

Archbishop Courtenay Primary School

Reading Newsletter

Spring 2023

Welcome to our Spring Reading Newsletter - we hope you enjoy it!



Maidstone Library
James Whatman Way,
Maidstone ME14 1LQ

Monday: 10.00am - 4.00pm
Tuesday: 10.00am - 4.00pm
Wednesday: 10.00am - 4.00pm
Thursday: 10.00am - 4.00pm
Friday: 10.00am - 4.00pm
Saturday: 10.00am - 4.00pm

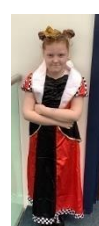
The library is free to join. If you'd like to use the 'select and collect' service you can choose up to 6 books on-line in advance and when they're ready you collect them from Maidstone library. The loan period is for 6 weeks on all items issued through Select and Collect.
historyandlibrarycentre@kent.gov.uk

READING
MAKES YOUR
MIND BLOSSOM



Welcome to our Spring reading newsletter. We have had a very busy term at ABC and there have been some lovely changes we'd like to share with you. Firstly, we'd like to officially welcome Mrs O'Connell to the team as she volunteers in our library once a week. Not only is she amazing at sorting, tidying and organising our school library but she also has loads of wonderful ideas and we're very grateful for her help.

In March, we saw the return of our annual World Book Day celebrations. The school was buzzing with children dressed up as their favourite book characters, story spoons filled the prayer station and our family story time was a huge success as parents, siblings, grandparents and a whole array of relatives filled our school to read with their children. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive and we loved seeing everyone so engaged with their reading. Thank you to everyone for your involvement and for making this such a successful day.

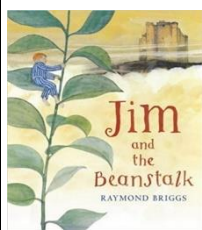


It's Spring!



sit under a tree

Riley Class' Review of Jim and The Beanstalk by Raymond Briggs



Jim and the Beanstalk is about a boy called Jim. This story is a sequel to Jack and the Beanstalk. In Jim in the Beanstalk, Jim is nice and kind to the giant. He helps the giant and measures his head for glasses so that he can read; get a bright red wig and some new teeth. The giant was delighted that Jim was so compassionate and wrote him a thank you note at the end. We recommend this story for 5 to 7 year olds. We enjoyed writing longer sentences using conjunctions: and, but, so and or and retelling the story in our own words.

Dali Class' Review of The Explorer by Katherine Rundell

What is the book about?

Four children are in a plane crash and land in the jungle. They learn how to survive in the wild with the help of a man who goes by the name of 'The Explorer'. Initially, The Explorer does not like the children and does not want to help them but deep down he does really care. One of the children becomes unwell so the children have to decide what they will do to save him.



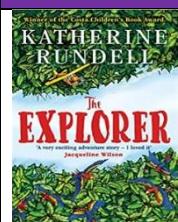
Who would you recommend the book to? Why?

All ages would enjoy this book because it is fun and full of adventure. There is nothing scary or inappropriate in the book so everyone will be able to enjoy it.

What interests is this book suitable for?

Anyone would enjoy this book regardless of what they are interested in. People who enjoy adventure books would enjoy this the most. **Rating 4/5**

Morris Class' Review of The Explorer by Katherine Rundell



When their plane crashes, four children; Fred, Con. Lyla and Max are stranded in the Amazon Jungle. Now they have to survive alone. But was someone there before them? Will the children make it back to civilisation alive? What dangers will they encounter along the way? Will anyone be able to help them? Two weeks, one explorer and a hidden plane - will they get home? You'll have to read to find out.

The ABC library

Some of our World book day story spoons are now on display in our library. They make a great addition to the space and the children love seeing them when they visit the library to change their books.

This term we are hoping to get some new software to be able to categorise our books. Watch this space for more information.

