



WE ARE READING



Issue 7 – Spring (2) Newsletter 2019

Welcome!

Hello and welcome to what should be the final official We Are Reading Newsletter.

We could never have anticipated the range and quality of activities and events that you have put on over the year. It just goes to show how many inspiring and dedicated teachers we have within Lancashire.

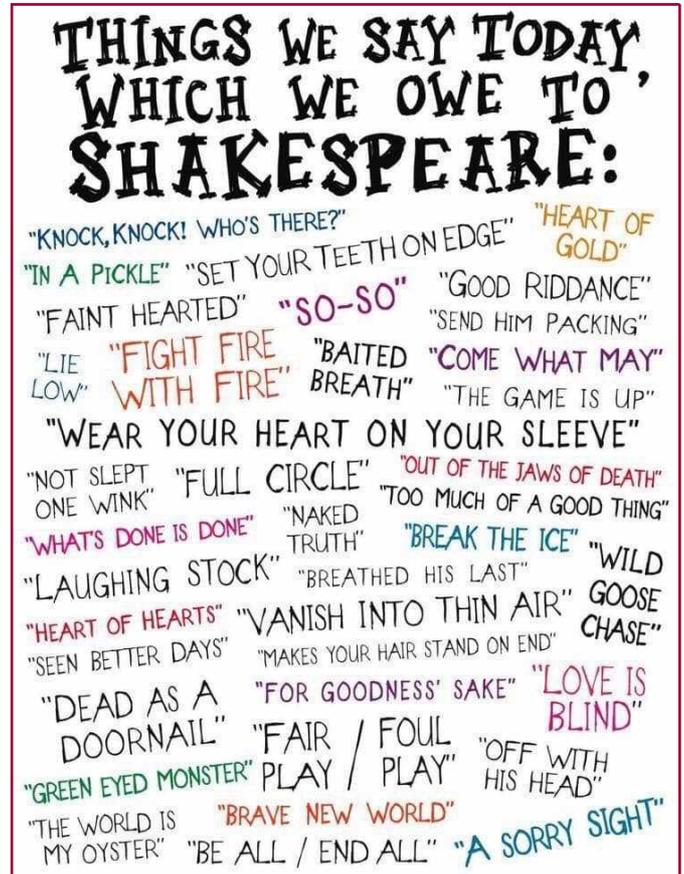
In order to finish the year on a high, we have decided on two ways to celebrate in the summer term.

Firstly, we will be having an additional 'Summer Special' newsletter. In this we would love you to share the best thing you have done over the year and also how you are hoping to carry on the legacy of We Are Reading in the future. Contributions will be limited to 200 words and one photograph. We know this can be tricky but we are sure you will rise to the challenge.

Secondly we are having a final Celebration event on Monday 1st July at Samlesbury Hotel from 1-4 for Primary colleagues. All districts will be invited to present on the activities that have been taking place in their areas. We are also delighted to welcome two keynote speakers: Renowned children's authors Dan Worsley and Steve Webb.

The Library service and the English consultants team will also be at the event and it should be a full and fun packed day. The event will be free but places are strictly limited. Please look out for further information which will be on the portal shortly.

Finally thank you once again for your contributions to this newsletter and please enjoy reading all that has been going on in our schools and settings.



Contact & Social Media

E-mail: WeAreReading@lancashire.gov.uk Mind Map: mm.tt/1041391553?t=ZtymprHwIH

Facebook: [@LancashireWeAreReading](https://www.facebook.com/LancashireWeAreReading) Twitter: [#LancashireWeAreReading](https://twitter.com/LancashireWeAreReading)

Events Calendar

March 2019

30th Mar – "What's your story, Chorley?"

