

St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Primary School

Celebrating Reading!

"There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate's loot on Treasure Island."

— Walt Disney

"A house without books is like a room without windows." — Horace Mann

Year 6 Librarians



Over this academic year, I have had 17 Librarian Monitors supporting me in what can often be incredibly busy drop-in sessions during lunch time. They have all been brilliant, and I am extremely grateful to them for their support. Thank you! Working across the KS1 and KS2 libraries, they have gained experience in processing new books, creating displays, talking to the children about their book choices as well as supporting KS2 lower school readers.

Year 6 Book Legacy

Thank you to the year 6 parents for their generosity in supporting the year 6 legacy book donation scheme. We have been able to order a number of books from our local independent bookseller Chicken & Frog, which the KS2 children will be able to enjoy at the start of the new academic year.

St Thomas' Bookopoly & Reading Brick Road Reading Awards

Wow! What a phenomenal year we have had with our Reading Awards!

This year, in KS2, we have awarded **234 Bronze Awards**, **149 Silver Awards**, **75 Gold Awards** and **26 Platinum Reading Awards**!

In EYFS & KS1, we have awarded **220 Bronze Scarecrow Awards**, **165 Silver Tin Man Awards**, **108 Gold Lion Reading Awards**, **85 Ruby Reading Awards** and **52 Emerald Reading Awards**! In KS2, 21 children also took part in the **Diamond Reading Award challenge**, where they had the opportunity to be critical thinkers and be an influencer amongst their peers.

Due to their popularity this year, children will again be able to take part in these Reading Awards at the start of the autumn term in September.



Essex Libraries Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge invites children to explore the magical connection between storytelling and nature. Children are asked to read 6 books or carry out a range of other challenges to receive a certificate and medal. Brentwood Library will be giving a trophy to the Primary School with the largest number of certificates awarded. How fabulous it would be if we won the trophy!

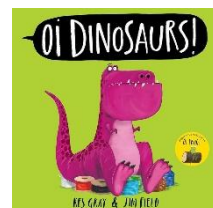
Essex County Council
Libraries



Author Visits



Author **S A Reyhani** visited KS2 in late June. Her debut novel titled 'A sequence of Cosmic Accidents' rattles along at an exhilarating pace, largely fuelled by the unstoppable force that is Madlock (Arian's foster sister). Children will enjoy the humour of the back-and-forth banter and her wonderfully colourful and archaic turns of phrase. If you didn't manage to buy a signed copy of her book, we have a copy in the KS2 Library that children can borrow. **Kes Gray** also visited the KS1, talking about his latest book 'Oi Dinosaurs!' which can also be found in our library.

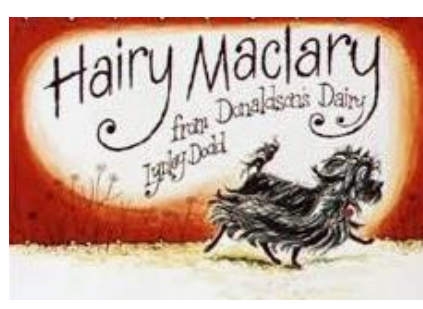
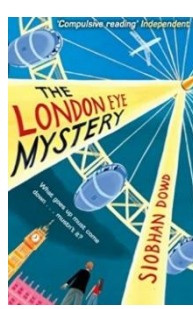
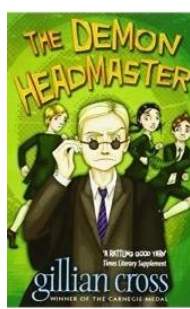
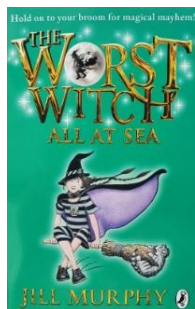


Summer Holiday Bookish Ideas

<https://youtu.be/n5Z6udVfOWY> Author Jacqueline Wilson shares her top tips on creating a book nook! For art and crafting activities, Puffin the publishers have a downloadable activity pack for every kind of story lover. Just pick your age, print out, and get started! <https://wp.penguin.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Puffin-Spring-Activity-Pack-2021-UPDATE.pdf> . Podcasts are perfect for long car journeys, or useful for a bit of 'downtime'. The National Literacy Trust have listed their favourite podcasts which are suitable for children (of all ages). <https://wordsforlife.org.uk/activities/listen-and-learn-podcasts/> . My favourite is Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls! www.rebelgirls.com/podcast?page=2 . Admittedly not bookish, Cbeebies have put together a fantastic list of outdoor activities for children of all ages to enjoy (aimed specifically at those in EYFS/KS1). www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/outdoor-activities

Looking ahead to September 2025

In the KS2 Library, we will be revisiting some of our favourite books and in the KS1 Library, children can look forward to seeing a display all about Hairy Maclary and his friends!



Mrs C. Emery, School Librarian