



READING NEWSLETTER

December 2023

Welcome to Term 2's reading newsletter. This newsletter is designed for both parents and pupils and we hope you enjoy sharing it together. There has been lots of exciting reading happening around the school and the children here at Loose have been showing great interest and enthusiasm when reading their class texts. The reading leaders have been taking their roles very seriously and have been focusing upon keeping their class book areas tidy and presentable. They have also been busy reading and reviewing new texts for us before they are introduced into class book corners. We hope that you enjoy this newsletter and manage to gain new information and ideas for books to encourage us all to take pleasure from reading.

Miss Spelman and Mrs Coleman



BOOK FAIR

Our recent Winter Book Fair was very successful. It was wonderful to seeing so many children and parents attending the fair and choosing new books to share and read together. We are incredibly grateful to every member of the school community who supported our book fair as we managed to claim back £400 worth of books that we have used to purchase new books for classroom book corners. A huge thank you once again to everyone who came along.

Summer Reading Challenge

Over the summer holidays, we invited children to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge that is held in libraries across the country. We had a fantastic uptake in participants this year at Loose. As a result, we are really proud to say that Loose Primary came top of the Maidstone league which means proportionately, more children participated in and completed the challenge at Loose than any other Maidstone school. We are now the proud holders of the cup until next year. We'd like to say a huge well done and thank you to all the children that took part and let's try to retain the cup next summer!



Book swap boxes

The reading boxes created by the reading leaders, have proved to be very popular in some of our classes. Children can bring in a book from home they no longer read, then swap it with another in their class box. Over the holidays, please have a look to see if there are any unwanted books on your book shelves that you can bring in to swap. As an incentive, we will be offering 5 house points when you bring in a book.



READING VENDING MACHINE

Our book vending machine has continued to be very busy this term. . Our teachers are looking very carefully for children that are making lots of effort with their reading at home or at school. Each class will get the opportunity to select two children to receive this prize every half term. Keep working hard with your reading and it could be your turn next. The vending machine is continually being restocked with new and exciting books!



New! Blue Peter Reading Badge.

The reading badge will be awarded to children aged 5 -15 who send in their thoughts on a book, draw a character or scene and share what other books and writers they love.

Find out more information here :

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

MR CHATLEY RECOMMENDS

Picking a favourite book is no easy task. I have books I remember from being a child, books I have enjoyed as an adult and now books that I love reading to my children. In the end, I have chosen 'Oh, the places you'll go' by Dr Seuss. I remember the first time I read it – after a training course I went on with fellow teachers no less! Initially I was frustrated as it felt a bit too 'nice' – one of those stories where everything goes right. However, through the book, I love how the book talks to the reader about how some things don't always go right and how we have to dig deep to get through – as Dr Seuss says "When you're in a slump, you're not in for much fun. Unslumping yourself is not easily done!" I used this story with Arthur, my eldest son (now 6) when he was struggling with guitar practice. He wanted to give up and didn't think he was any good. The message in this story is so powerful and full of quotes that I find myself using very often. From the first page – "You have brains in your head you have feet in your shoes, you can steer yourself any direction you choose." – to the last – "You're off to great places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting. So ... get on your way." there is so much inspiration, and the rhymes are a bundle of fun too!



Why is it so important for my child to read every day?

It comes as no surprise that reading is one of the best ways for kids to expand their vocabulary, with those who read for 20 minutes a day reading a staggering 1.8 million words a year!



Reading leader reviews

Claude in the city is about Claude and his friend Sir Bobblysocks. They go into the city and go to lots of different shops. I am enjoying reading this book because it is funny. I would recommend it to other children to read.

Amelia (Year 1)



I have been reading the Stolen Songbird which is a historical fiction story set in 1959.

We are introduced to a girl called Caro whose mum doesn't return home one night. She has to pack up her things and stay with her Aunty Mary when suddenly she uncovers a mystery that she has to try to solve. I am enjoying this story because it is interesting and there are lots of moments of suspense. I also love historical fiction so this is the perfect story for me.

Amelia (Year 6)



Can you guess the book from these picture clues?

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Reading Emoji Quiz

Can you guess the book from the picture clues? House points will be available for the correct answers.