

Autumn Term 2023

Reading Newsletter

New 'Blue Peter' Book Badge!

Blue Peter have introduced an exciting new Book badge, designed by one of the UK's best-known illustrators, Sir Quentin Blake; who you might know from bringing to life characters such as Roald Dahl's BFG and Matilda! To earn your badge, you need to share your love of books by answering a few questions. Maybe you could achieve the Book Badge? Visit the Blue Peter website to find out more:

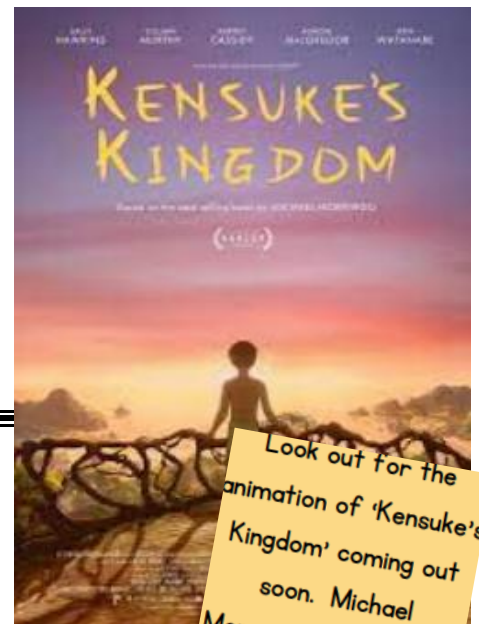
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/findoutmore/blue-peter-apply-for-a-book-badge>

Remember to bring your badge into school for Celebration Assembly if you do achieve it!

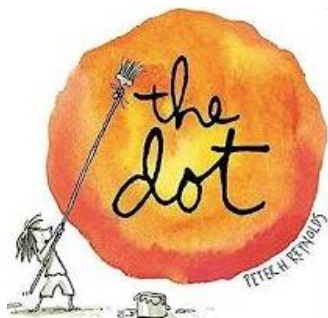


Reading Scrapbooks

This year, each class have chosen a 'Reading Mascot'. The reading mascot will go home with a different child each week along with a reading scrapbook, hot chocolate and biscuits. The aim is for the children to read to the mascot or share a favourite book with their family (whilst drinking hot chocolate and eating biscuits). The aim is that, by the end of the year, we will have 15 scrapbooks full of different books, suggestions and feedback from the children.



Look out for the animation of 'Kensuke's Kingdom' coming out soon. Michael Morpurgo's classic will make an excellent film!



Across the school, for the first week of term this year, we used the book 'The Dot'.

The book highlights different values in line with our school values of:- **Community, Ambition, Trust, Perseverance, Friendship and Respect**. Each year group used the book to create different activities appropriate for the age group of the children.

What we are reading in class.

	EYFS	Year 1	Year 2
Term 1	<p>The Little Red Hen</p>  <p>The Growing Story</p> 	<p>The Enormous Turnip</p> 	<p>Toby and the Great Fire of London</p> 
Term 2	<p>We're Going on a Bear Hunt</p>  <p>Owl Babies</p> 	<p>Lost in the Toy Museum</p> 	<p>Dear Greenpeace</p> 

	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Term 1	<p>Flotsam</p> 	<p>The Dark</p>  <p>Hope Jones Saves the World (Virtual Author Visit Arranged)</p> 	<p>Ice Trap</p>  <p>The Dreadful Menace</p> 	<p>My Friend Walter</p>  <p>Tudor Poetry</p>
Term 2	<p>Escape from Pompeii</p> 	<p>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</p> 	<p>Wild Boy</p> 	<p>Tom's Midnight Garden (Graphic Novel)</p> 

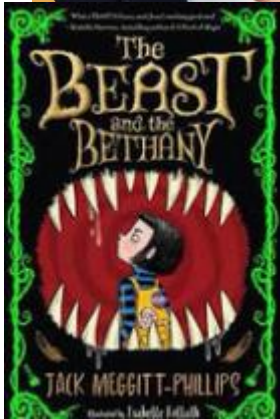


Author Spotlight

Jack Meggitt Phillips

He writes a series of award- winning books called 'The Beast and the Bethany'. This series has been described as having "all the classic macabre humour of Roald Dahl with the warmth and charm of Despicable Me, finished off with a gleeful bite of Little Shop of Horrors!" His books are suitable for children in year 3 and above

Here is an extract from 'The Beast and The Bethany' to get your taste bugs tingling!



Ebenezer Tweezer was a terrible man with a wonderful life.

