



# READING NEWSLETTER

October 2023

Welcome to our brand new termly newsletter. This newsletter is designed for both parents and pupils and we hope you enjoy sharing it together. Our aim is to keep you updated with news about reading at home and at school. We will also be posting information on book recommendations for you to enjoy with your child, including both favourite books and new releases. We are hoping that this newsletter continues to encourage a love of reading within our current bookworms, as well as inspiring new ones.

Miss Spelman and Mrs Coleman



## MEET OUR READING LEADERS

Our reading leaders have recently been selected by their class teachers to be our ambassadors for reading within school. They each share a love of reading and a passion for books and they will be very busy this year helping the literacy team to promote a love of literature throughout school. You will even see them featuring on our reading newsletters with their own book recommendations

### Book swap boxes

Our lovely reading leaders are currently making book swap boxes for their classrooms. Please have a look at home to see if you have a book that you are happy to swap in school for another. We only ask that the books are still of a decent quality and that they are age appropriate to your year group.



# READING VENDING MACHINE

Our book vending machine has been very busy this term. Each week, children are selected by their class teacher to receive a golden ticket which can then be exchanged for a prize from the book vending machine. Our teachers are looking very carefully for children that are making lots of effort with their reading at home or at school. You might be spotted for making wonderful progress in reading or for just having heaps of passion and enthusiasm for books. Each class will get the opportunity to select a child to receive this prize every half term. Keep working hard with your reading and it could be your turn next.

## Reading bookmarks

Your child will have been sent home with a reading bookmark. We are asking parents to sign and date each day their child reads aloud to them. After 20 reads, your child should bring their bookmark back into school so that their points can be added to a class total. Each year group has set their own total target for their classes. If your child's class manages to reach their target, the class will receive a termly reward.

If each child in the class completes at least 2 bookmarks per long term, the children will easily make their target. Let's encourage all of our children at Loose to work together to reach their target.



## MISS SPELMAN RECOMMENDS

Each term, a member of the literacy team will be recommending their favourite current reads. My first recommendation is a book aimed at children in Year 5 and 6. It is called Pax and it is written by Sara Pennypacker. It follows the story of a twelve year old boy and his best friend, a fox named Pax. The story starts with the boy being forced by his father to abandon Pax by the roadside as war fast approaches. The story is told in alternating chapters through both the perspective of the boy and the fox. It is a beautifully written, heartfelt story about friendship, love and resilience, all set in the backdrop of a dystopian world. It was certainly a book that I couldn't put down and I am looking forward to reading the sequel, Pax: Journey home.



## Reading for pleasure top tip

Make reading part of the daily routine so that your child knows that it is an expected part of their day. Choose a time that suits your child and that works for them eg snuggled up in bed before lights out.



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

Reading for pleasure makes a huge difference to a child's educational performance. Evidence suggests that children reading regularly not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures. In fact, reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background. Please help your child to practise their reading at home little and often. Even just 10 minutes every day makes such a big difference!

## Reading leader reviews

I really like all of the David Baddiel series of books as some of them connect into the same universe. It is very clever how they have added the main character of one story as a best friend in another. It is really clever how it is written and David Baddiel uses very descriptive language. There are moments of humour and you can't stop reading the books once you have started. The books often have a twist at the end which also makes them really exciting to read.

Ted (Year 6)



My favourite books are the Isadora Moon series. These are a series of books and Isadora has a different adventure every time. Her mum is a fairy and her dad is a vampire so Isadora is both fairy and vampire. The books are really magical and it's a nice book to have some quiet reading time to. Each adventure is really exciting and I have now discovered that Isadora's cousin Mirabelle now has her own series. She is half witch, half fairy and I can't wait to read about all her adventures too.

Ella (Year 2)

For more book recommendations, we recommend The Reader Teacher website.

<https://www.thereaderteacher.com/blog>

The Reader Teacher also has a blog on Twitter. He reviews lots of new releases, as well as recommending old favourites. Books are broken down into year groups to help you find a good quality, age appropriate text.



### Book quiz

Each newsletter will feature a book quiz for you all to take part in. This week's quiz is on children's book covers.

Can you identify these famous book covers?

Show your teacher your guesses. If you get all 9 correct, you will receive 3 house points!