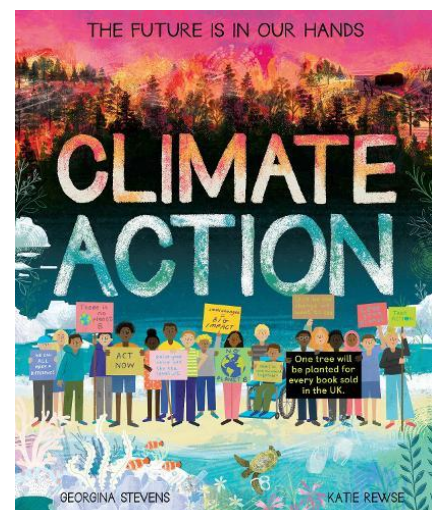
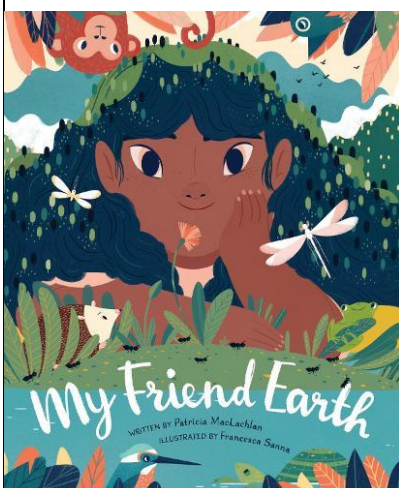
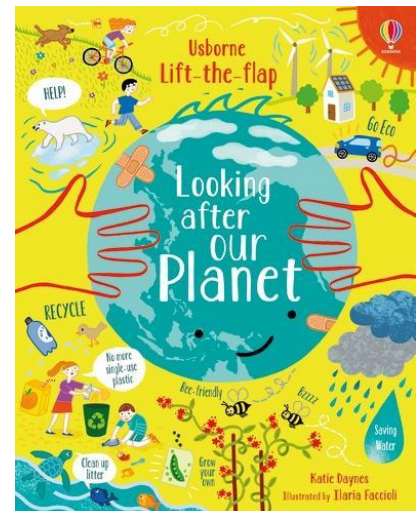
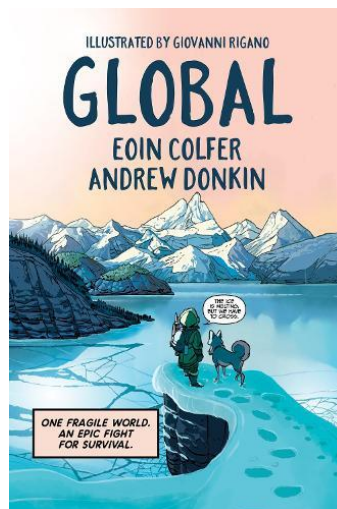
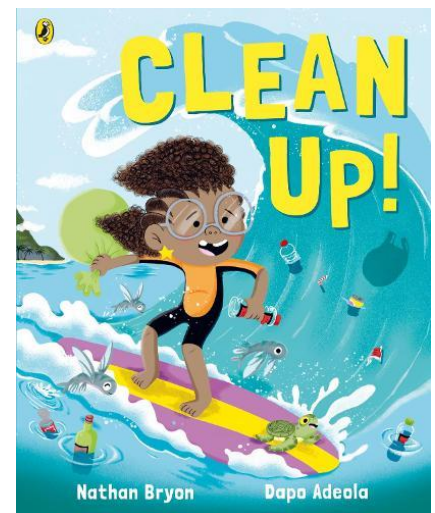
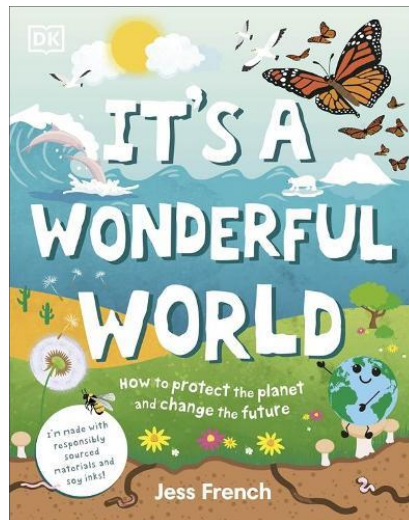
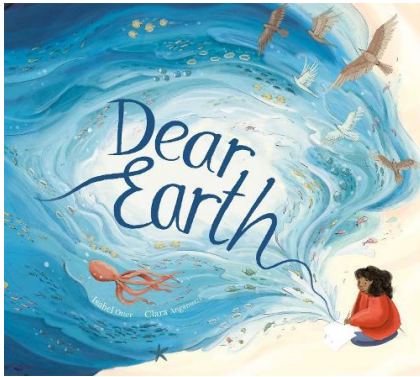
We love our ABC library!



