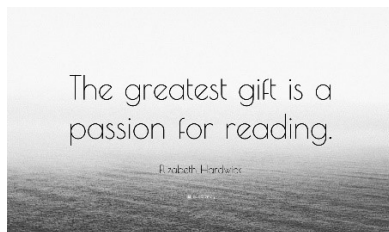


# Addmore Reading Newsletter

Issue 4 Autumn 2023

## Welcome!

Welcome to our Autumn Addmore Reading Newsletter. In this newsletter, you will discover how we are supporting your child's reading. You will find recommended reads for their age group; we will be sharing new releases, plus keeping you updated on events, both in and outside of school. We hope you find it helpful in supporting your child on their reading journey.



## Staff Corner

An Interview with Miss McLaughlin



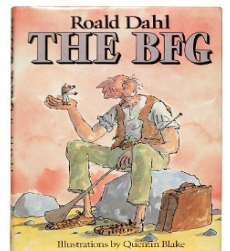
**What is your favourite children's book and why?**

The BFG. It was one of my favourite stories as a child and one that I remember reading repeatedly! I like lots of Roald

Dahl books and think that he was a wonderful author.

**When or where do you most like to read?**

I like to read in bed. I find it helps me to relax after a long day. I think you can transport to another world in a book and forget your worries.



## Listening to stories

No matter what age you are, there is something special about having a story read to you. Here are some links where there are a range of stories from different authors for children of all ages to listen to.

Storyline Online have over 50 stories. I have just enjoyed Arnie the Doughnut read by Chris O'Dowd – he does great voices!

<https://storylineonline.net/>

Booktrust have a YouTube channel. Not only can you watch and listen to stories but there are also author and illustrator interviews with tips for budding writers and artists.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/Booktrust/featured>





## 8 Ways to Encourage Reluctant Readers

Reading is a tremendously appealing, satisfying activity, and children will become hooked once we can build it into their lives every day. The key is getting children started. The following nine strategies will help even the most reluctant reader become more enthusiastic about reading at home and at school. We hope that if together we use some of the strategies described below, reading will become something that children do willingly. Our main aim is to encourage the children to see reading as a pleasure and have it as a lifelong habit.

1. Start with the child's passions. Children will be more excited about reading when they can choose books or magazines related to their interests. This suggestion is by far the most powerful one when it comes to encouraging those who are reluctant to read. When children own the choice of what they read, their motivation can increase significantly
2. Make reading a social experience. Children who don't enjoy reading alone often enjoy reading with somebody else. Children can read with their parents, siblings, other relatives, and friends. Some children even start mini-book clubs and discuss books related to their common interests. Asking children to read to their younger siblings and cousins can powerfully impact their own motivation to read. Of course, they also enjoy that one to one time they have with their adult curled up on the sofa sharing a book!
3. Read aloud to your children. Many parents regularly read aloud to their children when they are very young, yet stop this activity, as the child get older. Parents should read aloud to children throughout Primary school. Doing so makes reading more enjoyable, improves listening skills, builds comprehension, lengthens attention spans, and grows the imagination.
4. Take advantage of new technology. Children who may not find books interesting may enjoy reading the same texts on smart phones, computers, and electronic readers, such as the iPad or Kindle. Technology makes everything seem cooler and more engaging to children, and we should capitalize on this fact when it comes to reading.
5. Be a role model to children. When children see their parents reading frequently, discussing what they have read, and carrying books around, they will value reading to a greater extent. The power of modelling cannot be underestimated.
6. Camouflage reading. Parents can increase the amount of time their children spend reading by subtly building into something they enjoy doing or another family activity. Examples might include reading recipes, reading the directions to board or online games, looking at various websites together or finding out about the ingredients in such as cereal packets whilst having breakfast.
7. Be sure children read books that are appropriately challenging. Many times children don't want to read simply because the books they encounter are too difficult. This seemingly obvious point is frequently forgotten. None of us wants to encounter frustration, and we will go to great lengths to avoid experiences that make us feel this way. Appropriately challenging books are those in which students can fluently read approximately 95% of the words. Encountering a small number of difficult words can help children grow in their reading skills, but encountering too many of these words can interfere with fluency and lead to discouragement.
8. Ask for recommendations. Let your child watch book trailers and listen to book talks in order to discover good books. Book trailers and book talks are similar to movie trailers and friendly recommendations because they try to entice you to check out the product. Of course, the best source of book recommendations is other children, particularly those who your child is friendly with.

Your child will be coming home with a VIPERS bookmark. This book park offers suggestions of questions that you could ask your child when reading with them to help check their understanding of their book. We use similar questions in school to support your children's reading.

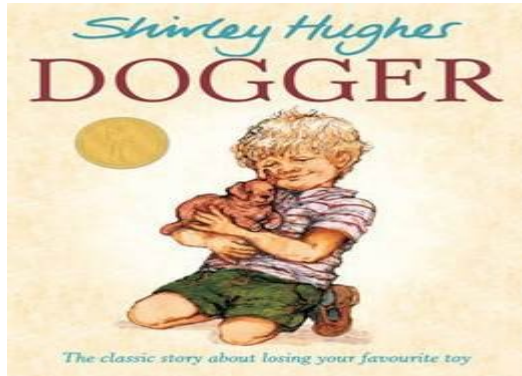
Well done to all the children who took part in the Shropshire Library reading challenge! We are still awaiting final results from the library but are proud to see lots of our children taking part!



