



Our Lady of the Rosary RCVA Primary School

Autumn Term 2020 English Newsletter



Bishop Chadwick
Catholic Education Trust

Welcome to our first English newsletter of the new academic year. Whether your child hasn't been able to put a book down, or if you've struggled to get them to pick one up, whether your child hasn't stopped writing stories, or if you've struggled to get them to pick up a pen, this newsletter is for you!

Each term, a new newsletter will be released. The newsletter aims to provide:

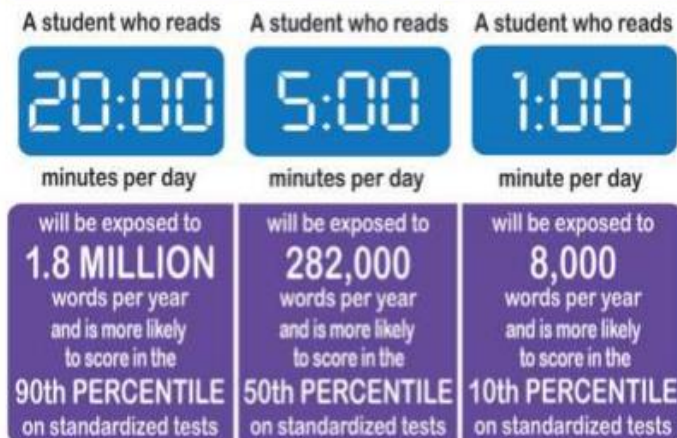
- The latest information about each class' reading and writing successes
- Information about new, high quality fiction, non-fiction, and poetry
- Top tips for helping your child with their reading and writing journey
- Recommended reads and websites to further engage your children

As always, your support is hugely appreciated,
Miss A. Duke (Year 6 Teacher, KS2 Leader and English Leader)



The Importance of Reading for Pleasure

HERE'S THE IMPACT OF
READING 20
MINUTES PER DAY!



Go Local: Peterlee Library

Peterlee Library is back open! Located in Peterlee Leisure Centre, it is a wonderful way of accessing a huge range of high-quality books for free!

Opening Times:

Monday - 10.00am to 5.00pm
Tuesday - 10.00am to 4.00pm
Wednesday - closed
Thursday - 10.00am to 5.00pm
Friday - 10.00am to 4.00pm
Saturday - 9.30am to 12.30pm
Sunday - closed



There is overwhelming evidence that literacy has a significant relationship to people's life chances. Reading for pleasure is more important than either wealth or social class as an indicator of success at school.

20 minutes per day is all it takes! At Our Lady of the Rosary, all children take part in daily reading lessons and experience daily class novel reading sessions.

How can you incorporate valuable reading experiences into your time at home?

- **Don't worry too much about the what and how of reading each day** - Books are great, but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions are great reading practise for your child, too.
- **Make books part of your family life** - Always have books around so that you and your children are ready to read whenever there is a chance.
- **Match their interests** - Help them find the right book - it doesn't matter if it's fiction, poetry, comic books or non-fiction. Reading is reading and it's all good!
- **Read again and again** - Encourage your child to re-read favourite books and poems. Re-reading helps to build up fluency and confidence.
- **Bedtime stories** - the perfect way to end the day, no matter what your child's age.

Stuck for what to read?

Visit <https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/> for useful advice and recommendations for *all* ages.



LoveReading
4 KIDS SHARING BOOK LOVE

Top Tips from the Author (YES – a REAL author!)

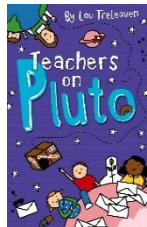
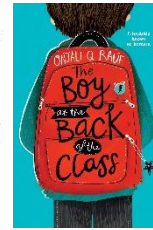


onjali rauf @OnjaliRauf · 7h

Replying to

"You're surrounded by a million walking-talking stories - from your teachers & family to friends & neighbours & people you pass by every day. Keep your eyes peeled and your ears open - inspirations for your own stories are everywhere."

Xxx



Lou 'Boo!' Treleven @LouTreleven · 59m

Replying to

Try reading lots of different types of books. When you find the sort you like, fireworks will go off in your head and you'll feel like you've found a friend for life.



Each term, I will share top tips for reading and writing from various famous children's authors! This term we have Onjali Rauf, author of Year 5's core text *The Boy at the Back of the Class*, and sci-fi picture book author, Lou Treleven!

