



Moat Farm Infant School

December 2023 issue 2

Reading Newsletter



Celebrating Authors



At Moat farm Infant School, we have a *Rich and Diverse Reading Spine* range of books that celebrate diversity and inclusion. Some of these books are written by authors from black ethnic groups and have characters from black ethnic groups. We enjoy reading these books throughout the year.

During Black History Month we were lucky enough to have a visit from author Rachel Sayers. Rachel attended our school when she was little!



She shared her book 'My Friend at School' with all the children in Reception. Rachel talked about her experiences in school as part of our PSHE topic - celebrating difference, as well as promoting a love of reading.

Thank you, Rachel for giving the children a fantastic opportunity to meet an author in person.



As a school, we appreciate the importance of providing our children with opportunities of seeing themselves in books or seeing their friends represented in books. Rudine Sims Bishop a children's literature researcher said in 1990:

"Books are mirrors when readers see their own lives reflected in the pages. Books are windows when they allow readers a view of lives and stories that are different from their own"

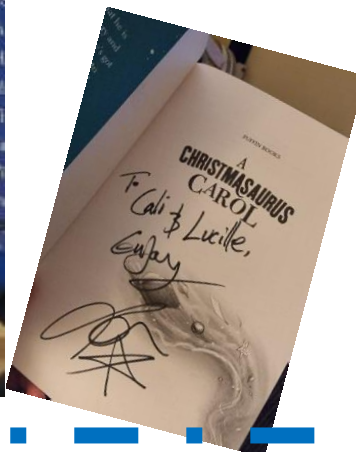


'The Christmasaurus Carol' Book Signing

Lucille Cooper in Kingfisher class was lucky enough to meet Tom Fletcher at his book signing of The Christmasaurus Carol.



Luci was very happy to have her book signed and told him about her favourite books he had written. I'm soooo jealous!!



Thank you for your picture. You get an entry into the autumn prize raffle



Short messages of inspiration



Author and illustrator Catherine Rayner shares some tips on reading to parents:

<https://vimeo.com/564700038>

A reminder: Rather than bringing in sweets or treats to celebrate your child's birthday, you may choose to purchase a new book for the class to enjoy over and over again. The gift that keeps giving!

Birthday Book

has kindly donated this book to the class.

We have had **25 birthday books** given to the school this term. Staff have donated 3 books, EYFS have donated 4 books, Year 1 have donated 13 books and Year 2 have donated 5 books. Thank you to you all!

Staff – Mrs Davis (2 books), Miss McKenzie-Ward, **EYFS Nursery** - 3 books (Denby, Sadie and Jacob - from last year), **Fox** – Isla, **Year 1 Badger** – 1 child*, Dering (3 books), Imogen, Jack, Layla, **Heron** – Grace, Harper, Liya, Mackenzie, Olivia-Rose, **Year 2 Rabbit** – Elliott, 1 child*, Lemar, Riley (2 books), **Otter** – Owen,

*If you have requested not to have your child's name or photo to be posted in publications as part of GDPR, they will be shown as a number

Our target for the year is 175 books...that would be amazing!!

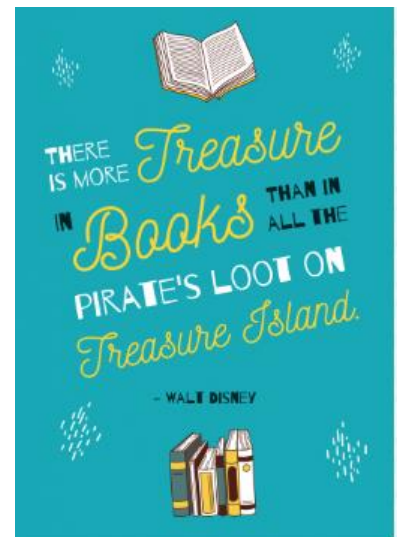


Thank you all. You all get an entry into the book prize raffle.

There is lots of research around the benefits of reading for pleasure particularly for children's mental well being and as a predictor of their future success.

Why reading matters

- ❖ Research shows that reading makes children happy!
- ❖ Reading at an early age can lead to success later in life - academically, professionally and socially
- ❖ Reading helps children understand how to be a good friend
- ❖ It helps them to understand the world and themselves
- ❖ Great books build the imagination
- ❖ It relaxes the mind
- ❖ It's a lovely activity to share



Home Reading

Please remember to listen to your child read every day. Your class teacher will talk to you if your child doesn't change their book and read at least 3 times a week.

If you need **any support** with this, please talk to your class teacher in the first instance. Alternatively, you can e-mail me, Mrs. Spencer, karen.spencer@mfi.school with your child's name, class and the nature of your concerns and I will endeavour to help.



Reading for Pleasure

Thank you to those parents who enjoyed some reading (and toast) time with their children in KS1. We will be opening our doors to Reception in January 2024. There will also be further opportunities to come into school, to share some reading time and to speak to your teacher about how to help your child.

Thank you for joining us in KS1 for our Reading for Pleasure drop-in





Thank you for supporting our recent Book Fair.

We took an incredible £1,298.00.

This amount has given us £714 in commission to spend on more books for the school library.

Just think of all those lovely books you and your children will be able to enjoy.

Poem of the Week

Great Big Snowman

I'm a great big snowman,
Tall and fat
Here's my tummy
Here's my hat
Coal for my eyes
And a carrot nose
I'm all snow from
Head to toes



Every week we share poems with the children. We discuss features of the poem such as verse, rhyme, vocabulary, punctuation and layout. We talk about what we notice in the poem, what it reminds us of and what the poem is about. We then discuss what we like and dislike about the poems. You can access our weekly poems by visiting our website.



You can also access nursery rhyme videos and downloads on *the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised* Parents section:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

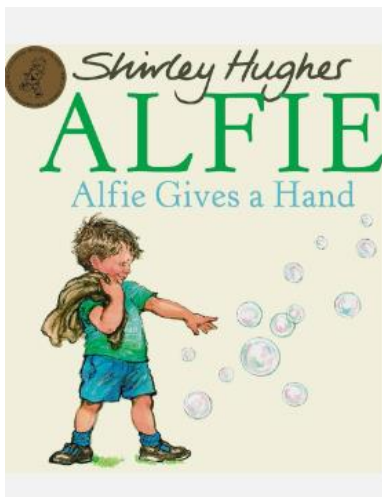
Book Recommendations



My favourite book is *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, written by Michael Rosen. This is my favourite book because I like the adventure that the family go on. I think the best part is when they go through the snowstorm and when they find the bear. I love reading because books give you new ideas and challenges your imagination.

Miss Evans, Fox Class

Mrs Smart, Year 1



One of my favourite stories is *Alfie Gives a Hand*, written by Shirley Hughes. Alfie goes to a party without his mummy and is feeling very nervous and wants to take his favourite blanket for comfort. The birthday boy gets over-excited and becomes boisterous. Alfie has to decide whether to help his new friends or keep hold of his blanket. Thankfully, he makes the right choice and becomes one of the most helpful guests at the party. I recommend you read this book as it has beautiful illustrations, funny situations and helps you realise what you can do to help in a difficult situation. I hope you all enjoy it as much as I do!

All entries will be entered into the autumn prize draw.

Any correspondence can be sent to karen.spencer@mfi.school

