

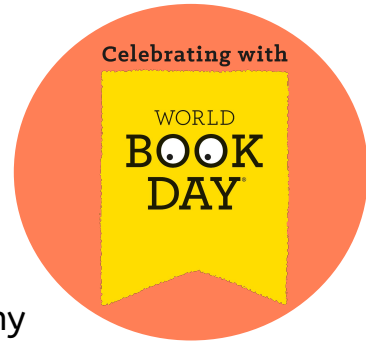
We Love World Book Day!



What could be better than a whole day dedicated to exploring and sharing our love of reading?

This year we celebrated World Book Day in a variety of ways that had pupils and staff alike whooping, laughing and reflecting on the different books that they have come across.

We started off the day by launching our book cover Treasure Hunt (as shown by Mrs Whittaker and Miss Murphy below). This instigated many brilliant conversations as to who had read what and recommending the stories to each other. Our wonderful Mrs Ogilvie had organised activities for the library and we ended the day with our ever popular book swap.



Celebrating with

WORLD
BOOK
DAY



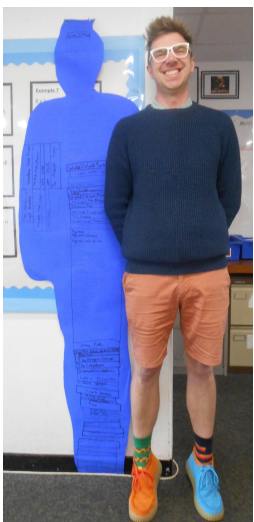
Read the Height of Mr Dyer

(Our most exciting reading challenge yet!)

This term, each class across the school was set the challenge to collectively read the height of Mr Dyer (no mean feat!).

Outlines of our prolific reading role model were delivered to every tutor group and pupils have been busy adding their completed books.

We have been blown away by Year 6's efforts who were the first year group to complete their outlines, and the other year groups quickly followed suit. It has been wonderful to see pupils eager to bring in their reading books from home to measure them up and contribute to their class' progress.



All the Good of Reading!



Book Swap

Fabulously set up and manned by four proactive Year 8 pupils, our book swap tables were a resounding success.

Thank you to all who donated books as the buzz around the tables was just the kind of reading energy that we love to see and we're looking forward to the next swap!



Read for Good Readathon

For the second year in a row, Lockyer's embarked on a Readathon to coincide with World Book Day. We are exceedingly grateful for the kind donations in sponsoring the pupils in their sponsored read. We raised over £500!



As a school we read 15, 230 minutes across the week with two classes making impressive contributions of 4,750 (6EC) and 2,545 (7AN). In celebration of the reading efforts of our pupils, the classes who recorded the most reading were awarded an extra break and the top two readers in each year group received a pin badge alongside their own choice of book from Scholastic.

If you would like to know more about the fantastic work of the Read for Good charity, follow this link: <https://readforgood.org/about-us/>

Reading in Initio Schools



In Initio Schools.....



All children are **aspirational readers**, whose **connections** to the texts they choose allow them to build their own **identities**. The love of reading **empowers** children to explore new worlds, develop empathy, and cultivate a lifelong passion for learning.

As part of the Initio Learning Trust, we have the wonderful benefit of being able to share ideas and resources with our partner schools. This means that we can consider and tailor the reading experiences of our pupils from the very first stages of their reading journeys right up to where they will choose their own paths and forge their own stories.



What to read next?



Year 8 Recommendation

Scythe by Neal Shusterman

I found the book SCYTHE incredibly enjoyable and the plot was ingenious in the way it had been structured; I would *highly* recommend it. Although it is a Year 8 only book it is definitely worth the wait. I am a fond reader of dystopian novels but I have not been drawn towards sci-fi books before this. Though now I have been encouraged to read more of this genre.

The protagonists –who I fell in love with almost immediately– Rowan Damisch and Citra Terranova have such contrasted experiences of family life but still share a strong bond. And the circumstances they are put in are breathtaking. I think that the concept of humans overcoming death and the view on corruption and politics in this book is what really makes it a “True successor to the hunger games” – as said on the front cover.

The cliff hangers are jaw dropping and the plot twists are heart wrenching. There were points where I couldn't leave the book alone and some where I couldn't pick it back up.

