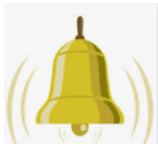
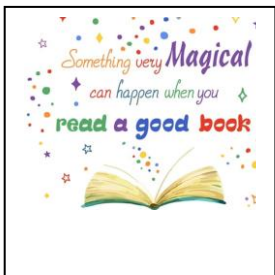




# What is going on in Reading?

Welcome to our Reading Round-Up. We have started the year brilliantly with so much fantastic reading happening at school (and at home too). Look at some of the activities and reading initiatives we have been doing during the Autumn Term and some of the things to come!



We have been promoting 'Reading for Pleasure' in a variety of ways:

## DEAR

### (Drop Everything And Read)

On the first Monday of each month, the whole school dedicates time to reading throughout the day. Each time the bell rings, everyone stops to read for 10 minutes. **Everyone**, including the adults, has a book at the ready. We are teaching the children to read with fluency, so the 10 minute reading is covered in a few ways:

- Individual reading
- Being read to
- Echo reading
- Choral reading

During this day the sound of the bells is awaited with eager anticipation!

## Book tasting

Once a term we have Book tasting sessions where the classroom is set up as a restaurant/bistro and the children are provided with the opportunity to sample and be exposed to a wide variety of books covering many different genres and authors. The children are encouraged to have book talks where they sit and discuss the books with their peers e.g. likes, dislikes, characters, content, recommendations, etc. The session enables the children to create a class library of books they would like to see on their shelves. The book-tasting sessions have been successful and have led to the children enjoying the selection of books that are populating their bookcases in class. They are also having more purposeful discussions about the materials they are reading.

## Reading Shed

We have developed a reading shed in the playground. This has helped to promote 'reading for pleasure' because the children have been using it to read and share books with their friends outside of the classroom setting. At lunchtime children sit on the staging area and share a book together or read independently!



## Phonics

At St Joseph's we teach our children to read using the Little Wandle scheme which teaches phonics using systematic synthetic phonics. It is an approach that teaches children to recognise the letters (graphemes) and their associated sounds (phonemes). The children start the program from the Early years until the end of KS1. The program is rigorous and includes effective catch-up and keep-up elements for those children who may need these interventions. The children practice their phonics daily in class along with follow-up reading. The books that are used in the sessions are then taken home for the children to practice their sounds and reading.

Little Wandle has a lot of support materials for Parents/Carers please use the link below to see what may be of use to you when supporting your child at home.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Once your child can read it unlocks the joy of reading, and they will flourish in all aspects of their lives.

## Reading at Home

### Reading at Home regularly makes such a difference!

We know it can be difficult to find time some nights (or mornings) but spending just 15 minutes sharing a book with your child increases their confidence, allows them to practise what they have learnt at school and is also some quality non-screen time building enjoyment and encouraging a love of reading. Building reading habits from a young age is the best way to help children become confident reading as they grow older and more independent.

### Useful links giving tips on questions to ask and reading ideas

[https://cdn.ourfp.org/wp-content/uploads/20210205163244/Book\\_Chat\\_Post\\_er.pdf?\\_gl=1\\*15x9buz\\*\\_ga\\*NjUxMDk0NTcxLjE3MzkxMDY5NDU.\\*\\_ga\\_56HEN](https://cdn.ourfp.org/wp-content/uploads/20210205163244/Book_Chat_Post_er.pdf?_gl=1*15x9buz*_ga*NjUxMDk0NTcxLjE3MzkxMDY5NDU.*_ga_56HEN)

[https://cdn.ourfp.org/wp-content/uploads/20220707135512/Supporting\\_Readers\\_at\\_Home\\_Poster-1-2.pdf?\\_gl=1\\*1dojqjp\\*\\_ga\\*NjUxMDk0NTcxLjE3MzkxMDY5NDU.\\*\\_ga\\_56HENEGN4V\\*MTczOTEwNjk0NC4xLjAuMTczOTEwNjk0NC4wLjAuMA](https://cdn.ourfp.org/wp-content/uploads/20220707135512/Supporting_Readers_at_Home_Poster-1-2.pdf?_gl=1*1dojqjp*_ga*NjUxMDk0NTcxLjE3MzkxMDY5NDU.*_ga_56HENEGN4V*MTczOTEwNjk0NC4xLjAuMTczOTEwNjk0NC4wLjAuMA)





## Read, Read, Read!!!

We are all working hard to promote reading at school.



- **The reading raffle**

Get reading to earn your raffle tickets! The more your child's reading journal has been signed the greater the chance of winning a prize!

- **Competitions**

Last term, a Year 5 pupil suggested a competition idea to promote reading. Their idea was supported and lots of you had fun sending in your entries where you were caught reading in unusual places, spaces, or positions. You made it incredibly hard to pick the winners. The winners were awarded with a £5 voucher to spend at the Book Fair.

We will be running many more competitions with a reading focus so please look out for them. We also welcome any of your ideas. Please send them to either your class teacher or to the school office.

- Each year group has been given a list of books to try to read throughout the year. If they achieve this they shall be rewarded.
- For those children who prefer using technology we have access to Serial Mash. It is an online reading library and the children can access it by using their Purple Mash logins.

## Forthcoming Events

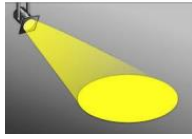


**World Book Day** is on its way, and the children will be celebrating by dressing up as a character from a traditional tale on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025. The character can be from a well-known tale such as 'the Gingerbread Man' or 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs', or alternatively it could be a character from a traditional tale in another culture. More information to follow.

Look out for **Storytelling Week** - Who may be the surprise person to come and share a story with your class?

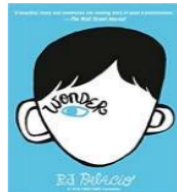
**Shakespeare Day**- The children shall enjoy a variety of rich and enjoyable experiences that weave Shakespeare's works, life and times across the whole curriculum.

**Author Visits**- We are trying to arrange a visit for this year.



Spotlight on...

## Teacher recommendation



*My name is August. I won't describe what I look like.*

*Whatever you're thinking, it's probably worse.'*

Auggie wants to be an ordinary ten-year-old. He does ordinary things - eating ice cream, playing on his Xbox. He feels ordinary - inside. But ordinary kids don't make other ordinary kids run away screaming in playgrounds. Ordinary kids aren't stared at wherever they go.

Born with Trecher Collins Syndrome, a facial abnormality, Auggie has been home-schooled by his parents his whole life. Now, for the first time, he's being sent to a real school - and he's dreading it. All he wants is to be accepted - but can he convince his new classmates that he's just like them, underneath it all?

WONDER is a fantastic book, which is incredibly moving and will make you laugh and cry. With powerful messages at the heart of its storyline, I promise, you will not be able to put it down and you will want to read Auggie Pullman's story again . . . and again . . . and again . . .

Ms Nelson-Cole

Turn on the subtitles

Did you know that when your child enjoys a favourite TV show, turning on the subtitles doubles the chances of developing their reading. It is no substitute for enjoying reading with your child, but certainly can have a positive impact on their reading opportunities



**Lastly, a massive thank you for your continued support.**

**Your attendance at the Reading and Phonics workshops was great and showed how important you value reading too.**

**Continue daily reading at home with your children and if you have any questions then please speak to your child's class teacher.**