April 2019

2nd Apr – International Childrens Book Day

23rd Apr – World Book Night

29th Apr to 5th May 2019 - Children's Book Week (100th Anniversary)

May 2019

All throughout May – National Share a Story Month

13th May - British Book Industry Awards

25th May – Elmer's 30th Birthday

June 2019

National Bookstart Week

11th June – Empathy Day

15th – 22nd June – Independent Bookshop Week

27th – 29th June – Lancashire Science Festival including STEAM Book prize

July 2019

1st July - Primary Summer Showcase

July – August 2019

Summer Reading Challenge

August 2019

9th Aug – National Book Lovers' Day

September 2019

6th Sept – National Read a Book Day

13th Sept – Roald Dahl Day

Co-ordinating Schools List

District Co-ordinating Primary School

1	Bow erham Community Primary
2	Charles Saer Community Primary
4	Heyhouses Endowed CE Primary
6	Alston Lane Catholic Primary
7	St Catherine's Catholic, Leyland
8	Ormskirk Asmall
9	Lancaster Lane Community
11	Balderstone St Leonard's
12	Rosewood Primary
13	Coates Lane Primary
14	St James-the-Less Catholic Primary

District Co-ordinating Secondary School

1	Central Lancaster High School
2	Millfield Science & Performing Arts
4	Lytham St Anne's College
6	St Cecilia's RC College
7	Penwortham Girls' High School
8	Our Lady Queen of Peace
9	Parklands High School
11	St Augustine's RC High School
12	Sir John Thursby Community
13	Pendle Vale College
14	Fearn Community Sports College

More details on the back page...

Submit an Article

Thank you for all the articles you have been sending to us. Please continue to share your good practice by e-mailing WeAreReading@lancashire.gov.uk. If you wish to supply an image, please make sure you have proper permissions*. If you provide a Twitter account name for your school, it will appear with your article. Please note: articles should be limited to 200 words and can include only one image.

Issue	Term	Theme	Deadline
8	Summer	Bumper Edition	21 June 2019

**by submitting an article with an image, you confirm that you have the rights and permissions to use the image you included and that you give permission for Lancashire County Council to use this image for the purpose of publishing this new letter.*

World Book Day

World Book Day 2019 - Thursday 7th March

World Book day is a wonderful celebration of authors, illustrators, books and (most importantly) reading. It is the biggest celebration of its kind, designated by [UNESCO](https://www.unesco.org/en/unesco) as a worldwide celebration of books and reading, and marked in over 100 countries all over the world. We were delighted to see our schools celebrating world book day in so many interesting and creative ways.



There were lots of different approaches to encouraging children to read for pleasure, including: asking pupils (and staff) to dress up as familiar book characters; inviting authors in to talk to children; book cafes; book swaps; extreme reading and much much more. Enjoy reading in more detail about some of these events and activities within this newsletter.



Teaching & Learning Section

Synthesis Grid

Steph Johnson, T&L Consultant for Education, Quality and Performance

The advances in digital technology bring many benefits. However, one of the issues I am encountering in schools is that an increasing number of children are finding it a challenge to 'filter' fact and fiction. They assume that, because they have seen it on a TV/webpage/game, it must be true! In addition to this, too many children see 'research' as copying and pasting chunks of information from a webpage.

That said, I found this 'synthesis grid' on the internet and immediately saw its potential for supporting children in refining their research skills and creating 'filters' for their learning.

A synthesis grid/table can be used to:

- Collate information from a range of sources
- Compare and contrast information
- Identify relationships/key ideas/themes etc.

It is one of the more complex reading strategies and will need repeated modelling until children can undertake it independently. Pre-requisite skills include:

- Initial comprehension of the text/source
- The ability to summarise/paraphrase/take notes
- Separation of fact from opinion
- Drawing inferences based on the facts presented

It is another form of a graphic organiser and there are many examples. I've attached a couple to the next page:

Synthesis Journal: McAlexander and Burrell 1996

Shark Species e.g. Whale Shark	Source 1 E.g. reference book	Source 2 E.g. Website 1	Source 3 E.g. DVD documentary	My Synthesis
Habitat				
Body				
Food				
Interesting Facts				

	Little Red Riding Hood Version 1	Little Red Riding Hood Version 2	Little Red Riding Hood Version 3	My Synthesis
Characters				
Setting				
What is taken to Grandma's				
Reason for leaving the path				