This quote was one of my favourites and I think it really gives an insight to what the themes are and what the book is like:

“Being made to suffer pain frees us to feel the joy of being human.”



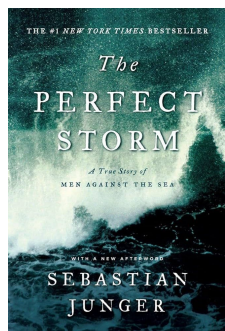
4.5 stars

– From the gleaning journal of H.S. Curie.

There are many of these quotes throughout the book and although it is quite philosophical they really give an idea of how moving, strong and powerful Neal Shusterman's writing is.

Staff Recommendation

by Mr Crocombe



The Perfect Storm by Sebastian Junger (For older readers)

I have always had a fascination with the sea, especially the power of the waves. This book was bought for me by my brother and it's always a joy to be given a book. The Perfect Storm is a true story which follows the final voyage of the Andrea Gail, a fishing trawler based on the north eastern coast of the USA. The 6 man crew of the Andrea Gail made their living in this dangerous environment, doing the job not for love but for the money. The Andrea Fail found itself in the centre of the perfect storm; a once in a hundred year convergence of several extreme weather events. It was never going to end well; the Andrea Gail and her crew were lost at sea, along with a first responder from a rescue helicopter which was forced to ditch in the sea. Although the reader knows from the start how events will unfold, the story is gripping from start to finish, dealing with the harsh realities of life at sea. The book was made into a film and it is easy to see why as the drama continually unfolds with the tension mounting chapter by chapter.



The Importance of Sharing a Story

As a middle school, we are aware of how imperative it is for our pupils that we continue to instil in them a love of reading and a confidence in finding out about themselves as readers through the stories that we share.

Our pupils are read to on a daily basis in our Teacher-Led Reading sessions to encourage their reading fluency and to demonstrate to them the wonderful experience it can be to explore a story together as a class.

When pupils move through the year groups, it is clear to see which books have appealed to them and which ones have opened up other genres, authors or styles that they may not have been aware of before.

We review our offering on a regular basis and love to hear suggestions of novels - it's also a great excuse to look at suggestions for the library too!

Recent updates to the library stock (many thanks to the wonderful Friends of Lockyer's!) have meant that we have been able to respond to pupil requests and have a greater availability of our most popular titles - all of which encourages sharing stories and recommendations between pupils.



Research from the National Literacy Trust on the impact of Reading for Pleasure:

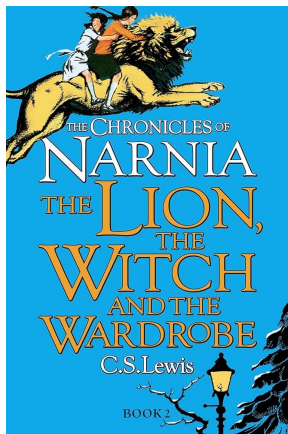
Our research demonstrated that children and young people who read in their free time at least once a month said it helps them:

-  to relax (56.6%)
-  feel happy (41.0%)
-  learn new things (50.9%)
-  understand the views of others (32.8%)
-  learn about other cultures (32.4%)
-  be confident (26.0%)

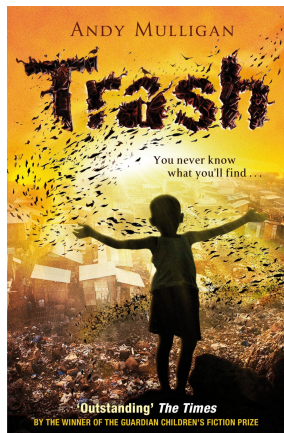
Want to hear more from the National Literacy Trust? Follow this link to see book lists, tips for reading together and more covering all age groups:

[Words For Life](#)

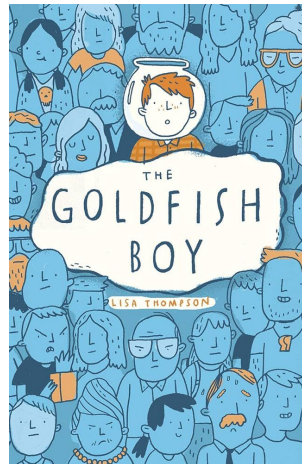
What our classes are currently reading



8SL are currently reading:



5IS are currently reading:



7AN are currently reading:

6KP are currently reading:

