

Mullion Primary School

Reading Newsletter



November & December 2020

Welcome to the eagerly anticipated second edition of our reading newsletter, and what news we have to share! The first edition was very well received and there has been much excitement about the 'Authors Spotlight' section.

Our school library has grown already with thanks to many families who felt able to purchase a few books from our Amazon Wishlist. Many of these have been shared in the class libraries and others have made their way to curriculum boxes reading for use this year.

As always, your support is hugely appreciated,
Mrs Read (*English leader and Waves class teacher*)

The Importance of Reading for Pleasure



There is also consistent evidence that age affects attitudes to reading and reading behaviour; that children enjoy reading less as they get older. This means it doesn't get easier to support children in their own reading practice. Developing a true love of reading is vital in the early years of primary school. Reading has also shown to be positive for mental health – reducing feelings of loneliness, strengthening understanding of identity and developing empathy.

The benefits of reading are broad and far-reaching. Evidence shows that by the time children are around 8 years old, the majority of children are no longer read to by an adult at home. This is a key area of reading for pleasure because it allows children to dream, imagine and question. Children are more likely to continue to be readers in homes where books and reading are valued.

Author Spotlight

Ross Montgomery

We first met Ross at the Kestle Barton Literacy Festival in 2019 where he made us all laugh... a lot! He inspired us with his book called 'Max and the Millions' and showed us how he writes by drawing maps and illustrations. The book is about a boy called Max. He's struggling in a busy school and is partially deaf. He's quite lonely, until he stumbles upon a whole community of tiny people no bigger than an ant! That's where the real story begins...

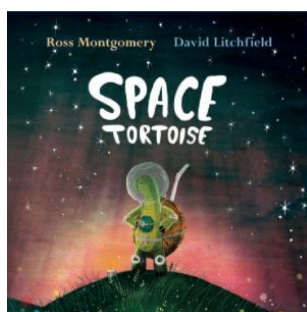


Ross has been writing books since he was in primary school and has just never stopped! His first book was published whilst he was still working as a primary school teacher – the book is called 'Alex, the Dog and the Unopenable Door'. Get reading!

A special message from Ross...

People always tell you that you should read because it makes you smarter - which is true, but it's not why it's important. Reading is important because it's the most dangerous thing you can do - books are where you learn things that adults don't want you to know about, AND they give you ideas for your own stories! What could be better than writing your own stories?! With just a pencil and a sheet of paper, you can make something in minutes that would take a filmmaker and a crew of hundreds two whole years and millions of dollars to make!

The Midnight Guardian is Ross' brand-new book and it is out NOW!



Mullion and Helston Library

Helston Library

Cornwall's Libraries are now able to offer book services again by welcoming you at the door, but not any further just yet. Order your books online, then go to Helston library to collect them from the lobby or entrance.

Mullion Micro Library

A micro library is a browsing collection of approximately 200 books which include fiction, non-fiction and junior books, to give a flavour what is available from the wider library service.

Mullion's micro-library can be found at The Old Inn and is opening whenever the pub is.



Borrow, download and enjoy here
Your library in one app.

Borrow Box is an electronic library service which allows you to borrow written and audio books using your Cornwall Library account. It's simple to sign up to and a superb way to access reading.

Click on the image above to find out more and get reading!

Our Book Collection



https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1ESH4JY393QJ?ref=wl_share

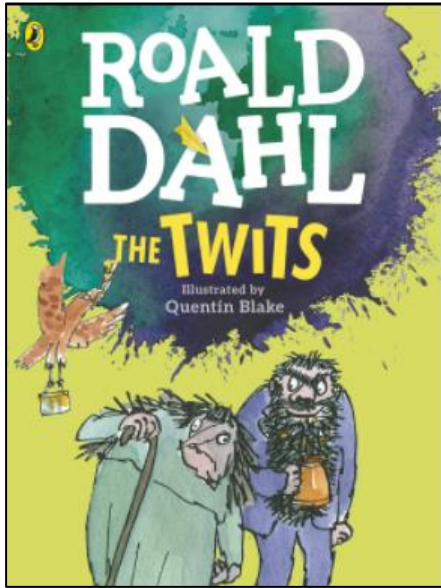
Last half term, we launched our Amazon Wish List and have already had tremendous support. Thank you to everyone who has been able to contribute already.