Opening Doors with Bob Cox

Nicola Martin, Senior Primary English and Literacy Consultant

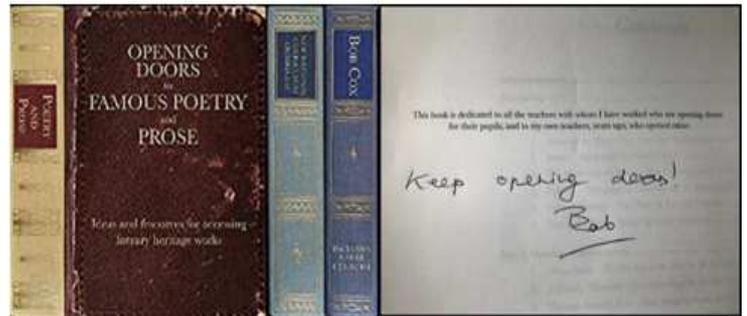
This term has seen the English team working alongside the brilliant Bob Cox. Bob Cox is an educational consultant committed to supporting deeper learning in schools. He focuses on strategies and ideas for 'wings to fly, not drills to kill' which are being appreciated by many schools via his presentations and his 'opening doors' series of books. The books are designed to help teachers



use quality texts to stimulate quality writing! The resources in his books and his creative advice reflect Bob's career long belief: teachers need the space to develop their own methodology but the knowledge and the confidence to do so.

Bob visited Lancashire in February to train the Primary English and Literacy team to become 'Opening Doors' Consultants, and then again in March to be a guest speaker at our 'We Are Reading; Aiming High' conference, both of which proved to be a huge success. His key messages about 'aiming high' and 'opening doors' for all children, are fostered via his 'javelin' questioning style, alongside the use of quality picture books, classic texts, and classic poetry. Bob promotes the idea that using a

'slither' of text before reading a whole text, encourages thoughts and inference around the narrative from the specifically selected snippet - something which participants found exciting and thought provoking.



If you are interested in Opening Doors CPD for your school, or a cluster of schools, please contact:

Nicola.martin@lancashire.gov.uk

Opening Doors series of books:
www.searchingforexcellence.co.uk

Secondary Update

Katy McWean, Secondary Teaching & Learning Consultant

Lunchtime school reading groups are a great way of creating a buzz about reading and introducing students to quality books that they might not have chosen themselves. Older students often enjoy leading or running reading groups for younger students; teachers who are avid readers themselves often like to be involved with reading groups aimed at older students; and Year 7 and 8 reading groups enjoy the many creative activities that can arise out of book discussions which can be displayed in the school library. This display also then serves as a way of introducing a wider

school audience to these new and exciting reads. However your school likes to set up their reading groups, meeting weekly to discuss favourite moments and favourite characters in chosen books (with the odd pack of biscuits and the odd book review thrown in!) can really engage previously reluctant readers, particularly if they receive a personalised invitation to join!

But what to read? Well, many school reading groups enjoy shadowing our very own Lancashire library services' "Lancashire Book of the Year" aimed at aged 12 to 14 readers, ultimately voting for their own favourite. The shortlist was announced on March 5th and all eleven nominees can now be borrowed through county libraries, or accessed through the free eBook library found through the library services' webpage:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries-and-archives/libraries/lancshires-book-of-the-year/>

Also, national awards such as the CILIP Carnegie Medal offer the opportunity for readers to engage with some interesting and new texts specifically aimed at teenagers. Reading group reviews of nominated books can be submitted and competitions can also be entered by reading groups who have registered on the CILIP Carnegie Medal webpage:

<https://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/>

The winner of the Lancashire 2019 book of the year will be announced on Friday 5th July 2019 at The University of Central Lancashire.

The 2019 CILIP Carnegie winners will be announced on Tuesday 18th June 2019.

Happy reading! Which book will be your school's winner?

Co-ordinating Schools

Lancaster and Morecambe Reading Festival

District 1 Primary Schools

We saw an overwhelming response to the invitation to the very first Lancaster and Morecambe Primary Schools We Are Reading Festival. Children and parents were queuing at Lancaster and Morecambe College waiting to come in and join the fun.

The festival was opened by children's choirs from a number of schools in the area who sang a beautiful rendition of 'Open The Cover'. This was followed by a few words from attending authors Frank English, Jamie Charles and Tim Milner and illustrator Tania Sneesby.



Upon entering the festival, families were greeted by teachers in fancy dress who directed them to the various free activities on offer throughout the day, while other staff members served refreshments, ran stalls and answered questions about what was on offer.

Throughout the day, children and parents had the opportunity to meet the



authors, illustrator and attend workshops to hear readings, find out how the authors became published and take part in exciting activities. The authors also had their books on sale and signed copies of any books bought on the day.

Also in attendance were staff from Lancashire Library Service who were overwhelmed by the response to the reading festival, and delighted by the number of children who took out library memberships on the day.

Staff running the various stalls throughout the day were kept busy by the constant stream of customers. Slime making (with children having to read instructions to make the slime) proved most popular, and messy, with the crowd around the table three deep at times! Also on offer was bookmark making – with over 250 bookmarks being made throughout the day, storystones, create a character, puppet making and the incredibly popular face painting. In addition to this we had a constant stream of eager children at the book swap table.

After a short break the afternoon session was opened by deputy mayor Counsellor Claire Cozler. Not only did Clare give a fantastic speech declaring her love

for reading but also rolled up her sleeves, donned an apron and helped out at the hugely popular face painting stall.

Everyone was overwhelmed by the response to the festival and the sheer volume of families who had attended. All agreed that this was a truly amazing community event which must be repeated on an annual basis. Author Tim Milner has already requested to take part in the next event, as has Frank English who declared it to be, "the best reading event I have ever attended!" and that, "We must make sure you have the funding for next year and thereafter to continue the good work."

Our next cluster meeting has already been set for later in the month to discuss our plan for the next event. One thing's for certain – we will need a much bigger venue!

Thanks to all those involved in the planning and running of the day. A real team effort. Well done everyone!

Murder Mystery at Millfield

District 2 Secondary Schools

Throughout this year, Millfield has worked in collaboration with Baines and Cardinal Allen to engender a renewed enthusiasm for reading, with particular emphasis on High Ability boys. On Tuesday March 12th, students from the three schools joined together to take part in a day of activities celebrating reading.

In the morning, students worked in mixed school groups to solve a life sized murder mystery and to film and create

a 'movie style' trailer for a Curtis Jobling book, following a joint school visit by the author earlier this year.



The afternoon session was given over to the creation of book themed accessories for each school to take away to create a reading garden within their own school grounds. Students painted and customized benches, flower pots, bird houses and feeders. They also painted cut out silhouettes with blackboard paint then decorated them with some of their favourite quotes.

The teams who demonstrated the best detective skills in the Murder Mystery activity were presented with Book Tokens and all students received a 'goody bag' containing a World Book Day book as well as reading themed stationery and sweets. A highly enjoyable and productive day was had by all.

Celebration Event with Harry Potter

District 13 Primary schools

We held a 'Celebration Event' to mark the year of We Are Reading in District 13.

We invited all the schools to come along and share their celebrations, bring photos and work they have done and have some fun!



We were joined by 'Paint Pot' and after reading the story *Monkey Puzzle*, children painted pottery monkeys. We were also joined by Harry Potter himself where children learned to cast spells, ride a broomstick and lots more.



It was a lovely celebration of reading and we have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know each other and inspire reading across our schools.

The schools that took part were Lord Street, Salterforth, Primet Primary, Colne Park Primary and Trawden Primary.

Celebrating Achievements

District 12 Primary Schools



We have been celebrating reading achievements this term throughout District 12. We held a 'catch up with your scrapbook' afternoon tea session where all staff were invited to a lovely afternoon filled with cakes, coffee and talk of reading. Staff were given the opportunity to discuss what had worked well in their schools and share photographs, artwork, extracts and events through their work within their scrapbook. There were many success stories and staff took away post-it notes with new initiatives and ideas to try out within their school.



the month of March by reading as many books by the author Bali Rai as they can. At Pendle Vale College, we are using form time in Y7-Y9 to read a Bali Rai book together and then students are also being encouraged to read his books independently too. The other secondary schools are running similar competitions. The aim is for the students to read as many Bali Rai words/books as they can.

Each school will then select 40 students, who have done the most reading, to attend a celebration event where Bali Rai will launch his new book and do a Q/A session and we will also be joined by Burnley Football Club who are going to run a writing activity/competition and bring along a couple of players. There will be further prizes to win at this event too.

Bali Rai is then working with Pendle Vale for a second day to deliver a series of workshops in different subject areas and to different cohorts of students.

Hopefully, this event will be a great celebration of the work we have done together in Pendle this year to increase reading for pleasure.

Asmall Legacy

District 8 Primary

Here at Asmall, we've done lots of different activities to raise the profile of reading.

One of the first things we did was a 'book recommendation' in our Friday celebration assembly. Different members of staff shared their favourite books

with the school and read them out/read an extract. Pretty quickly, the children were asking to do the same. So every Friday a child from any class is invited to read their favourite story/extract and explain why they love it! We currently have a long waiting list of children wanting to share.



As well as this, the School Council ran an 'extreme reading' competition - all children were challenged to take a picture reading in a weird and wonderful place! We had many fantastic entries



and our winner was pictured underwater reading. The School Council used money they had raised to give the winner a £10 book voucher. They also gave out two £5 book vouchers to two more entries.

Around school, we've put up lots of lovely reading displays and we've made lots of cosy, welcoming 'reading areas' for everyone to use. We also display our 'reader of the week' certificates proudly around school.

Our librarians from Year 5 have started a successful reading club at lunch time. They are also organising our World Book Day activities on the theme 'bedtime stories'.

We have some more activities lined up for summer term which we are excited to do! One which we are starting next week is 'story swap'. We are swapping teachers and having some story time with the new teacher. We've also got a 'book armistice' day planned so that that people can bring in their loved but not wanted books in for our classes to share.

A successful 'We are Reading' year!

School Projects

Primary Schools

Reading Therapy Dogs

Mossy Lea

Pupils at Mossy Lea Primary School very much enjoy sharing their books with Elwood the Cockerpoo. Elwood is a 'Read 2 Dogs' specialist and is a regular visitor to the school. For many children, reading to Elwood is the highlight of their week.



Research shows that young people can become nervous and stressed when reading to others in a group. However, when a PAT (Pets as Therapy) dog enters the group, they often become less stressed, less self-conscious and more confident as the dogs are non-judgmental.

Before long, the young people are starting to look forward to the reading experience as they are going to read to their new friend, the PAT Dog. PAT Dogs provide comfort, encourage positive social

behaviours, enhance self-esteem, motivate speech and inspire young people to have fun.

A Book Journey

Coppull St John's

Children at Coppull St. John's enjoyed taking part in the book bench project with local Chorley schools. Our choice of book was *Journey* by Aaron Becker. It was unusual in that it is a book without words, but tells an amazing story all the same. We had a really fun week looking at the book and exploring the themes across the curriculum. For example, some of our children designed hot air balloons in DT and some wrote their own short stories, inspired by the events in the book.



As well as some of the fabulous work completed in class, we also worked as a school to design our book bench. With the help of some very talented designers, our masterpiece was created, with most pupils getting the opportunity to contribute to the painting of the bench during the week.

There was a real buzz around the school during the week and the children dis-

played a real enthusiasm and joy in engaging with the book as a whole school. Our brilliant book bench will be displayed shortly in Chorley Town Centre for members of the public to spend time enjoying and relaxing on.

Eco-Classroom

St Mary's Clayton-le-Moors

At St. Mary's, we have been busy building an outdoor, environmentally friendly eco-classroom made from eco-bricks which the whole community has been involved in collecting for the last 9 months. As part of this exciting project, we have had a summer-house built which we are turning into an outdoor library/reading area. The classroom will be officially opened by Bishop John Arnold on Thursday 2nd May, and it can then be used by our children who are eager for further opportunities to take their learning outdoors.



Reading Stories Together

Burscough Bridge Methodist

In Class 1, we love reading stories together and have special story time at

the end of each school day, where the children are extremely keen to be chosen to pick one of their favourite books; we love reading! During the past few weeks, we have been looking at books by Julia Donaldson and have really enjoyed the different activities about her fabulous books. One of the activities was a drama lesson recreating the story of 'Room on the Broom'. We definitely have some budding actors and in particular, one little boy who played a very fierce dragon!

'The Gruffalo' is one of our particular favourites, and the children created some wonderful posters using some fantastic



language in their writing. The Reception children had fun making the owl from the story using bread, fruit and chocolate spread. As you can imagine, they enjoyed eating it too! It was lovely when the Year 6 children came down to our classroom to read some of stories to us and what great expressive readers they are, really bringing the books to life! To complete our work about this very talented author, the whole class created a wall display showing our love for reading!

Book Week at Rivington

Rivington Foundation

We planned a Book Week across the week of World Book Day, which entailed workshops from children's poet, Wes Magee; workshops from storyteller, Alec Williams; workshops from Fizzytree Theatre Company; and a "Swaperama" day where children rotated around the classes doing different activities inspired by children's literature - planned by our talented teachers!

