completing quizzes about their books too. The Rockets are currently reading lots of animal/bug-themed books, linking to their current topic. They're reading 'Monkey Puzzle' by Julia Donaldson and, one of Mrs. Clayton's favourites, 'What the Ladybird Heard'!

Y1 completed their book 'Anna's Amazing Multi-coloured Glasses' and even wrote a story about their own multi-coloured glasses! They're currently reading Jack and the Beanstalk – a classic! The Busy Bees are still continuing with their independent reading after lunch, bringing in their book bags every day so they can have some reading for pleasure time. Mrs. Stokoe has also been involving parents a lot lately! Most recently, she had a meeting with parents to discuss the upcoming Phonics Screening Check, and before Easter, parents went into class at 3pm one day to share stories with their children. Mrs. Stoke said it was such a lovely afternoon and she's planning the next one on 24<sup>th</sup> May!

Y2 are still looking at fairy tales! They're now reading The Enchanted Wood in story time and are loving it! Enid Blyton's classic is still so loved and I know the children carry on loving it through school. Our Wise Owls are also loving all of the non-fiction books in their reading area. They're reading lots about monarchs which links to their topic with Mrs. Wood! Y2 will soon be completing a book of spring poems to put in our school library – I can't wait to read them! And I bet some of the older children will love to read them too. There has also been written reading comprehension practice going on too, as our Wise Owls have been preparing for their end of year assessments and for Year 3 next year! I can't believe how quickly that has come around.

### KS2:

Y3 are about to finish 'Evie and the Animals' by Matt Haig. Their next class text will be from the 'Voices' collection. This collection of stories has some amazing historically-themed books, and this one is no exception. Based in Victorian Britain, it follows a young boy who suddenly meets his father: the first black circus owner! Y3 have also been enjoying linking their topic to guided reading, looking at texts based on the Romans! This week, they have been looking at male poets (like a lot of us in KS2), such as Michael Rosen and Brian Moses. Moses' poem 'I'm Walking with my Iguana' is fabulous!

Y4 are currently looking at the book 'Secrets of a Sun King' by Emma Carroll in literacy, basing their writing on it. This is great as it links to their topic 'Ancient Civilisations'! In guided reading, they looked at lots of song lyrics before half term, such as 'How Far I'll Go' from Moana, 'Shotgun' by George Ezra and 'A Million Dreams' from The Greatest Showman. They're currently completing activities on refugee-based texts and next week will be looking at wild animal-themed texts. In story time, The Warriors are reading 'The Red Pyramid' by Rick Riordan (the same author who wrote the 'Percy Jackson' series!) which also links to their Ancient Civilisation topic!

In Year 5, we've been looking at extracts from all sorts of books and poetry! This half term, we will be looking at extracts from some very exciting books... The Hunger Games and Lord of the Rings! We will also be looking at male poets, such as Benjamin Zephaniah and Neil Gaiman. We've also looked at extracts from the wonderful author Piers Torday. We are still reading 'Kick' as our story time book, and it's still full of suspense! We've been on the edge of our seats, wondering what will happen to Budi's uncle now he's escaped from Execution Island. We're currently finishing a letter in our writing sessions, which is linked to this text. Our letter is to John Stones, asking him to stand for footballers stopping wearing kits made by children in third world countries!

Y6 are SATs ready! And whilst Mr. Peace is making sure they feel ready, I've also seen them having some end of day fun too! Some texts they've been using to prepare for SATs have been 'The Refugee Boy' by Benjamin Zephaniah (an amazing poet!) and a BBC article about Covid and the rainbow becoming the iconic symbol we knew it to be. They've been reading 'The Unforgotten Coat' by Frank Cottrell Boyce; an awesome story of how two Mongolian immigrants are treated so well in school, and not always so well outside of school. They've been continuing their reading for pleasure time in class and, if I know that year group, will have chosen some amazing texts to read independently too!

## Book Review by Y1 Maddison Crisp – Alfie the Werewolf by Paul van Loon

*There are lots of these books! It goes up to book 6! But at the minute, I'm reading book 3. It's about a boy called Alfie. He doesn't live with his own family but he lives with his best friend Tim and his family. When Alfie turns into a werewolf, he does it for three nights! The night before a full moon, when it is a full moon and the night after. Most of the time, his friend Tim, his best friend, helps him when he turns into a werewolf. He first turned into a werewolf the night before his seventh birthday. At the minute, he's been trapped in a cage by a hunter! I am reading these books all by myself. The first one took me four days and it has over twenty chapters! It can be funny and it is just really good!*

I loved chatting to Maddison about this book. She was so enthusiastic and was so proud of herself for reading them on her own. I told her how impressed I was, and I really am! Sounds like Maddison has crazy reading-skills – wow!



## EYFS and KS1 Author Focus: Joseph Coelho

I've chosen Joseph Coelho because of his fabulous writing, helping children deal with things that may come to affect their lives. This poet addresses them in such a loving and beautiful way, making it so relatable for kids. 'My Beautiful Voice' tells the story of the anxiety experienced by a young learner who cannot build up the courage to read their poetry to the class, and resonates with those who are often stuck with the 'shy' label. 'If All the World Were...' is a book about a young girl's love for her granddad and how she copes when he's gone. A brilliant book for any child dealing with grief. 'Luna Loves Library Day' addresses a BIG grief: Luna's parents breaking up, which, for many children, can be their first loss. It shows that not all families look the same – a great message to celebrate! More recently he created the book 'Thank You: A story celebrating key workers and the NHS' a tribute to the people who worked hard and kept us safe during the pandemic.



## KS2 Author Focus: Onjali Q. Raúf

I first heard of Onjali Q. Raúf when choosing to read her awesome book 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' with my Y4 cohort a couple of years ago. I LOVE this book: the way it's written, the humour, the empathy and understanding you, as a reader, develop. All her books have those exact same themes, and all sound amazing and positively inspiring! From 'The Great (Food)bank Heist' (highlighting what life is like for families in poverty), to 'The Night Bus Hero' (told from the perspective of a bully, this book explores themes of homelessness, while celebrating kindness, friendship and the potential everyone has to change for the good). Her other fictional works include, 'The Star Outside my Window' and 'The Lion Above my Door'. As well as fiction, she has also released a non-fiction title, 'Hope on the Horizon: A children's handbook on empathy, kindness and making a better world'. This is your hope handbook: a guide to being kind, showing empathy and making the world a better place.



## Mrs. Gibbins' New Reading Challenge!

Have you sent in your favourite book or author to put on display yet? I might ask Mrs. Gibbins if I can put a picture of mine up too!



## Listen to stories online

storylineonline.net is a free website where our younger readers can listen to different celebrities read a variety of stories!



Replying to @MrBoothY6

Because books are like people, the right one, at the right time, can change your life.

3:13 AM - 24 Aug 2017

## Book Sale

This half term, we will be having a book sale! This will be full of older books from the library. As much as it feels weird getting rid of books, they library is just so full! We want to fill it with books the children love to read and will read for pleasure. So keep your eyes peeled for a date!