Reading Newsletter

Summer 2026

Read to the Beat This Summer

The Summer Reading Challenge is back with a mix of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and graphic novels. The collection has been carefully curated to engage young minds with the magic of music with the input of reading specialists and an expert reading panel. The books will be available to borrow for free from public libraries. Find out more here.

Join a Library

Roving reporter Diego visited Chiswick Library.

It is really easy to apply. Tell the librarian you want to sign up for a library card. They will give you this application form which is really easy to fill in. Once you've done that, give it back to them and they add it to the computer system. You will get a library card, a book mark and a PIN code which allows you to access e-books and audio books at home (using the BorrowBox or Libby apps).Write your name on the library card and you're ready to go!

You Are What You Read - Win a prize in our competition!

Every book you read changes you a little bit. We would like to know about a memorable book and the effect it had on you. You can choose how you want to tell us:

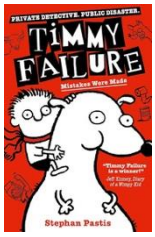
- Draw or paint a picture inspired by the book or how it made you feel
- Write a sequel, poem or comic strip inspired by it
- Write a review of the book and tell us why you chose it
- Anything else you can think of!

Hand entries in to your teacher at the start of next term.

What Reading Means to Year 6

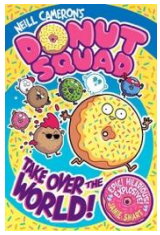
Reading makes me feel calm but I love the adventures, the plot twists and the backstabbing! **Adam**

I enjoy reading so much it is hard to put into words. Books are a great escape; when I read, I disappear into another world. **Emilia**

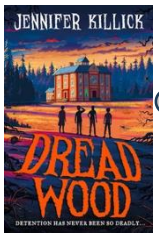


When I'm bored I like to read. My favourite of all time is the Timmy Failure series by Stephen Pastis as it makes me laugh. **Antoni**

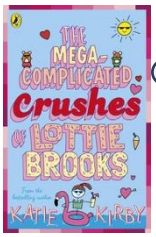
Reading boosts your imagination and gives you so many ideas. My favourite series is Dread Wood because the author forms pictures in your head. **Gantisha**



Reading helps me calm down when I worry. I would recommend Donut Squad because it is funny and inclusive. **Salem**



Reading is educative, exciting and a really good way to pass time. It broadens your imagination and it is very relaxing **Dylan**

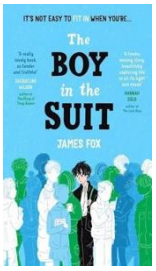


Reading makes me relax. My currently book is the third in the Lottie Brooks series. It is really funny and has lots of friendship dramas. **Maddie**

Reading means a lot to me, especially if I've had a hard day. I can picture every movement of the character and see their different points of view. I'm currently reading Renegades by Erin Hunter; they really put emotion into their stories. **Haru**

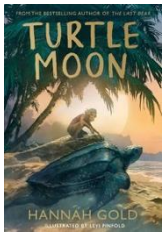
Reading makes my creativity come to life. **Atousa**

My favourite book is Turtle Moon. It really feels like you are in the story; you can hear the characters' voices and see what they describe. It's just amazing. **Isla**



Reading lets my imagination run free so I can escape from reality. **Gaia**

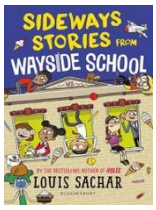
I really enjoyed The Boy in the Suit by James Fox; it is raw and emotional and has lots of plot twists. **Kolka**



Reading takes me away to another fascinating world where I can see others' perspectives. **Reema**

When I read I make pictures in my mind; it almost feels like a movie is playing in my head. My favourite book is Slaves of the Mastery. I love the plot and the way William Nicholson writes. **Juan**

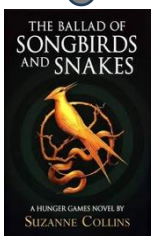
If you like funny books, the Sideways Stories from Wayside School are absolutely going to be your new favourites. **Hamza**



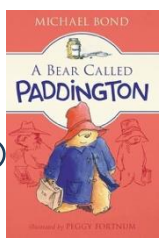
When I find a good book I really look forward to reading. I'm currently reading The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes which is part of the brilliant Hunger Games series. **Diego**

Each book gives a different adventure to travel through and you meet different characters along the way. I like a book that sucks you in so I could read it for hours. My favourite at the moment is Paddington. **Jenson**

Reading can transport you to another dimension. **Elizabeth**



I enjoy reading because you can let your imagination run wild. **Heidi**



Spark! School Book Awards

This year we had three different panels of judges. As well as reading the four shortlisted books, there were virtual meetings with the authors. Not only did we discover what inspired them to write but we also had the chance to ask vital questions. We now know their favourite dinosaur, what superpower they would choose, and whether they have ever been friends with a tree!