We crowd funded the event to cover the costs of the external companies coming into school. We used the activities to inspire lots of creative writing opportunities in the days/weeks following with writing being our main curriculum priority at the moment.

Shakespeare at Lea

Lea Community Primary

At Lea Community Primary School, we have been immersing ourselves in Shakespeare! Our Year 6 children have been studying 'Romeo and Juliet' as part of the Talk 6 writing project. To support their learning, and to inspire others to give Shakespeare's work a try, we



have created a reading area straight out of Verona!

The children have been able to read on the balcony with Juliet or in the 'Shakespeare Shack' during their lunchtimes with the support of our school reading buddies.

World Book Day Superheroes

Mossgate Primary

At Mossgate, we used World Book day to launch our new reading superheroes - each superhero is linked to a reading domain and has a super power that helps with that skill. Children came to school dressed as superheroes and we had a superhero photo booth that ran through the day. Each class planned a day where they introduced two of our superheroes to the children - Rocket Retriever and Dark Decoder.

In the afternoon, we invited parents in to work with children in classes so that they could see what our reading lessons were like and also be introduced to the superheroes. We finished the day with a performance from each class of a song that they wrote about a famous person e.g. Philippe Petit to tell the story of their life. The children and parents really enjoyed the day and it was a great way to start using our reading superheroes.

Favourites at Barnoldswick

St Joseph's Catholic, Barnoldswick

A fun day was had by all at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in Barnoldswick when they celebrated World Book Day 2019.

The day began with a celebration assembly, which was a real family affair, as it included pupils, staff, parents, grandparents and younger brothers and sisters.

The theme was creating fun memories. Staff shared their childhood memories of their favourite books; there was a whole school story time and each class showed off their creative costume ideas. The assembly finished with an upbeat message and whole school boogie to "Gotta Keep Reading!" to the tune of The Black Eyed Peas tune "I Gotta a Feeling!"



Throughout the day activities included Book Bingo, Treasure Hunts and recommended read sessions.

Book Week at Moss Side

Moss Side Primary

At the start of the week, children performed poems that they had been learning and we were impressed how they managed to learn so many words by heart. Year 5 and KS1 enjoyed visits to the library and also the SLS team came into share poetry. We were also

lucky to have a fantastic author visit by the excellent author Ian Billings. The children enjoyed his workshops and assemblies. Barrie McDermid, who has visited before, came to perform his Grammar show. The children participated in his quiz style performance practising their Literacy skills.

The week also saw the children have an opportunity to purchase exciting new books from the Scholastic Book Fair, and we also managed to raise money to purchase new books in the classes through their reward scheme.

The children in KS1 were greeted by a mystery egg on their playground at the beginning of the week, and had a great time sharing their ideas of who it belonged to, how it came to be there and what would come out of it! They produced some lovely writing on this theme.

All staff and pupils finished the week by dressing up as a book or comic character. Everyone looked fantastic and a fabulous time was had by all. We look forward to our next one!

The World of Books

Thorneyholme RC

At Thorneyholme RC Primary School, Dunsop Bridge, the children and staff had fabulous fun celebrating the world of books! The school was full of book characters: bright and colourful costumes with props to match. During the morning, in mixed age groups, children participated in cross-curricular activities which included: a fun mathematical

game linked to the book 'Stuck in the Mud'; skeleton and cat in the hat crafts and potions creative writing.



In the afternoon, the infants had activities linked to food chains, based on a book called the Pond Circle, whilst the juniors designed their own diary book front covers and blurb in the style of 'Diary of a Wimpy Kid' and 'Tom Gates'. To top the day off, two of our children received gifts and letters personally written by Liz Pichon author of 'Tom Gates'.

Space Station

Crawshawbooth Primary

Mrs Rigby set up the reading corner as a space-station linked to the theme of



Space. Year 6 children enjoyed using the book corner for a variety of reading challenges and FS children were invited to join their buddies in the reading corner too! Tim Peake was very impressed by Mrs Rigby's artistic talents and commented about her book corner on Facebook. We thought this was definitely worth sharing with other Lancashire schools.