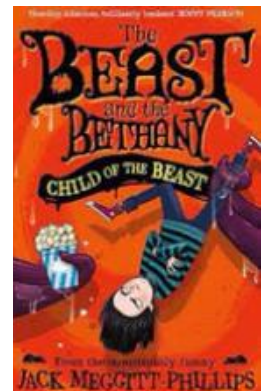
He never went hungry because all his fridges were piled with food. He never struggled to understand long words, like confibularity or pinickleruff, because he very rarely read books.

There were no children or friends in his life, so he was never troubled by unpleasant noises or unwanted conversations. There were also no parties or celebrations for him to attend, so he was never hot and bothered about what he should wear.

Ebenezer Tweezer didn't even have to worry about death. At the time this story begins, he was within a week of his 512th birthday, and yet, if you were to have bumped into him on the street, you would have thought him to be a young man – certainly no more than twenty years old.

You might also have thought that he was quite handsome. He had short golden hair, a small nose, a soft mouth and a pair of eyes which dazzled like diamonds in the moonlight. There was also a wonderful look of innocence about him.

Sadly, looks can be deceiving. You see, at the time when this story begins, Ebenezer was about to do a very bad thing.





This term, Year 4 have been reading '*Hope Jones Saves the World*' by Josh Lacey and today we were lucky enough to be able to speak to him and ask him questions about his books.

The children asked lots of questions and were really interested in Josh's replies. They were amazed that he had written over 40 books so far and that it takes around 2 years to create a book from initial idea to published article. Josh explained how he edits his books and how hard he finds this process, which the children really agreed with, but they understood how important it is to do it to make sure your finished story is the best it can be.

Josh also told them how he works with lots of different people when publishing his books, from editors who look at the words of the story to illustrators and designers who create the look of the book. Sometimes he doesn't even meet the people face-to-face because they live in other countries!

It was a lovely afternoon and we are very grateful to Josh for giving up his precious time to speak to us.



New Releases



'The Final Year' by Matt Goodfellow

Life can be tough in your last year of primary school. Tests to take, preparing for the change to high school. Nate is ready for it all, knowing his best friend PS is at his side – they've been inseparable since Nursery. But when they are put in two different classes and PS finds a new friend in Turner, the school bully, Nate's world turns upside-down. As he struggles to make sense of this and forge new friendships, he's dealt another blow when his youngest brother, Dylan is rushed into hospital. His new teacher, Mr Joshua, sees a spark inside of Nate that's lit by his love of reading and writing and shows him how to use this to process what's going on. But with so much working against him, and anger rising inside him, will this be enough?

This book is suitable for age 9+.



'Code Name Kingfisher' by Liz Kessler

Nazi-occupied Amsterdam in 1942, Hannie joins the Resistance. In the modern day, Liv is trying to cope with bullies at school. Historical fiction of the highest order – heart-breaking, thought-provoking and vital.

Again, this book is best suited to children from Year 4 upwards



'The Oak Tree' by Julia Donaldson

Watch a thousand years unfold in the life of one magnificent tree!

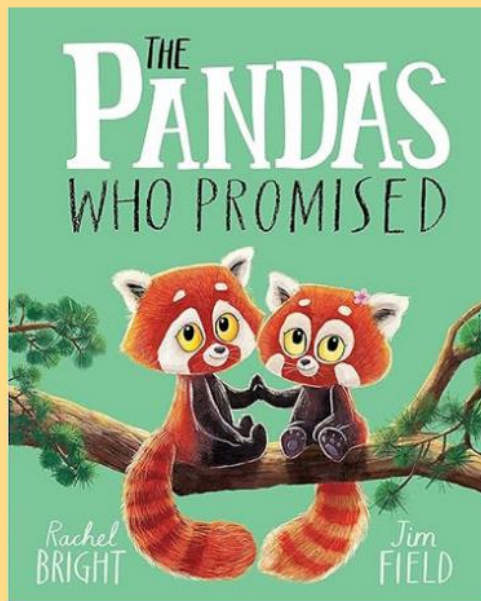
A thousand years ago, a tiny acorn fell to the ground. As the years pass, it grows ... and GROWS into an enormous oak tree!

As the centuries sweep by, children play games around the tree. Families dance about it. A fleeing king even hides inside its hollow trunk!

The tree gives food and shelter to a host of animals, from squirrels and badgers to birds and beetles.

After a thousand years, the ancient tree finally falls in a storm - but a new acorn sprouts, and the cycle of life begins all over again.

For children from EYFS upwards.



'The Pandas Who Promised' by Rachel Bright

High up on a misty mountainside, red panda cubs Popo and Ketu live happily with their mama. As the sisters grow, they promise that they will ALWAYS stay close to home. But while Popo is content to stay in the family's cosy treetop nest, bold Ketu dreams of excitement and exploration. And so when Ketu creeps off down the mountain in search of adventure, Popo must make a choice: will she keep her promise to Mama, or look after her sister?

Suitable for children in EYFS upwards