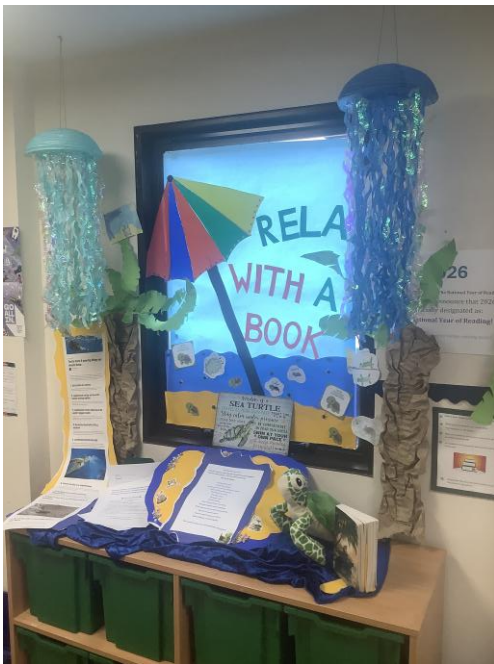




Summer Library Newsletter

It does not seem possible that we are now in the last half term of the academic year. This is an exciting time for the children and also a time for reflection over the past months and to celebrate their achievements. We have had much to celebrate in the library. The librarians have been amazing and our reading assemblies have given them a chance to recommend books to the whole school.

The library displays have encouraged children to engage in activities which help them to develop their enjoyment of reading. The Christmas Jolabokaflod flood book swap was particularly successful and we will definitely repeat that this Christmas. Our latest display is aimed at promoting reading for pleasure which should be a totally enjoyable experience.



The summer holidays can cause what is known as “the reading slide”. Studies have shown that in some cases this can result in the loss of a month's worth or more of learning, particularly in reading. So it is crucial to keep the summer reading going and importantly make it fun and relaxing. Some good tips are given in this site:

<https://readingeggs.co.uk/articles/how-to-prevent-summer-slide/>.

Reading at their own pace is important during the summer - don't worry if your child is a slow reader

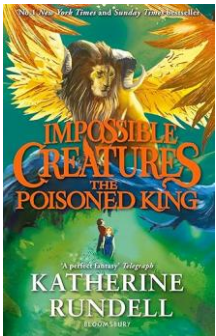
Different people read at different speeds, what matters is that children are encouraged to discuss what they have read and be able to express opinions about the story. I was recently sent a clip from an Instagram post by [the critical educator](#) which I found so inspiring - I wanted to pass it on in this newsletter. It focuses on the importance of daily reading and the life skills we can achieve just by reading every day. You can open this link even if you do not have an Instagram account.

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DYVbFPUSUC-/?igsh=MWcxaHAzZGNoNG90cQ==>

The information in this clip is relevant to The National Reading campaign and has some great tips for engaging with a book. I particularly like the idea of giving permission to argue with a book! I also like the idea of a reading journal and I have suggested this to many children and have started using one myself.

So here are a few summer reading recommendations.

Katherine Rundell has written a sequel to “Impossible Creatures” - eventually this is going to be a five book series so for those children who love connecting to favourite characters this is a must read.

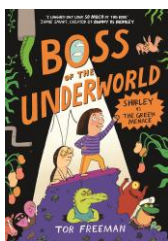


When Christopher Forrester is unexpectedly woken by a miniature dragon chewing on his face, his heart leaps for joy. For months he's dreamed of returning to the Archipelago - the secret islands where all the creatures of myth still live. But he did not know it would involve a rescue mission on the back of a sphinx.

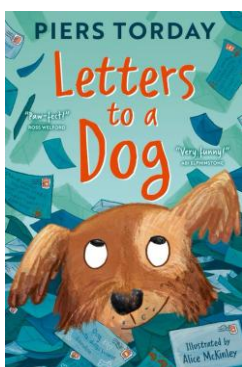
This is definitely a book where a reading journal would be useful to not down all the fantastic vocabulary Katherine Rundell uses.

I have recently become a convert to good quality graphic novels and recently there has been several newly published graphic novels. These stories are not only suitable for reluctant readers but are also good for enabling discussion. We have several in the library now including “Mini Hercules” which is very popular. The site below has a list of recommended ones including this one which caught my eye:

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/topics/literacy-reading/best-graphic-novels-for-primary-school-children/>



Join Shirley and her giant cockroach friend, George, on a strange adventure through the Underworld. Will they triumph over scary foes, resist eating delicious things in the forest, navigate the Bog of Intense Emotions, and find their way into the dark sewers to confront the Green Menace??



This is a much loved writer and usually he writes fairly long novels so I was pleased to see that this story is a Barrington Stoke novel which are especially printed to make the reading very accessible. This one will soon be on the library shelves.

Jamie is in hospital waiting for a life-changing operation. And to make a difficult time even harder, he's fallen out with his dad and refuses to speak to him when he comes to visit.

To keep his spirits up, nurse Shirley suggests he writes a letter to the dog he desperately wants to adopt from the local dog home. But imagine his surprise when Dog writes back!

When I was looking for some inspiration for the current library display (which has a turtle theme) I came across the “Turtle Code” which summed up exactly what I wanted the summer library message to be.

Turtles don't rush
Turtles don't panic
Turtles don't care who is ahead of them
They just keep swimming
One stroke at a time
Through chaos
Through calm
And somehow
They always make it to shore
Because speed means nothing
When your journey is built on patience
You don't need to sprint
You just need to stay in motion
Slow progress is still progress

This summer enjoy your reading at your own pace!