# Recommended reads

## EYFS and Key Stage 1

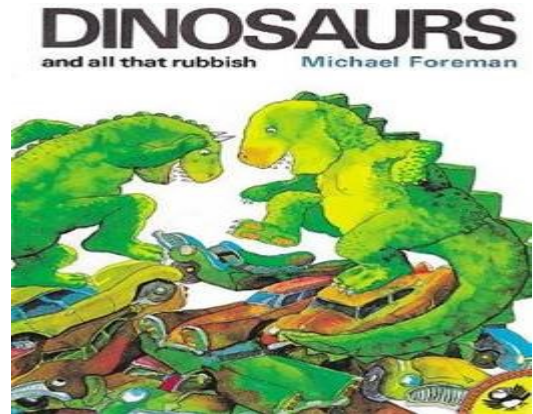
### Nursery



#### Dogger by Shirley Hughes

Dogger is Dave's special toy. He is soft, brown and worn in places, with one ear pointing up and the other flopping down. One day, after collecting his big sister Bella from school, watching the flags go up for the summer fair and enjoying ice-creams on the way home, Dave realises that Dogger is missing. The whole family searches for him, but Dogger is nowhere to be found. Dave is subdued when they visit the fair the following day, until remarkably he spots Dogger for sale on a toy stall. However, he is devastated when his beloved toy is sold to another child, but a selfless act of kindness from Bella ensures that all ends well.

### Reception

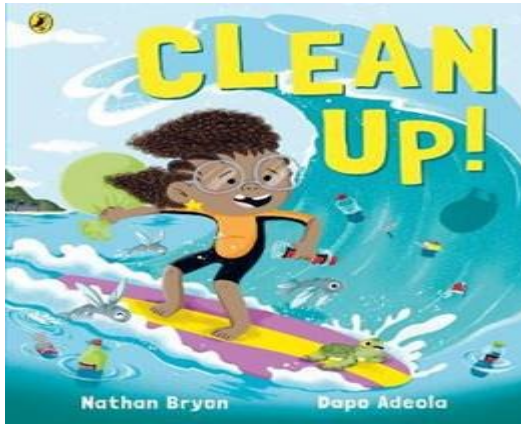


#### Dinosaurs and all that rubbish by Michael Forman

A man gazes up into the sky and longs to visit the twinkling star which he sees in the distance. He is rich, powerful and owns lots of factories, so orders a rocket to be built to take him there, unconcerned about the pollution and waste this generates. His only focus is to reach the star, no matter what the cost.

When at last his rocket is ready, he blasts off into space, leaving behind mounds of burning rubbish. The heat from the smouldering waste wakes the dinosaurs who have lain dormant underground for centuries. They are horrified when they see the state of the planet and quickly set to work, clearing the rubbish to allow the natural world to take over once more.



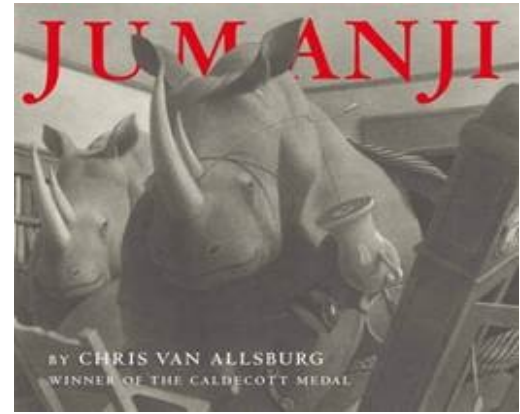


**Clean Up by Nathan Bryan**

Rocket is SO EXCITED because her, her mum and her brother Jamal are going to visit her Grammy and Grampy in the Caribbean. Even more excitingly, Rocket's grandparents run whale watching tours and have an animal sanctuary at the back of their house.

It's brilliant finally seeing Grammy and Grampy - Grammy is a pretty impressive surfer, and Rocket and mum love building sandcastles - but when a baby turtle washes up, tangled in plastic, Grampy explains that plastic is ruining the island, and no whales have been sighted here for a long time.

Rocket decides that something must be done, so she enlists everyone on the beach into her Clean Up Crew. Finally, the beach is clean and Rocket knows she's made a huge difference. Hooray!



**Jamanji by Chris Van Allsburg**

Judy and Peter are bored. Their parents have gone out and told them to keep the house tidy, so they go to the park where they find a mysterious board game, entitled *Jumanji: A Jungle Adventure Game*. Players must try to reach the city of Jumanji and the game won't end until one of them gets there.

They start to play but each move on the board comes true! First, they are attacked by a lion, then the kitchen is destroyed by monkeys, monsoon rains fall in the living room and charging rhinos crush walls and furniture. Thankfully, before they are engulfed by molten lava, Judy wins the game and everything goes back to normal.



