

St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Primary School

Celebrating Reading!



“Some books are so familiar that reading them is like being home again.” — Louisa May Alcott

“To learn to read is to light a fire; every syllable that is spelled out is a spark.” — Victor Hugo

KS2 Reading Tree Awards

Each class in KS2 has been competing with each other, to see who can gain the highest number of Bronze Awards by the end of this term. The winning class will be announced at Friday Worship after the Easter Holiday. As a consequence, an amazing number of awards have been given out each Friday during Worship this half term. The award numbers currently stand at: Bronze 187, Silver 41, Gold 39 & Platinum 11. We now have 10 children working towards their Diamond award.

Podcasts, Audio Books and Author Chats

James Campbell

We had the pleasure of welcoming author James Campbell to our school on Tuesday 5th March 2024. The children across the school had an amazing time meeting him and were inspired to write their own funny stories. He has put together a ‘People & Places Writing Workshop’ on YouTube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHHT_slr8gg. This workshop, for young and old alike, is for all who want to generate a great new idea for a story. Step-by-step, you are guided through helping you combine places you have been to with people you know in a hilarious way.

What If World Podcast

Suitable for all ages across our Primary School (KS1 & KS2), the ‘What if World’ storytelling podcast www.whatifworldpodcast.com is hosted by Mr Eric who, with the help of illustrators and authors, answers a new ‘What if’ question every episode such as ‘What if everyone wore the same colour?’ Available on Apple Podcasts and Spotify.

The Creeping Hour Podcast

Many of our Year Six Librarians are obsessed with horror stories! Suitable for KS2 aged children, The Creeping Hour is a horror anthology series hosted by The Creeps - three friends who have listened to so many scary stories that they turned into monsters themselves. Available on Apple Podcasts and Spotify. www.wgbh.org/podcasts/the-creeping-hour

Book reviews

After the Easter holiday, the children will see four further book reviews in the KS2 library:

My Family and Other Animals by Gerald Durrell

'With snakes in the bath and scorpions on the lunch table, our house, on the island of Corfu, is a bit like a circus'. Gerald Harper reads an abridged version of this classic, which is a childhood favourite of mine. www.youtube.com/watch?v=KOQaLkhkaRU Suitable for Upper School readers in KS2.

Stig of the Dump by Clive King

Year 3 readers have recently been fascinated by this classic, which was written in 1963. Tony Robinson (famously known for playing Baldrick in Black Adder) reads this audio book, chapter by chapter, on Michael Helme's YouTube Channel. www.youtube.com/watch?v=8fkaxMCIW5g. I was delighted too, to discover that the 1981 Thames Television adaptation is also available on YouTube www.youtube.com/watch?v=lzpHCBSQN-A.

The Curio Collectors - Eloise Williams

A recent addition to our 'Yellow Book' collection, in which the discovery of a long-lost carving sparks new friendships and unmasks a villainous plot in this captivating adventure. The audio book is available on Audible (listen free with a 30 day trial). www.audible.co.uk/pd/The-Curio-Collectors-Audiobook/BOCRBH9WLD

The Final Year by Matt Goodfellow and Todd Stanton

Told in verse, with illustrations, this book focuses on a young boy going into Year 6. Think friendships, SAT's, and family life! Poet Matt Goodfellow performs 'Mr Joshua' in this YouTube video [/www.youtube.com/watch?v=DxVIV-tkeYI&list=PLxHUrEY1rYvUtOutgTG2y8DnJvMFYo81e](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DxVIV-tkeYI&list=PLxHUrEY1rYvUtOutgTG2y8DnJvMFYo81e). Suitable for Upper School readers in KS2.