Recent dates in the calendar

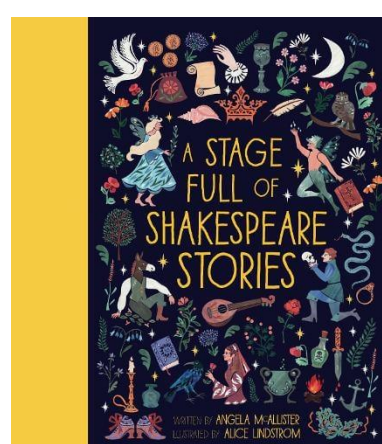
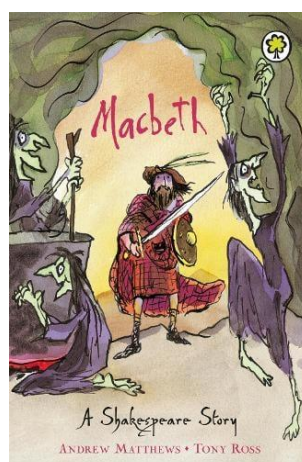
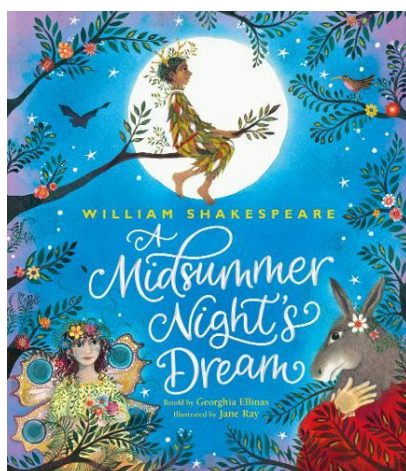
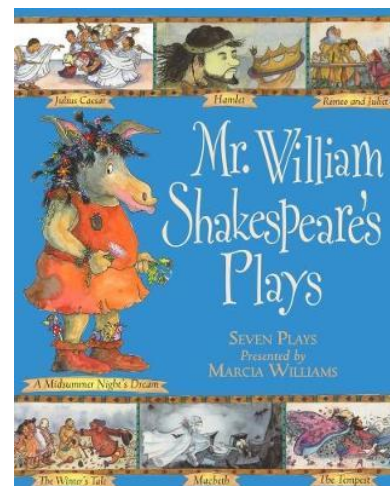
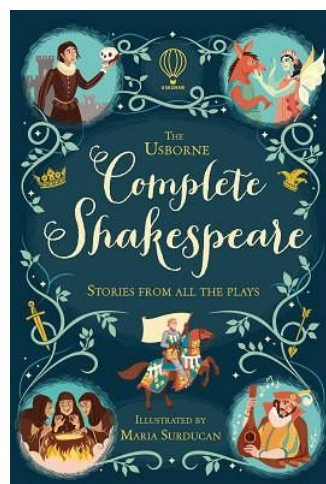
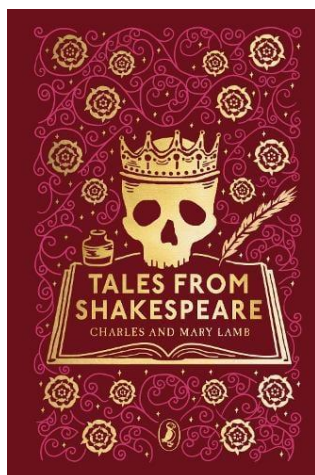
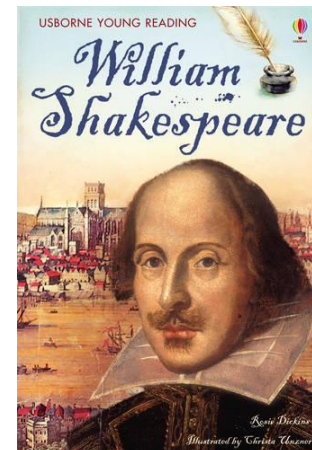
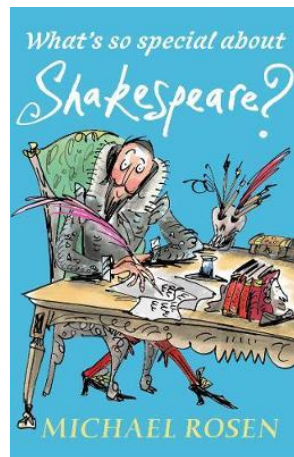
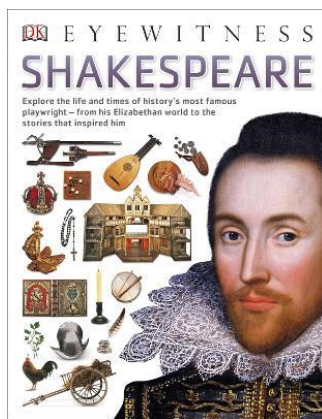
EARTH DAY 22nd APRIL 2023

