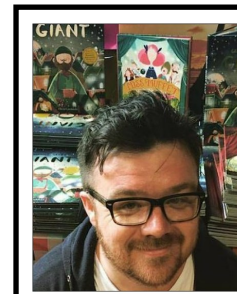


Welcome to our first reading newsletter of 2026—our way of telling you what has been happening with reading in school this term—and what a term it has been! Reading Cafes, new authors of the term and Starbooks celebrations coming up too!

Read on for an important date for your diary and to find out about National Storytelling week!

Authors of the Term for Spring terms

Here are our Authors of the Term! Every week, in Reading Rocks assembly, we read a book or extract from one of our authors, depending on which key stage is in assembly, that week. When you find an author you love, it is great to find more books by the same author. Can you find and read any books by our new authors?



David Litchfield



Tom Vaughan



A date for your diaries...

World Book Day is on Thursday 5th March 2026.

Children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character or come to school in their pyjamas—comfiest thing to curl up and read a good book! Competitions and good fun incoming... details to follow!

What are we reading during the Spring term?

Preschool: Goldilocks and the three bears

Reception: Martha Maps it Out, How to Catch a Star, The Way Back Home,

Year 1: The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark—Jill Tomlinson, The Tailor of Gloucester and the Tale of Peter Rabbit - Beatrix Potter, Ruby's Worry—Tom Percival,

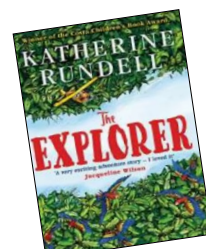
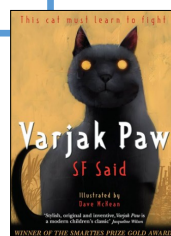
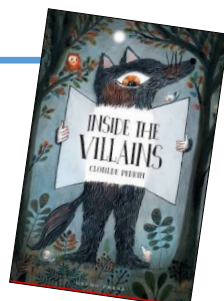
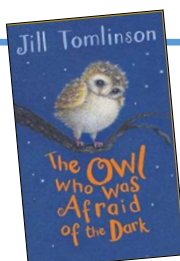
Year 2: The Twits—Roald Dahl, Inside The Villains—Clotilde Perrin

Year 3: Varjak Paw—SF Said, Me...Jane—Patrick McDonnell

Year 4: Murder on the Safari—M.G. Leonard The Salt in his shoes—Deloris Jordan,

Year 5: The Explorer—Katherine Rundell,

Year 6: Floodland—Marcus Sedgwick, Pig Heart



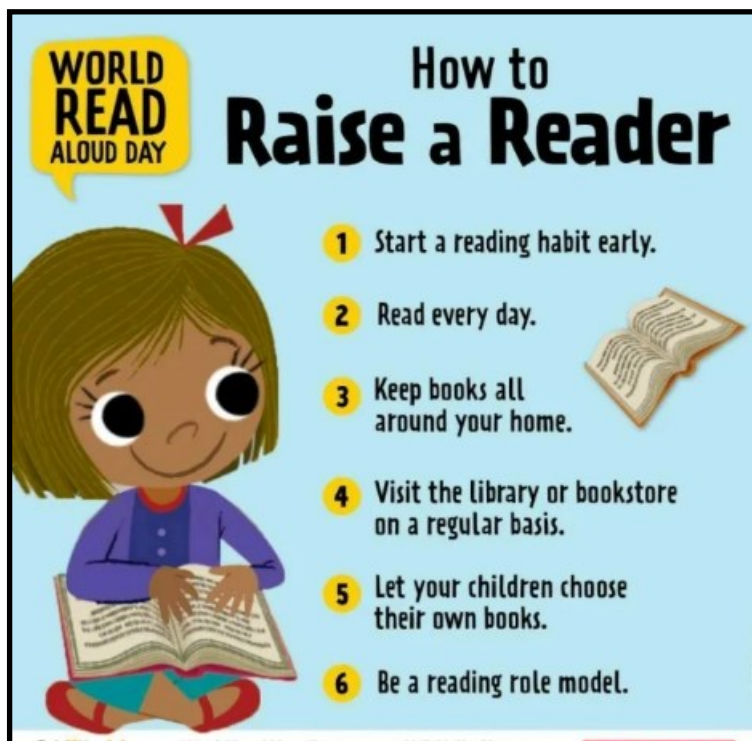
Did you know it's National Storytelling Week?

In assembly on Monday, we had great fun listening to short clips of music and imagining the stories they might be telling. Children shared brilliant ideas about characters, settings and moods inspired purely by what they could hear. We also revisited *The Three Little Pigs* and matched different pieces of music to key moments in the story, thinking carefully about how music can build tension, excitement or calm.

It was a lovely way to explore how stories can be told in many different ways — not just through words. Storytelling ideas to try at home:

- **Music stories** – Play a short piece of music and ask your child what story it might be telling. Who is the main character? What could be happening?
- **Retell a favourite tale** – Ask your child to retell a well-known story (like *The Three Little Pigs*) in their own words, or change one part of it.
- **Shared storytelling** – Take turns adding one sentence each to make up a new story together.
- **Act it out** – Use toys, puppets or actions to act out a story or scene.
- **Draw the story** – Encourage your child to draw a picture of their favourite part of a story or what they imagined while listening to music.

These small activities help build imagination, language and confidence — and they're a lovely way to enjoy stories together at home.



Research tells us that reading enjoyment, nationally amongst children, is at its lowest level in 20 years.

The National Year of Reading 2026 is a UK-wide campaign designed to help more people rediscover the joy of reading forms.



National Year of
Reading 2026

To find out more,
please visit;
[https://
goallin.org.uk/](https://goallin.org.uk/)