This is a wonderful collection of books and the children are thrilled with the new additions. They are already in use in class libraries and beyond.

If you would like to get involved, it is not too late! The list will be continuous so please take a look if you feel you are able to help.



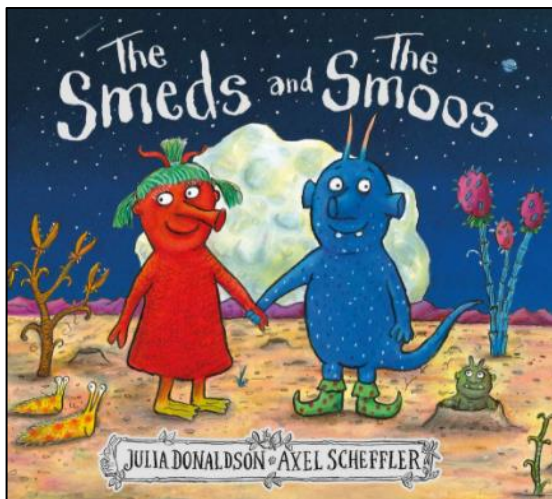
Books to Share as a Family



The Twits by Roald Dahl

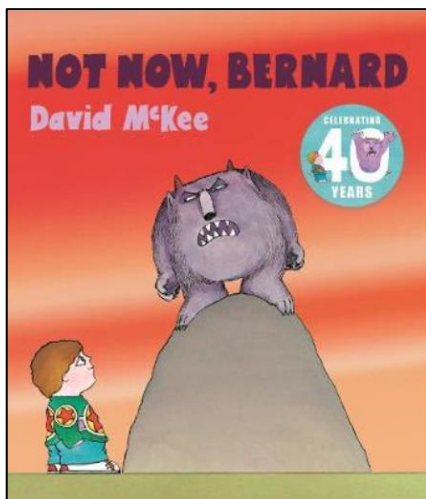
This is the classic tale of two horrible Twits who love nothing better than to play horrible tricks on each other. As the events play out, one thing becomes clear from their unkind actions..

“..if you have good thoughts they will shine out of your face like sunbeams and you will always look lovely.”



The Smeds and the Smoos by Julia Donaldson

This is another brilliant edition from the Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler partnership. The story reflects a current and highly relevant tale of race, equality and togetherness in a child-friendly way. It teaches us to learn from the tales of generations that came before us and make our own paths. Very uplifting!



Not Now, Bernard by David McKee

Bernard tries unsuccessfully to get his parents' attention, getting the same reply each time. Even when he's being eaten by a monster, his parents don't notice! The BIG question is, who is the monster? Could it be Bernard himself?

Supporting our Local Bookshops

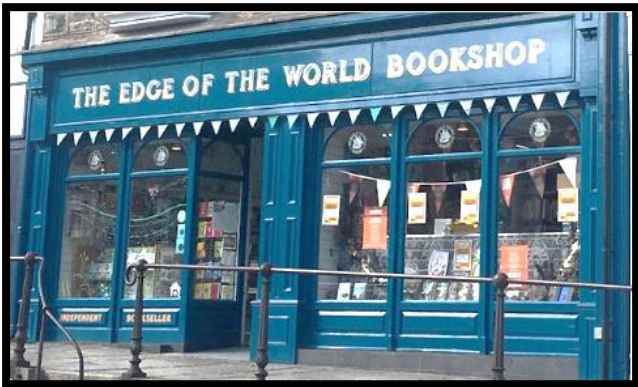
The Edge of the World Bookshop

25 Market Jew Street, Penzance

This is a quirky independent bookshop in Penzance. It caters for readers of all ages and has a great selection of children's books. The Edge of the World Bookshop is owned by a bookworm-y couple who have confessed that their love of books even stretches to sniffing the pages... something I am sure many of you can relate to! Their wealth of knowledge means that, if you don't know what books you love to read, they can help you to find out!