Did you know that 22nd April marked Earth Day? This is a day dedicated to raising environmental awareness and to driving action to change people's behaviour so that we all can protect our planet. If you aren't sure what you can do to help, these books may give you some ideas!



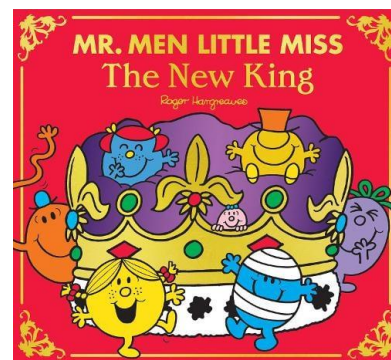
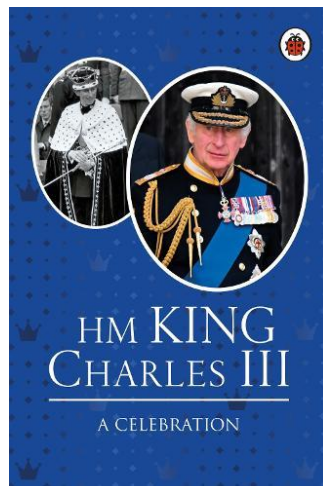
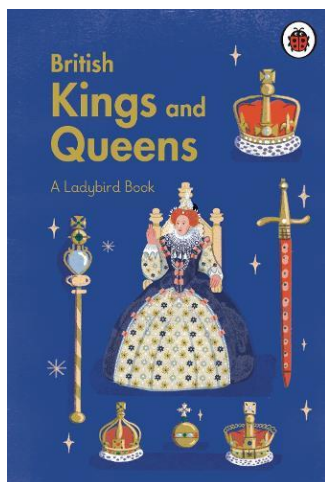
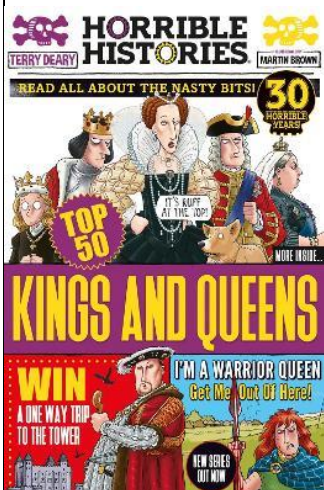
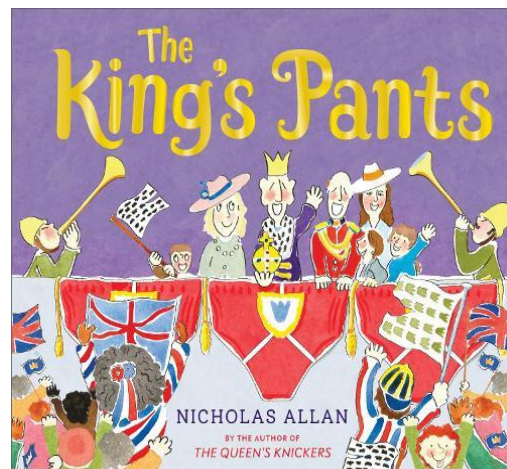
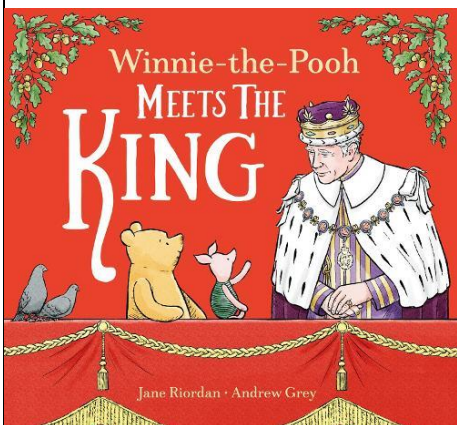
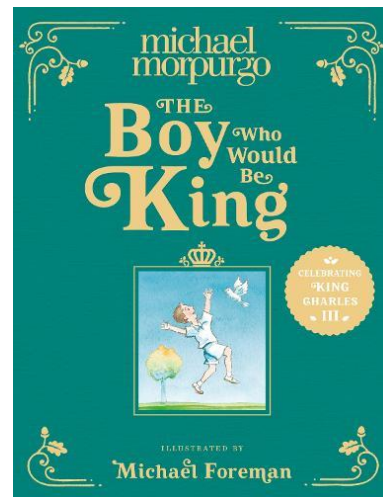
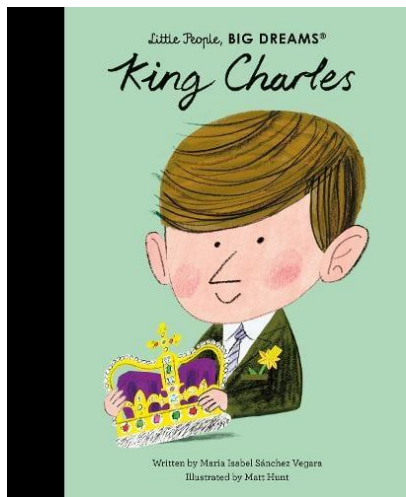
SHAKESPEARE'S BIRTHDAY 23RD APRIL