Non-Fiction
Year 5: Isabela, Khadija, Rafi, Šimun, Angela, Elizabeth, Kabir, Yug
Year 6: Alan, Muaad, Oudai, William
Our choice: Pets Tell Tales
Winner: Choose Your Own Evolution

7+ Fiction
Year 3: Cyrus, Jack, Maria, Gwenny, Zara
Year 4: Alexandra, Kaisla, Mila, Nia, Marid, Methan, Tori
Our choice: Marty Moose
Winner: Wild Magic

9+ Fiction
Year 5: India, Keira, Mia, Vivian
Year 6: Anah, Antoni, Elaine, Kason, Kolka, Lucas, Tori, Vladi, Ellie, Isla, Kiran
Our choice/winner: Shrapnel Boys

I really enjoyed meeting all the authors. They wrote really funny books and it was interesting to listen to them. **Zara 3G**

Kids who are interested in entomology and flowers will love The Great Pollination Investigation, kids who like history will love The History of We and kids who like science will love Choose Your Own Evolution. My favourite book was Pets Tell Tales because of the drawings and jokes. **Yug 5R**

I liked rating the books once we had read them all - it was fun. **Cyrus 3B**

The awards are only voted for by children which is nice because kids don't normally get to be judges. You don't have to enjoy every book and you can give your honest opinion. That's the whole point! **Vivian 5XM**

We experienced different types of books. Some of them I wouldn't have chosen to read but they were very good and other people will like them. **Kabir 5R**

It was interesting to hear the author explain how a book is planned out, especially as I am writing my own! **Mia 5XM**

Farewell and Welcome to Our Reading Ambassadors

After a fantastic year, our current Year 6 reading ambassadors are moving on to pastures new. From reading with Year 3 and presenting assemblies to running scavenger hunts, they have been enthusiastic, committed and innovative.

Looking forward to next year, nearly half of Year 5 applied to join the team. With so many applications it was a long and difficult process to choose, so thank you to everyone for their patience. Congratulations to our new reading ambassador team: Charlie B, Eesa, Liana, Rafi, Rose, Šimun, Angela, Asia, Cary, Emrisa, Tallulah, Almina, Keira, Malayka, Sophia and Vivian. Isabela, Khadija and Maryam will be gaining some librarian skills in their new role as Year 6 book monitors and there will be lots of other book related activities for everyone else.

A Final Message from the Reading Ambassadors

Being a reading ambassador is a great opportunity. It comes with many, many perks but there is also a lot of hard work; creating the assembly took a whole week of lunch times and writing this very newsletter takes up a lot of time too. But the work is worth it to see how the difference it makes to people. Here are a few quotes from this year's reading ambassadors.

"I love being a reading ambassador because I can promote reading to others and broaden their imagination. It makes me feel very proud that I've been given this opportunity." **Gaia 6R**

"I love being a reading ambassador because it means I get to experience what reading is like in different year groups. But the thing that I love the most is that I get to inspire young people to do the thing I love; I get to spark the passion for reading in other people." **Emilia 6DS**

"I love being a reading ambassador because I enjoy tidying the library. Another thing that I especially enjoyed was World Book Day - it was great fun. My favourite bit is inspiring people to read (and one extra perk is that sometimes you get to miss lessons!)" **Abena 6R**

Have a great summer and keep reading. We don't just mean books but comics, articles and games too – there is something for everyone! Good luck to all the Year 6 students at secondary school and we look forward to seeing everyone else again in September.

If you are looking for more inspiration, LoveReading4Kids and Books for Topics have recommendations for books to read this summer or check out the Authorfy Bookdrop newsletters.