## Recommended reads

### Key Stage 2

#### Year 3

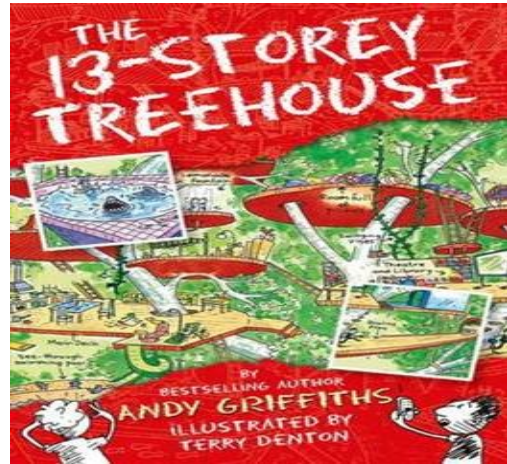


**The Journey by Francesca Simon**

A young family's safe world is turned upside down when war arrives, spreading its blackness across their lives and forcing them to flee in search of safety. Told through the eyes of one of the children, the story follows their journey across hills and through forests, over enormous walls and stormy seas, encountering things both wondrous and scary in their search for a new home.

What is it like to leave everything behind and travel miles and miles to somewhere unfamiliar and strange? This incredibly poignant story introduces the concept of refugees with straightforward language, tackling this difficult subject with truth and clarity.

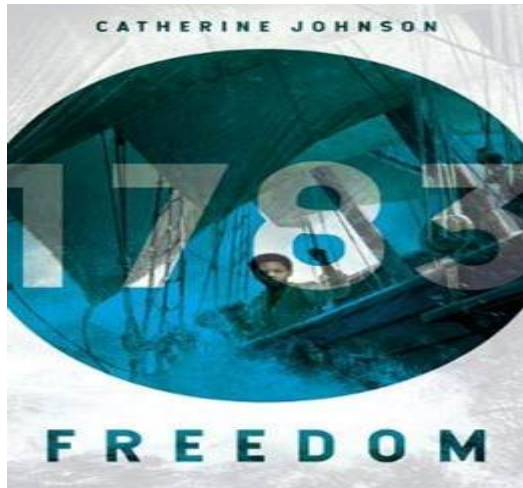
#### Year 4



**The 13-Storey Treehouse by Andy Griffiths**

A rip-roaringly funny book about writing (or actually *not* writing) a book. The author and illustrator realise that they are due to present their latest book to their publisher within 24 hours. Unfortunately they have absolutely no idea what to write, and all sorts of bizarre things keep happening which prevent them from writing anything! Living in a 13-story treehouse is hard enough, but that's the least of their problems.

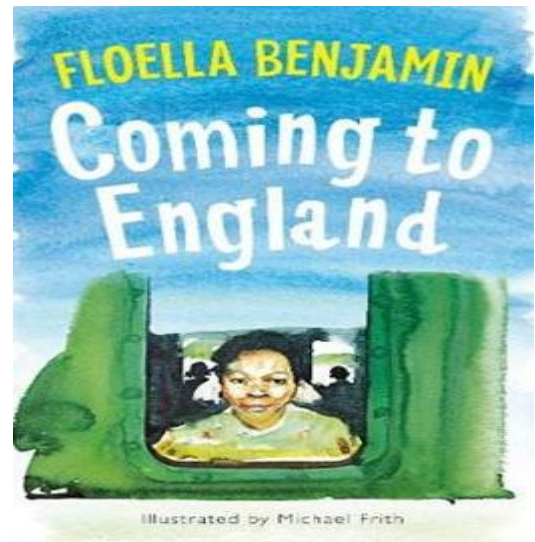




### Freedom by Catherine Johnson

Catherine Johnson brings the horrific history of slavery to life in this important piece of historical fiction.

Nat is a 12-year-old boy born into slavery on a Jamaican sugar cane plantation owned by the brutal English family, the Barratts. The story opens with his mum and baby sister being taken away to work on another plantation, leaving him to face his hardships alone. But when Nat is sent to England to look after some exotic pineapple plants, he starts to dream of freedom. When he gets there he discovers it's not true there is no slavery in England, but in the hustle and bustle of crazy London, life is a bit freer. When Nat meets the amazing Shadrack Furman, his life is changed forever.



### Coming to England by Floella Benjamin

Floella Benjamin is a much-loved writer, actress and presenter, who was made a Baroness in the House of Lords in 2010 and is an ambassador for the welfare and education of children. This moving and insightful memoir documents her childhood, from her birth in Trinidad in 1949 to her move to Britain in 1960 as part of the Windrush generation, and explores how these experiences have shaped her life.

Floella writes eloquently about growing up on a Caribbean island with her parents and five siblings, wonderfully evoking a sense of sunshine, love and laughter. She also speaks candidly of the hostile reception she receives on arrival in Britain, where she is seen as a colour rather than a person, and shows great resilience, determination and courage when facing this discrimination.



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