

Literacy Newsletter March 2021

We would like to give parents and carers an idea of some of the amazing work around literacy and reading that we are doing here at All Saints School.

What is World Book Day?

We celebrated World Book Day this year on Thursday 5th March.



World Book Day was created by UNESCO on 23rd April 1995 as a worldwide celebration of books and reading. It is marked in over 100 countries around the globe.

The first World Book Day in the UK took place in 1997 to encourage young people to discover the pleasure of reading.

How did we celebrate World Book Day at All Saints?

Pupils and staff enjoyed getting involved in loads of fun activities and challenges, including

- Reading in Unusual Places Challenge
- Emoji Book Quiz
- The All Saints Book of Books
- Other cool activities on the [World Book Day website](#)

All Saints pupils and staff made the most of the warmer weather to get out and about and enjoy a book in some very unusual places!




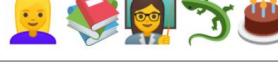





How many did you guess correctly?

Here are the answers to our Emoji Book Quiz.

Fiction books with animal characters	Answer
1 	Wind in The Willows
2 	Peter Rabbit
3 	The Sheep Pig (the movie is called Babe)
4 	Winnie the Pooh
5 	The Jungle Book

Roald Dahl favourites	Answer
11 	James and the Giant Peach
12 	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
13 	Fantastic Mr Fox
14 	Matilda
15 	Esio Trot

Children's Classics	Answer
6 	The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe
7 	Peter Pan
8 	Gangsta Granny
9 	Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone
10 	Alice in Wonderland

Well done to all the following pupils who submitted entries:

Aiden; Aaron; Charlie; Connor S; Emerson; Lulu; Molly; Terrel; the pupils in 10B plus Alesha

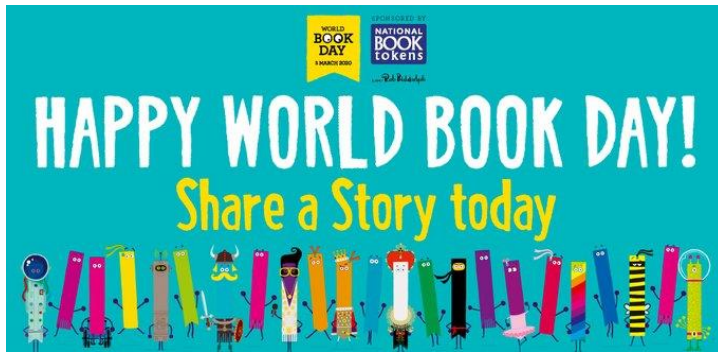
Our **top three** scorers were:

1. Paige with 14/15
2. Tilly 13.5/15
3. Harry, Zak and Leland with 13/15

Do you need help supporting your child or young person with their reading?

Click on one of these fabulous websites for ideas and support:





Do you or someone you know need support with your own reading?

One in six adults struggles with reading. Research shows that when people read for pleasure they benefit from far greater opportunities in everyday life, education and employment.

The Norfolk Reading Pathway is a free programme which is available across Norfolk and is open to any adult who would like support to become a more confident reader. Learners are matched with one of their volunteer coaches and they work through the 'Yes we can read' handbook together.

Coaching sessions are usually weekly for up to an hour. COVID-19 restrictions mean sessions can no longer take place in our libraries, so coaching is currently offered via telephone, Zoom or WhatsApp.

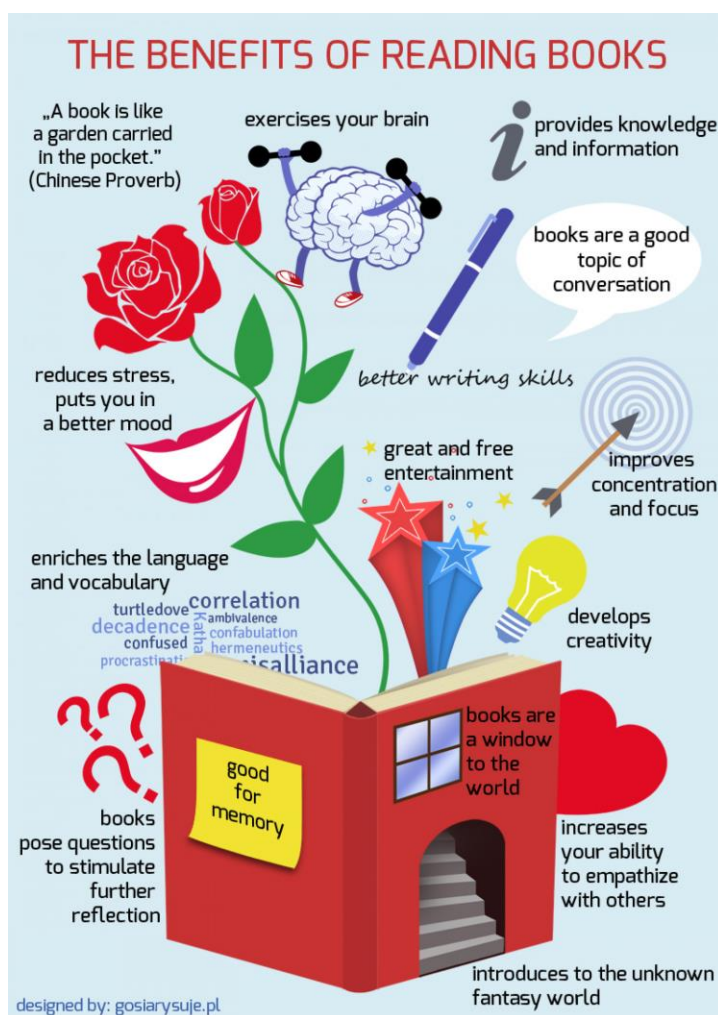
If you, or someone you know, would like to find out more, [contact your local library](#) or email nrp@norfolk.gov.uk.

