

St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Junior School

Celebrating Reading!



"You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax, all you need is a book!" — Dr. Seuss

*"If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales."
— Albert Einstein*

Reading Tree for 2022/23

As previously reported, library lunchtime drop-ins continue to be extremely busy. It's wonderful to see new faces, where the 'regulars' are bringing their friends and inspiring them to work towards getting their bronze and subsequent awards. It's fantastic to hear the claps during Worship on a Friday morning, where the week's reading awards are handed out. At the time of writing this, we have awarded the following number of certificates.

Bronze – 165, Silver – 67 , Gold – 32 , Platinum - 21

World Book Day 2023

Each class received a gift-wrapped box full of objects/books to inspire the children. The topics included: emotions, space, fiestas and aliens! Over the course of the day, each class (across the Infant and Junior Schools), supported by year 6 children, created a book based on what inspired them. These books are now part of the library collection for all to enjoy.



History

The History Curriculum for the Upper School this spring term has focussed on 'The Changing Power of the British Monarchy'. We are lucky to have an extensive collection of 'Horrible Histories' books (which cover this very topic) by Terry Deary. These volumes ultimately inspired the eternally popular CBBC production 'Horrible Histories'. I've recently discovered a podcast on BBC Sounds (13 episodes) <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p09rtwbb> where CBBC's Horrible Histories have brought together some of the most remarkable figures in history and imagined what they'd do with their own podcasts!

You may be aware that Greg Jenner, who is one of the programme writers, also hosts a history-themed podcast, 'You're Dead to Me' (on BBC Sounds). As we approach Easter, I highly recommend the episode 'The History of Chocolate' to Upper School children.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0874r22>



Book Reviews , Audio Books and Author Chats

At the start of the summer term, the children will see three further books reviews in the library:

Letters from the Lighthouse by Emma Carroll

This book was inspired by a holiday read which I purchased in a seaside town on the Suffolk Coast in 2019 – Seashaken Houses by Tom Nancollas – which is one of the best non-fiction books I have EVER read. I was delighted to come across a video on YouTube where Emma Carroll talks about her book 'Letters from the Lighthouse' <https://youtu.be/HUL88DE0fOk>

The London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd

This spine-tingling thriller is told over a series of videos on YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TNwOX_mKbIs , as part of Ms Blunden's Story Time (from Swaffield Primary School).

The Night We Got Stuck in a Story by Ben Miller

This book was published in 2022 and was on our 'Gift a Book at Christmas' list last year. Ben Miller introduces his book on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nHgB2mloVwk> .To date I have not been able to find a 'free to hear' audio book. It is however available on Audible as part of a subscription, or a one off payment. <https://www.audible.co.uk/pd/The-Night-We-Got-Stuck-in-a-Story-Audiobook/B0B4BN8FWK>

