



Learn, Enjoy, Achieve

# MARUS BRIDGE'S READING NEWSLETTER

SPRING 1 Date: FEBRUARY 2024

## CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 5th February 2024

Books can provide opportunities to relate with characters and story lines, and begin to understand your own feelings and emotions as well as open up conversations in an age appropriate way. Below are some recommended reads linking to Children's Mental Health. In Early Years we shared books including Colour Monster and Ruby's Worry. Across school, classes engaged with our 'No Outsiders' programme.

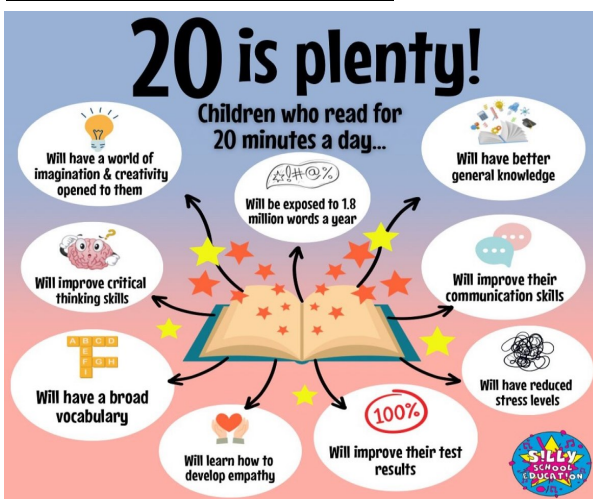
### Picture Books:



### Chapter Books:



## READING RAFFLE WINNERS:



**KS2**

**Emrys, Reece, Emily, and Lilly.**

**EY and KS1**

**Ella, Elliott, Maggie, Olly, Lucy, and Flynn.**

**WELL DONE!**



## NATIONAL STORYTELLING WEEK 29th January



Storytelling and listening to stories are celebrated and enjoyed on a daily basis at Marus Bridge, but we jumped on the opportunity to engage with 'National Storytelling Week' and making it a memorable and exciting experience for our children.

Our amazing Reading Ambassadors and Year 6 pupils volunteered themselves to go into different classrooms at the end of each day to share some of their own favourite books and books they enjoyed at a younger age. They took ownership in their role and the planning of the books to use—linking to what would be age appropriate, and the bravery they presented was admirable.

Our children demonstrated huge excitement in discovering who their surprise reader would be each day.

It was also delightful to see children in Miss Foxwell's class (Yr1) creating their own story baskets in a wonderfully collaborative way. These were then added to their reading area to be used throughout the year. Brilliant!



## READING / WRITING CELEBRATIONS:

### Well done Amelia G!

I would like to congratulate Amelia (Yr2) on the achievement of writing her own story to enter Wigan Library's Short Story writing competition. What a delight this was to read. Amelia has a wonderful imagination and said that her inspiration was 'Matilda' by Roald Dahl.



'...Something funny happened to a special, magic book. Every night the book came to life, and it flew through the library window to all the boy's and girl's homes. The book took them to a magic place where parents would never see them again until morning.

The boys and girls flew to a magic island and went in rock pools looking for fish, crabs, turtles and magic treasure. They saw dinosaurs and unicorns and went exploring up huge mountains. They didn't know where they were, so they searched a way out to get back to their home and into their bed without their Mummy and Daddy knowing.

The book took them back to their bed and then flew back to the shelf in the library, and no one ever knew the adventures the book had with all the children. Every night the children went on adventures with the book to lots of different places and visited pirates, unicorns and aliens, and the librarian never knew how special her library was. The end.'

Well done, Amelia, wishing you lots of luck with your entry.

### Can you spare a few hours a week to become a reading helper at our school?

We are working with Coram Beanstalk, a charity that recruits and trains volunteer reading helpers who can commit to an afternoon a week to come in to school. As a reading helper you will support at least 3 children on a one-to-one basis outside of the classroom environment. You will be sharing and talking about books, helping them to grow in confidence and develop a lifelong love of reading. For more information or if you wish to apply, visit the website at [www.corambeanstalk.org.uk/register-now](http://www.corambeanstalk.org.uk/register-now) or call 0207 729 4087.



The mission is simple:

To promote reading for pleasure, offering every child and young person the opportunity to have a book of their own.



## WORLD BOOK DAY— THURSDAY 7TH MARCH 2024

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 7th March. Children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character or in pyjamas / loungewear. Teachers are busy planning

some wonderful, inclusive activities and opportunities for children to share and talk about books. Children are encouraged to bring their favourite books into school to share and recommend to their peers. If they don't have a copy at home, there are the options of borrowing from our Reading Sheds, asking a teacher if they have a copy available, or accessing your local library.

FOMBA will be collecting in any outgrown or unwanted costumes that may be suitable for World Book Day. There will be a tub available at the school office for donations. To purchase, a sale rack will be displayed outside the main entrance of school with an honesty box. Suggested donations of £2.

## COMPETITION TIME:

In association with World Book Day we will be running a Story Spoon competition. We hope to use entries to incorporate into our Early Years and Key Stage 1 reading areas, where children can use as story props, promote storytelling and spark imagination. Entries are to be brought into school and given to your child's class teacher.

**Deadline:** Wednesday 6th March 2024.

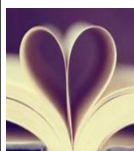
Winners from each Key Stage will be selected by our Reading Ambassadors.



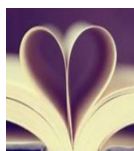
## READING RAFFLE SPRING DATES:

Friday 1st March 2024  
Thursday 28th March 2024

## HAVE A WONDERFUL HALF TERM BREAK



Mrs Holden &  
The Reading  
Ambassadors



## HONESTY LIBRARY

Have you discovered Wigan's new honesty library? Located on the upper mall, Grand Arcade. Within the Community Corner you'll find the honesty library stocked with a range of reading books for all ages.

You can donate your unwanted books to the library in exchange for taking a new one in return or for a donation of what you can afford. All money raised will be shared with local charities.