William Shakespeare was a famous British playwright who was born around 23rd April 1564 (we don't know his actual date of birth, but we know he was baptised on the 26th April so it's a good guess!). He wrote around 40 plays, many of which are still performed today. Can you name any of Shakespeare's plays? Did you know that he also invented many English words, such as lonely, bump, and radiance? If you want to learn more about Shakespeare or maybe read some of his plays, here are a few suggestions.



KING CHARLES III CORONATION 6TH MAY 2023

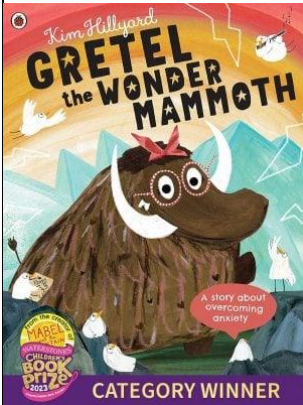
Our new monarch King Charles III will be crowned on 6th May. Get ready for the first coronation in over 70 years by reading some of these books.



Mrs O'Connell's Recommended Reads

Hello Everyone,

I have recently started volunteering in the school library on Wednesdays and have been tidying and sorting out the books. It's been lovely to see some of you come and choose your next reading books. If you see me in the library, please say hello! I would love to hear what you've been reading and what you would like to read next. With that in mind here are a few recommendations. 😊



Gretel the Wonder Mammoth – Kim Hillyard

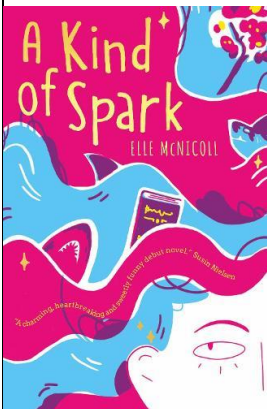
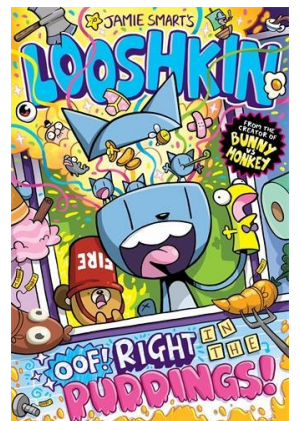
Having been freed from the ice, Gretel discovers she is the only mammoth left in the world. The birds on the mountain think she is a wonder mammoth, but she finds her new world very confusing and as the last of the mammoths she feels very alone and anxious. Can she learn to talk about how she feels so that her friends can help her overcome her anxiety?