Why is reading books important?

Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success – more than their family circumstances, their parents' educational background or their income.

The many benefits of reading include

- Strengthens writing skills
- Improves memory and focus
- Enhances imagination and creativity
- Increases empathy
- Builds vocabulary
- Expands knowledge
- Reduces stress
- Aids sleep and relaxation
- Alleviates depression
- Stimulates brain function



Watch Rita Carter, Science Writer, discuss [‘Why Reading Matters’ TED Talk.](#)

What is the All Saints Book of Books?

To celebrate World Book Day, we collected a range of writing and drawing by pupils and staff, to turn into our very own book - The All Saints Book of Books. Everyone was given the opportunity to write on any theme or in any style of their choosing; from poetry and short stories, to fact files, book reviews, jokes and even recipes. Some people chose to draw a cartoon or an illustration from their favourite book.

This is just a snapshot of some of the fabulous entries that our clever pupils and staff have submitted for the All Saints Book of Books. To see all the contributions made by our amazing All Saints family you will have to wait for the book to be published! Watch this space for the launch date.

7 months more - a short story by Harry

7 months ago. The Russian government created an army of super clones called the Nameless.

These were adept pilots, flying ghost planes which had a cloaking ability.

First they took over America capturing the floating city of Olympus which was constructed in 2044, 5000 years ago.

They tried to steal the Ark, a powerful energy source, which could power the secret Russian mobile fortress *Destroyer*.

But, the leader of Olympus evacuated the people and sent Olympus crashing into the ground, blowing up the floating city and taking half of the Gulf of Mexico with it.

However, with the explosion of the ark it released the Soul Eater, a giant plant whose energy was controlled inside the ark. Although the Olympus president thought that the plant would be destroyed in the explosion, it was not. It planted itself in the ground and quickly spread across the earth, killing the planet.

If only we had seven months to prepare and stop the Russian clone experiment. If only we had seven months more!

Having a Super Power - by Terrel

Mr Pratt had a bird and a moustache. Miss Pratt had her clothes on inside out. Her shoes were the wrong way round and her shoelaces were untied.

My Favourite Book by Bea Gatfield



In my 30's I read a book called 'To the Lighthouse' by Virginia Woolf and it became one of my most favourite books ever!

The story is set before World War 1 and is about a young boy wanting to go to see the lighthouse when he is on holiday with his parents. This very simple storyline is really a scaffold on which to build an in-depth understanding of the different characters who were all staying in the same holiday house.

In each situation during the holiday Virginia Woolf explores how the characters interact with one another, and in one of my favourite chapters, she creates for the reader an in depth understanding of the characters through their thoughts during a dinner party. Each

person was looking at all the others and making judgements about them – it sparked an interest in me about how and why people think and behave the way they do.

When I first began reading the book, I found the long and very complex sentences very difficult and in the first few pages I thought I might give up on reading it; but like everything in life, if you keep trying you might just find something special – I certainly did.

I think the book steered me onto a path that has been so key to where I am now and doing what I love. Shortly after reading the book I realised I wanted to do further study and enrolled at Paston College to do English A' Level to prepare for studying a degree (the long sentences and grip of the story had fascinated me). When I went on to do my degree I chose Psychology, an interest that had been enriched through the cleverly explored thoughts in the book.

Reading this back, I realise I have used the word 'explore' a couple of times. It is through reading and learning that we all become explorers which is what makes the world such an exciting place!

The Banana Twins - a funny story by Jessica G

One day, in a tropical home, there were two bananas in a fruit bowl. They loved causing mischief and making the place so messy it almost felt like the home was chaotic. Then there were the two bananas playing in the disco part of the fruit bowl, and they heard a noise coming from the top of the bowl. It was a human and they were reaching for one of the bananas! So, one of the bananas ran and grabbed the playdoh version of a banana! The human ate it, but little did they know, it wasn't a real banana! The human thought that the bananas had gone off and then the human put the rest of the fruit in the bin! The bananas found lots of other bananas in the bin and then they partied in the bin together!



How are we promoting the love of reading at All Saints School?

Our vision at All Saints is 'Achievement for All'. We want all pupils to achieve the highest level of literacy they can. By the time they leave us at sixteen, we want all pupils to be fluent at reading at a passable level so that they are able to go on to further education and training, and to function fully as an adult in society. The National Literacy Trust defines literacy as

'The ability to read, write, speak and listen in a way that lets us communicate effectively and make sense of the world'.

To this end, the English curriculum aims to ensure that all pupils:

- read to the best of their ability
- develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information
- acquire a wider vocabulary, and further their understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions
- appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage
- write as clearly, accurately and coherently as they are able, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences
- develop their listening skills in order to acquire knowledge and learn from others
- have the opportunity to improve their speaking by explaining clearly their understanding and ideas, expressing their needs, making formal presentations and participating in debate

To support pupils in their literacy skills reading is prioritised across the whole school. All pupils have access to a new and well-stocked library. They are encouraged to read frequently and for fun at whatever level, or on whatever subject, they choose. All pupils have a Reading Log in which to record their reading, and read regularly to staff. If you wish to find out more about our work in literacy at All Saints, please contact Gabby Hampton, Literacy Lead, at ghampton@allsaintslessingham.co.uk.