

St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Junior School - Celebrating Reading!

**“The more that you read, the more things you will know.
The more you learn, the more places you’ll go”, Dr. Seuss.**

**There is more treasure in books than in
all the pirate’s loot on Treasure Island”, Walt Disney.**



Gift a Book at Christmas 2022

An enormous THANK YOU to all! We were overwhelmed by your generosity last Christmas. Your donations have meant that we have been able to order over 80% of the books (some of which are shown below) that were on our ‘wish list’. Since they have arrived, the children have been incredibly curious, and the volumes are flying off the shelves! It is also igniting a sense of ‘I would like to see ‘x’ book in the library’. This is so fabulous to hear! The best recommendations come from friends.



New Magazines

Through the success of the Gift a Book at Christmas Scheme, we have been able to order two annual subscriptions (Brilliant Brainz and The Britannica Magazine). Some of our reluctant readers have been hot-footing it into the library, and spending some time relaxing at lunchtime (during library drop-in) with a magazine in hand. These new magazines will join our existing stock: of The Week Junior, The Week Junior – Science & Nature and The National Geographic for Kids.

Reading Tree Awards Update

At the risk of repeating myself, library lunchtime drop-ins continue to be extremely popular. A number of children are galloping towards their next award, and it’s lovely to see them examining alternative genres, and then feeding back to me how much they have enjoyed reading a different book! So far we have awarded the following number of certificates:

Bronze 134, Silver 37, Gold 18, Platinum 8.



The children continue to decorate the 'Library Tree' with their book recommendations. The girls who play football out of school have spotted the new girls' football themed books on the shelves. I am reliably informed that the books are passing between these eager young sports-women and they are chatting excitedly with each other about what they have just read!

Audio Books

YouTube is a fantastic place to discover free audio books. What a treasure trove! I was fortunate enough to find audio recordings of the two books that I reviewed this half term for the children on this very site.

A Series of Unfortunate Events: The Bad Beginning by Lemony Snicket

First published in 2012, this book, aimed at Upper School (Year 5 & 6) readers, has been adapted for the screen and is currently streaming on Netflix. For an audio version of Violet, Klaus and Sunny Baudelaire's turbulent lives, immerse oneself in this calm-mannered reading: [A Series of Unfortunate Events: The Bad Beginning Audiobook - YouTube](#).

The Worst Witch all at Sea by Jill Murphy

An eternal favourite with so many primary school-aged children. The BBC has adapted Jill's novels into a series that is currently available on: www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer. The Worst Witch all at Sea audio book, can all be found on [worst witch all at sea – YouTube](#).

Next term, there will be two further book reviews in the library, and I'm pleased to report that these are also free to listen to online.

The Demon Headmaster by Gillian Cross

Aimed at Upper School readers, this was first published in 1982. It was dramatised for the BBC in 1996, and again in 2019. The later series can be found on: www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer. Here is the unabridged audio book link: [The Demon Headmaster || Out of Print Audiobooks - YouTube](#).

The First Term at Malory Towers by Enid Blyton

Fuelled by the BBC adaptation of this perpetually popular read, I have had many children enquiring about the book series. Admittedly, I am not recommending an audio book of the original story, but an audio adaptation of the book, using the same actors that appear in the television series. I listened to all of the episodes on a long car journey recently and thoroughly recommend them all! [BBC Sounds - Tales from Malory Towers - Available Episodes](#).