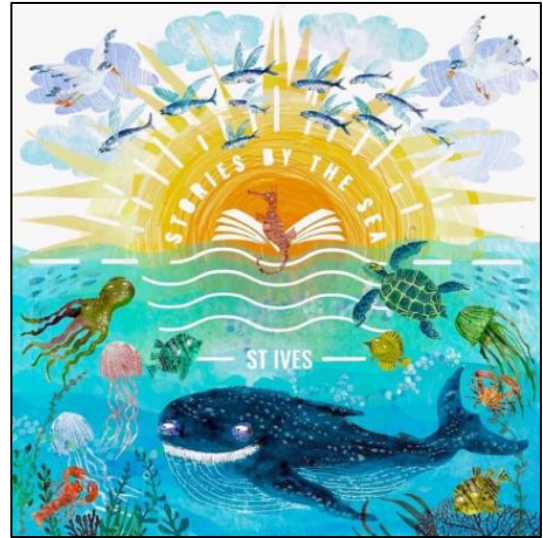
Of course, if you do know what you like, then whether you have a taste for top charting books or something a little more obscure – this bookshop has it all. They can also search and source books that you may not have managed to find yourself.

<https://edgeoftheworldbookshop.co.uk/>



Stories by the Sea

6 Tregenna Place, St Ives



We are featuring Stories by the Sea again as, quite frankly, I adore the place! As I write, we are in the midst of their book week which has been jam-packed full of bookie activities. I urge you all to follow them on Instagram or Facebook and to stay up to date as they are undoubtedly a hive of book themed fun and excitement.

The shop is run by a former teacher and book love who also manages a well-known site called Reading Rocks where book subscriptions are available.

If you haven't visited the shop yet then do! There are so many wonderful books to explore and they make perfect Christmas gifts too.

Can you recommend another local bookshop? Get in touch with Mrs Read via e-mail and it could be mentioned in our next edition!

aread@mullion-ji.cornwall.sch.uk

Poetry Page



John McCrae

Lieutenant Colonel **John McCrae** (November 30, 1872 – January 28, 1918) was a Canadian poet, physician, author, artist and soldier during World War I, and a surgeon during the Second Battle of Ypres, in Belgium. He is best known for writing the famous war memorial poem "In Flanders Fields" which he wrote the day after his close friend was killed in battle.

Remembrance Day - 11th November



In Flanders Field

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

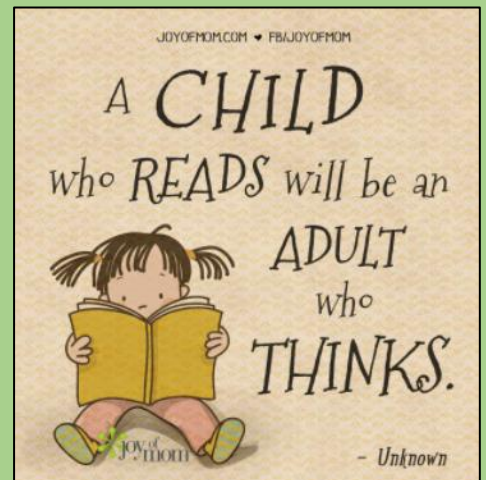
Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

By **John McCrae**

Word Origin WOW-er!

Technically, English speakers stole this from the Greek Gods. It is taken from the word 'clew' In Greek mythology. When Minotaur – a monster with the body of a man and a head of a bull – trapped the mythical king, Theseus, in a labyrinth, Theseus is said to have escaped using a ball of yarn or a 'clew'. He used the yarn to track his path so he could follow it back again if he got lost.

So, a "clew" came to mean something that guides your path, and later it came to mean this in the broader sense of offering guidance to discover a truth.



Guiding Children's Reading Choice

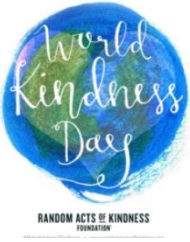


KALI CIESEMIER

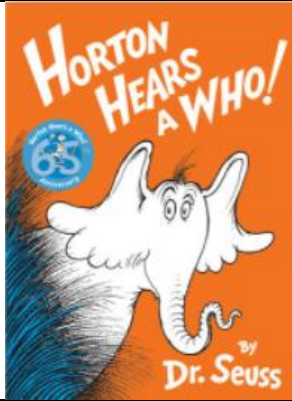
Choosing a book can seem like a commitment, so how can we make that less daunting? Here are a few handy strategies to explore (these work for adult readers too!)

