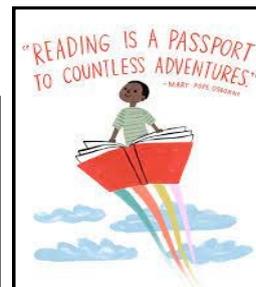


Blewbury Reads!

Issue 1: March 2022

Welcome to the first issue of Blewbury's reading newsletter for parents, carers and children.

Happy reading!



Reading for Pleasure



Why is it important?

As well as teaching children to read fluently, we also want to develop a lifelong love for reading. Research has shown that reading for pleasure can make a huge difference to children – not only academically, but also socially and emotionally.

How can we promote reading for pleasure?

As adults, there are many things that we can do to help promote reading for pleasure:

- **Talk about books.** Talking regularly to children about books and stories can help them to realise how exciting they are. Show an interest in what they've read, ask questions about it, and swap opinions.
- **Make it fun!** There are so many fun things you can do with books beyond reading them. You could ask your child to draw their favourite character or act out what they've read for you. Or perhaps you could try recreating some classic book covers and taking photos! And try funny books – everyone likes a good giggle!
- **Don't worry about what your child is reading.** Whether it's a short story, poetry, a graphic novel, non-fiction, joke books, a comic or even the back of a cereal packet, it doesn't matter what your child is reading - as long as they're enjoying it! Anything could kickstart a love of books. And don't panic if they read the same book over and over again, either.
- **Give them the chance to choose.** It's a great idea to give children the chance to choose what they read. Maybe you could take them to a bookshop and let them pick out something as a treat, or make regular library visits to help them figure out what they enjoy.
- **Enjoy books out loud!** Why not read part of a book to your child, then leave it with them to explore further on their own? Children might enjoy listening to audiobooks, too – the combination of hearing the story out loud and holding the physical book could be a big help. Why not try listening to a story the next time you're in the car together?
- **Find books related to their interests.** If your child is into games, why not try choose-your-own-adventure books or Minecraft guides? If they like sport, you could try one of Kwame Alexander's verse novels or a biography of their favourite football player. If a book is about something they already love, it could be a brilliant way to get them hooked. Or perhaps their favourite film is based on a book - you could enjoy the story together and talk about how the movie and the original story are different.

(Book Trust)

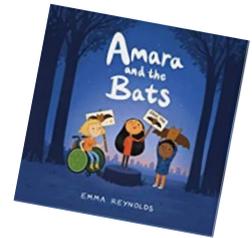
You can find out more on the Book Trust [website](#).



Recommended Reads

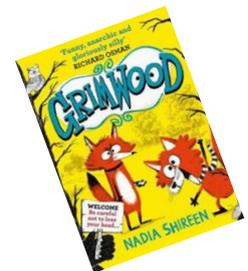
EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2: *Amara and the Bats*—Emma Reynolds

Environmental activism gets a nocturnal twist in this utterly charming picture book about a young girl and her mission to save the bats! Amara loves bats! Her favourite thing to do is to collect bat facts and watch the amazing mammals fly at night by her house. But when Amara moves to a new town, she learns that her beloved bats no longer roost nearby because they are losing their habitat. What can she do to help?



Year 3 and 4: *Grimwood*—Nadia Shireen

Fox cub siblings Ted and Nancy are on the run from Princess Buttons, the scariest street cat in the Big City. They flee for Grimwood, expecting to find refuge in the peaceful countryside. Instead, they are met with thieving eagles, dramatic ducks, riotous rabbits and a whole host of unusual characters. Grimwood is... weird. But when Princess Buttons tracks them down, Nancy and Ted and the animals of Grimwood must unite in a mind-bending race against time. Perfect for fans of Dog Man, Roald Dahl, Mr Gum and David Walliams, and anyone who loves to laugh.



Year 5 and 6: *Front Desk*—Kelly Yang

Mia Tang has a lot of secrets: 1. She lives in a motel, not a big house. 2. Her parents hide immigrants. 3. She wants to be a writer. It will take all of Mia's courage, kindness, and hard work to get through this year. Will she be able to hold on to her job, help the immigrants and guests, and go for her dreams? Perfect for fans of Boy At the Back of the Class (Onjali Q Raúf) and A Kind of Spark (Elle McNicoll).



