

St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Primary School

Celebrating Reading!



"Reading should not be presented to children as a chore, a duty. It should be offered as a gift." – Kate DiCamillo

"Reading is important. If you know how to read, then the whole world opens up to you." – Barack Obama

This is our first library newsletter as a Primary School! Each half term, a newsletter is published with the aim of sharing with you what we are getting up to in our two libraries (KS1 and KS2), as well as imparting awareness of audiobooks, podcasts and other resources which may help your child develop an interest in reading and literacy further.

Welcome to our Year Six Librarians

We have a fabulous team of 11 librarians this year. Their letters of support showed great maturity and demonstrated a fantastic passion for sharing their love of reading with others. Over the course of this academic year my new team will work across both libraries. As well as encouraging others to choose books that they will hopefully enjoy reading, the team will also be given the opportunity to develop and enhance skills such as: writing book reviews, generating displays, assisting with library questionnaires/competitions and getting to grips with the library electronic book borrowing system.

St Thomas' Reading Tree for 2023/24

After the success of the last academic year's School Reading Tree, we have decided to continue with this initiative for KS2 pupils. Children will gain awards (Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum) as they read books across the different branches (genres) of our school tree. This academic year, there have been some tweaks to the genres, which are as follows:

Adventure, Biographies, Classics, Historical Fiction, Non-Fiction, Poetry, Science Fiction, Sport.

Gift a Book at Christmas Scheme 2023

After its success last year, we will shortly be launching our 'Gift a Book at Christmas' initiative for both of our libraries. Parents and carers will be given the opportunity to donate a small amount of money which will cover the cost of the book. We purchase the majority of our stock from Peter's Bookshop, who provide a plastic protective cover, which ultimately prolongs the life of each book. More information will follow after half term.

Book Reviews, Audio Books and Author Chats

Our KS1 library has a fantastic collection of picture books from our favourite authors. The Tiger Who Came to Tea by Judith Kerr is definitely a childhood favourite of mine! I stumbled across a rather wonderful short video 'Judith Kerr in her Own Words'-

www.youtube.com/watch?v=5dNYZac-Ffk where she talks about this book and also the inspiration behind the Mog Books.

After half term, the children will see four further book reviews in the KS2 library.

The Sheep-Pig by Dick King-Smith

We are in for a treat with this free unabridged audio book of The Sheep-Pig read by Ink Arnadine. www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZ5S0YqayeM

Football Crazy by Tony Bradman

An electronic extract of this exciting book for football fans can be found here:

www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/extract/9049/Football-Crazy-by-Tony-Bradman.html

When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit by Judith Kerr

Some of you may be aware that Judith's semi-autobiographical novel was made into a film in 2019 and can be rented/purchased on Amazon Prime. An excerpt from the first chapter is free to listen to on Sound Cloud soundcloud.com/harpercollinspublishers/when-hitler-stole-pink-rabbit.

When the War Came Home by Lesley Parr

Fans of this mystery set in the aftermath of WW1 will enjoy listening to this audio version (free with a 30-day trial) on Audible read by Maya Grant. <https://www.audible.co.uk/pd/When-the-War-Came-Home-Audiobook/B09NCBYM4B>