Autumn Term Reading and Writing at Our Lady of the Rosary

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| <p>Year 1</p> | <p>Year 1 children have been reading the story 'The Way Back Home' and 'Peace at Last' by Jill Murphy. They have mapped out the main events of the story, using images, words and actions, they even made their own story map. The children practised re-telling the story in a variety of ways and eventually were able to write it independently. They have worked very hard to develop their formation of letters and handwriting style and continue to work very hard to use capital letters, full stops and finger spaces in their sentences.</p> |
| <p>Year 2</p> | <p>The Autumn term has been full of exciting stories and first hand experiences. We began this term exploring the adventures of Beegu, the lonely alien who finds friends on planet Earth. We have used amazing adjectives to describe characters as well a variety of settings. We have used our senses to describe Beegu's experience, thoughts and feelings during her stay on another planet. We have also travelled back in time to 1666. We have relived the experiences of The Great Fire of London through the eyes and ears of Vlad the flea alongside his best friend Boxtton the rat. We have retold events using time connectives to give order and structure to the events. We have enjoyed looking at evidence from the past, recording event like the famous Samuel Pepys. Our wonderful writing has been enhanced using conjunctions to link ideas and adverbs to describe the action. We are now developing skills as reading detectives using clues to answer detailed questions and dig deeper. We are expert punctuation pirates, spotting and using a range of punctuation with increasing ease and accuracy.</p> |
| <p>Year 3</p> | <p>This term we have been reading some amazing books. We started the term reading the Stone Age Boy by Satoshi Kitamura, where we time travelled back to the Stone Age. We created our own Newspaper Reports about the Stone Age and made some extended character descriptions of the fantastic characters from the story. We then journeyed to the magic of Grandad's garden where we found an amazing dragon-fruit tree and a spikey red pineapple-y like fruit. The Boy Who Grew Dragons by Andy Shepherd then described the wonders of a hatching dragon named Flicker, who had very combustible poop and caused mayhem and destruction. We have come to love our dragon and even created some spectacular dragon eye pastel paintings. In English we explained how to care for, train and grow our own dragons. We have even been transformed into Dragons ourselves and have written our own diary entries as Edgar the Excitable and Zog. In our final diary entry we became Chipstick and wrote about the wonders of growing a dragon.</p> |

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| Year 4 | This autumn term Year 4 have covered several genres and learnt lots of new skills! We started off the term looking at writing instructions; we made our own George's Marvellous Medicine based on the book by Roald Dahl. We then wrote our own individual recipes using tools such as bullet points and numbering, fronted adverbials and subordinate conjunctions. Currently, we are working on magical character descriptions, again based upon a book by Roald Dahl; The BFG. We are focusing on similes, metaphors, adverbial phrases and subordinate clauses. Our reading book this term is Anthony Browne's Voices in the Park. We have used our inferencing skills to discuss not only hidden messages in the text, but also in the beautiful illustrations. Our class read is The Great Chocoplot by Chris Callaghan. We are so close to finding out who stole all the chocolate! |
| Year 5 | Year 5 have really enjoyed the introduction of a core text to link reading and writing. We began the term with The Boy at the back of the Class and have continued this as our class reader whilst beginning to read Varjak Paw after October half term. Alongside our core texts we have been writing to inform, explain, persuade and entertain. The children particularly enjoyed writing letters to persuade the government about Refugee support and their non-chronological report about cats. |
| Year 6 | Year 6 have had an excellent term and thoroughly enjoyed their core texts. We began the term creating persuasive holiday brochures and writing cliffhanger story openings and have ended the term writing newspaper reports and character descriptions! Although very varied genres, Year 6 have worked hard to develop their use of key skills such as clauses, passive voice and colons and semi-colons, whilst also developing their understanding of their effect in different genres. Writing standards are very high and our love for writing has been enthused by our love for our core texts. A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness has been a real highlight and has taught us some very strong values as well as helping us to develop our inference and vocabulary skills. |



The following children have been selected by their class teachers for showing excellent effort and making excellent progress in their reading and writing this term. They will all receive a special certificate, 10 dojo points, and a chocolate treat. Congratulations!

Year 1 Writer of the Term: Georgia B

Year 1 Reader of the Term: Iris H

Year 2 Writer of the Term: Imran K

Year 2 Reader of the Term: Amelia W

Year 3 Writer of the Term: Bethany R

Year 3 Reader of the Term: Ryan H

Year 4 Writer of the Term:

Year 4 Reader of the Term:

Year 5 Writer of the Term: Tyler D

Year 5 Reader of the Term: Olivia L

Year 6 Writer of the Term: Olivia O

Year 6 Reader of the Term: Finn B