This is a wonderfully positive story perfect for sharing. It's a gentle introduction to young children about talking to people when you feel overwhelmed and has a good message about being a supportive friend. 4+

Looshkin : Oof! Right in the Puddings! – Jamie Smart

'Wherever Looshkin goes, chaos follows right behind. Prepare yourself for rocket-powered nuclear burps, firecracker cheese and LARGE PANTS GALORE!'

From the comic genius that is Jamie Smart of Bunny vs Monkey fame comes another madcap character. Fantastically funny, this book will have you laughing out loud. 7+



A Kind of Spark – Elle McNicoll

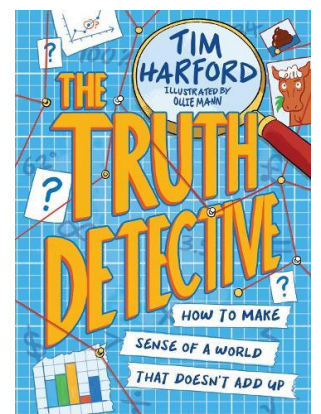
'A Kind of Spark tells the story of 11-year-old Addie as she campaigns for a memorial in memory of the witch trials that took place in her Scottish hometown. Addie knows there's more to the story of these 'witches' just like there is to hers. Can Addie challenge how people in town see her and make her voice heard?'

Addie's story was born from the author's own experiences of neurodiversity and her commitment to seeing greater representation in Children's books. This is a moving and important story about courage, friendship, and self-belief. A story that celebrates differences and encourages kindness and empathy. 9+

The Truth Detective: How to make sense of a world that doesn't add up – Tim Harford

'Did you know that a toy spaceship can teach you about why prices keep rising? Or that a pooping cow can show you how to invest your pocket money? And that even the greatest minds have been fooled by fake news and dancing fairies?'

In this intriguing book Tim Harford helps young people make sense of a complicated world using the power of numbers and their own brilliant brain! Suitable from 9+.



Did you know that May is National Share a Story Month?

This is an annual celebration set up by the Federation of Children's Book Groups to celebrate the magic of storytelling. It is a wonderful opportunity for families to share stories and books, and to read and write together.

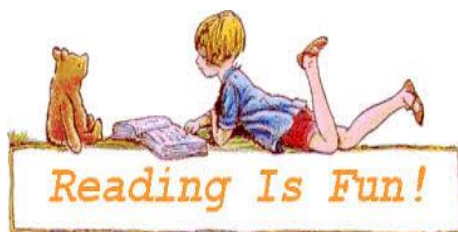
This year's theme is 'Sail Away in a Story' and promotes the joys in discovering stories set around oceans, seas, and rivers. You can find out more about National Share a Story Month including recommended reading lists and two exciting competitions by visiting their webpage <https://fcbg.org.uk/national-share-a-story-month-2023/>.



Your recommendations

Have you read a book you would love to recommend or any suggestions for what you would like to see in future reading newsletters?

Please pass your recommendation and suggestions onto Mrs Hawks or email it to kandinsky@abc.aquilatrust.co.uk and you could be featured in the next reading review.



Summer Reading Challenge 2023

Look out for more information coming soon about the Kent libraries Summer Reading Challenge 2023. A visitor from Maidstone library will be coming into ABC in term 6 to launch the challenge and it would be lovely to see as many of us signing up for it as possible. Let's get our name to the top of the leader board this year!



<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

In Term 5 and 6 events we can look forward to ...

- Visiting Maidstone library or the mobile library
- More family story time
- Appointment of new Year 5 librarians
- New library software to catalogue our books

Have a wonderful term everyone- Happy reading!