Upcoming Events at The Story Museum



Julia and the Shark: Kiran Milwood Hargrave & Tom De Freston
12 Mar 2022

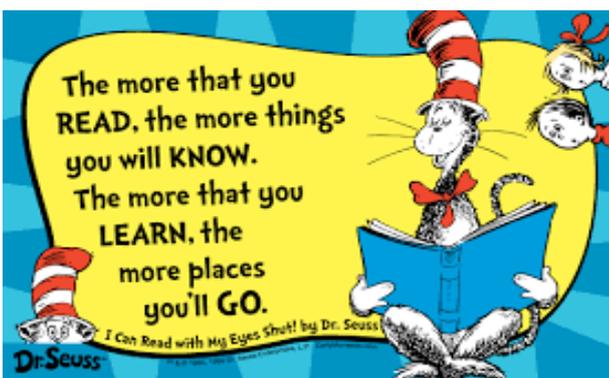
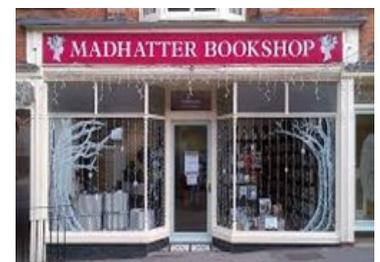
Author events Suitable for Children

Join the award-winning author, Kiran Milwood Hargrave, on a journey through adventures, hope and stories.

Have you been to..?

Madhatter Bookshop

18 Mill Street
Wantage
OX12 9AQ



Didcot Library Opening Hours

Monday - 1pm-7pm

Tuesday - 9am-7pm

Wednesday - 9am-5:30pm

Thursday - 9am-5:30pm

Friday - 9am-7pm

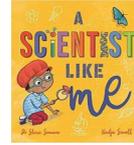
Saturday - 9am-4:30pm

Sunday - Closed

Recommended Reads

11th—20th March is British Science Week, so why not take a look at some of these books?

EYFS: *A Scientist Like Me* - Dr Shini Somara



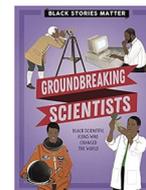
Key Stage 1: *What Do Scientists Do All Day?* - Jane Wilsher



Lower Key Stage 2: *Brain-fizzing Facts: Awesome Science Questions Answered* - Dr Emily Grossman



Upper Key Stage 2: *Groundbreaking Scientists* - J.P. Miller



World Book Day

World Book Day was created by UNESCO on 23rd April 1995 as a worldwide celebration of books and reading. The first World Book Day in the UK and Ireland took place in 1997 to encourage young people to discover the pleasure of reading. As World Book Day founder, Baroness Gail Rebeck, recalls "We wanted to do something to reposition reading and our message is the same today as it was then – that reading is fun, relevant, accessible, exciting, and has the power to transform lives." This year (3rd March 2022) is the 25th year there's been a World Book Day.

Here are some World Book Day activities you might like to try:

- [MC Grammar World Book Day Song](#)
- [Rob Biddulph World Book Day 2020 Draw Along](#)
- [Merging Words and Pictures Workshop with Nadia Shireen](#)
- [Share a Story Corner](#)

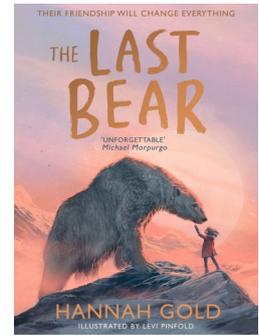




Book Review

The Last Bear

By Hannah Gold



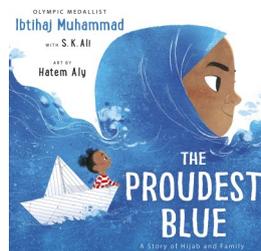
The Last Bear is a phenomenal book which is all about a girl's life that gets flipped upside down. She has to travel across the world with her dad to explore the unknown. On a below freezing island, she takes on adventures no other human could ever attempt. There is a surprise waiting for her on Bear Island. But will it be worth it?

We highly recommend this book because it is all about adventure and a friendship that will last forever.

Beatrix & Audrey (Banksy Class)

Miss Reeder's

Book Recommendation



It's Faizah's first day of school, and her older sister Asiya's first day of hijab – made of a beautiful blue fabric. But not everyone sees hijab as beautiful. In the face of hurtful, confusing words, will Faizah find new ways to be strong?