1. **Questioning** why you have chosen it in the first place (do you know why)
2. **Cover and blurb check:** what are your first impressions?
3. **Exploring interests** (reading preferences, character types, genre)
4. **Series:** it is part of a number of books? Do they need to be read in order?
5. **Is it the correct level?** Check the book at www.arbookfinder.co.uk

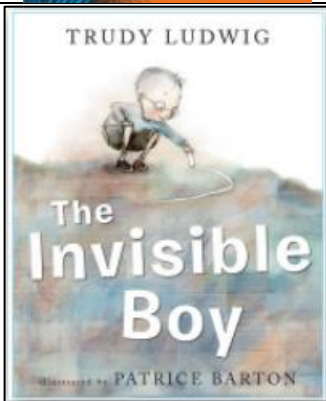
Stories for World Kindness Day and Beyond



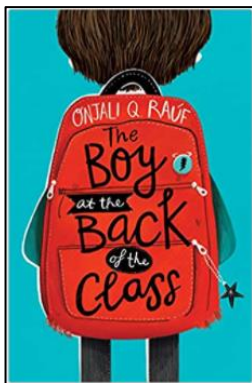
World Kindness Day is being celebrated this year on 13th November and the message this year is 'Make kindness the norm'. The day itself is simply about raising awareness of the virtue of kindness and these stories are wonderful examples of how to spread kindness between us all.



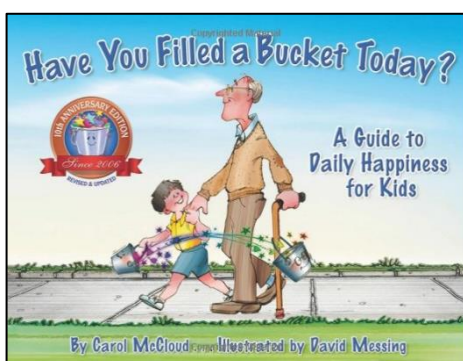
Horton is a rather large elephant with enormous ears. One day, he hears a tiny yelp coming from the smallest speck. The other animals in the jungle cannot hear it and set out to destroy the speck. Horton shows a real strength in persistent kindness in his efforts to protect the Whos who cannot stand up for themselves.



Shy, quiet Brian feels invisible in the lively and energetic classroom in which he finds himself. When a new student arrives, Brian sees an opportunity to make a new friend. The tale that unfolds provides a gentle reminder of how it feels to be left out and how one person's small acts of kindness – as simple as a hello – can make a huge difference to someone's life.



When Syrian refugee, Ahmet, arrives at his new school, in a new country he struggles to adapt to his new life. That is until a 9-year-old child and his friends come up with a plan to reunite him with his family. This is a powerful story of friendship and unending kindness with a strong message about opening your mind and views to the needs of others.



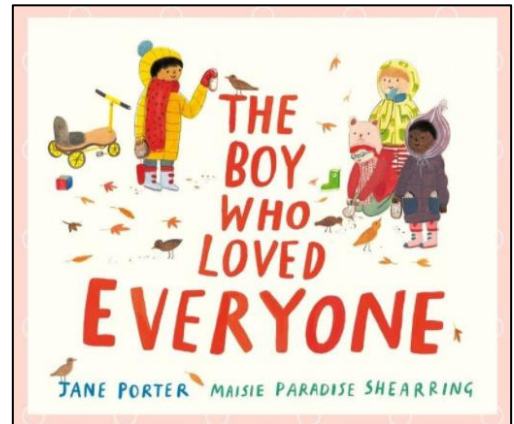
This heart-warming book is on its way to becoming a classic for its support in empowering children to practice kindness towards others. It works around the idea of an 'invisible bucket' that holds your thoughts and feelings. When you do something kind, you fill someone's bucket; when you do something mean, you dip into someone's bucket and remove some good thoughts and feelings.

Exciting dates, events and competitions to get involved with!

Win a signed copy of the award-winning picture book 'The Boy Who Loved Everyone'

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/competitions/the-boy-who-loved-everyone-spread-a-little-love-with-this-award-winning-picture-book/>

11pm on Thursday 26 November



@BookTrust

Want to keep up with what's hot in the world of books?

Since 2000, the enormously popular and influential Blue Peter Book Awards have been recognising and celebrating the best authors, the most creative illustrators and the greatest reads for children.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/awards-and-prizes/current-prizes/blue-peter-book-awards/>

Each year, Santa's elves at the Royal Mail can help you get a [letter from Santa](#), if children write to him by early December

<https://www.royalmail.com/christmas/letters-to-santa>

Santa/Father Christmas

Santa's Grotto

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