Celebrating World Book Day

Barden Primary

In celebration of World Book Day 2019, we decided to come to school wearing clothes which had words upon them. Each class made a list of all the words which entered their classroom on the day and entered them into our Word monster to help us create some silly sentences/stories. We also set up a Reading Cafe in our school library and invited family members to come along and take part in reading related activities at our 10 tables whilst enjoying refreshments with their children. We also held a "Get Caught Reading" competition asking children and staff to send in photographs of themselves reading in unusual places during the holidays. We had children reading in museums, on stepping stones whilst crossing a river, reading whilst swinging and hoovering, and many more.

As school librarian, I set myself a challenge to see how many picture books I could share with our children during the week of World Book Day. I managed to share 31 and the one which was enjoyed the most was Tom Fletcher's-'The Dinosaur that Pooped a Planet'. We also

videoed children and staff reading stories to others, and held one of our D.E.A.R sessions.

Mystery Day at Banks

Banks St. Stephen's

We held a day based around a mystery of our missing librarian. We had to visit a crime scene in our school library and try and work out who was responsible. We got a ransom letter from The Big Bad Wolf who said if we improve reading in our school then we can get Mrs Harland-Say back.



Each class was given a task such as designing and implementing a book swap, book clubs and making book marks for our library. Luckily, we completed our challenge, and Mrs Harland-Say was saved! We had such a wonderful day which was finished with an evening bedtime stories session where children

came back to school in their pyjamas with their parents and we all read bedtime stories together.

Becoming Authors at Hapton

Hapton CE Methodist

The children in Class 2 at Hapton Primary School have been reading 'Little Red Riding Hood' closely and then have become authors themselves and written their own versions of the story. After they took their time writing their stories, they then went to read them aloud to Class 1 children. The Class 1 children listened intently to the stories and enjoyed them being read aloud by Class 2. They took it in turns to read the stories to the different children in the class and then they let them give them feedback about the stories.



Class 2 children were so proud listening to the feedback from Class 1, and Class 1 enjoyed the different characters that they had created. The stories included new characters such as 'Little Red Robinson' and 'Big, Bad Bradley.' When Class 1 have completed a new piece of writing, they have told the children in

Class 2 that they want them to read their work too!

Mere Brow in Pyjamas

Mere Brow CE Primary

At Mere Brow CE Primary School, the children were given the chance to come to school as either their favourite book character, or wearing their pyjamas. They brought with them their books - and all classes had storytime sessions accompanied by hot chocolate and marshmallow drinks. Yum! Even the teachers got involved and came in onesies or fancy dress. A fabulous time was had by all - and a lot of stories were shared with each other.



Celebrations at Acorns

Acorns Primary

Here at Acorns Primary, we have had lots to celebrate. The whole school embraced World Book Day where it was lovely to see pupils and staff dressed up as a character from their favourite stories. Throughout the day it was amazing to share pupils', staff and Governors' favourite stories too.

We have recently celebrated being successful in securing a grant from Morrisons. This money will help towards updating our library books and to increase our sensory storysacks, as these are extremely beneficial for our pupils.

We are also very proud of our promotion of We Are Reading and last term we added a new award that is dedicated to reading. During the Autumn term, this was awarded to a pupil who is developing their positive attitude towards reading.

We also have plans for a whole school 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' day to celebrate 30 years of the story. The staff at Acorns Primary are extremely happy to see our pupils' love of reading and sharing stories grow.



Reading for Pleasure

St John's Primary, Burscough

In September, 2018, we started a new Reading for Pleasure project in Year Six. The children chose the name 'Read - Review - Swap' for the project, which perfectly describes the process. We had invested money in purchasing thirty-five quality fiction books which had been published for this age group during the previous twelve months. Each child (and the teacher and T.A.) chose one book from the selection and was given a book review bookmark to complete once they had finished the book. These bookmarks are kept inside the books for future readers to consult. These books are kept in Year Six's classroom which means that the children are able to swap their books whenever and as often as they like.

The project has been a big success: pupils have read far more books than they would have done otherwise (we have kept a record of the books they have borrowed and which of these they have finished); they are reading quality age-appropriate fiction; they are talking to each other about the books they have enjoyed, generating excitement around reading and creating a demand for more books by the same author/similar books. (We have added sequels to some of the books and newly published books of the kind they have most enjoyed, including sequels to some of the novels they have read in Guided Reading.)

Book Breakfast Celebrations

Rosewood Primary

We had a wonderful World Book Day at Rosewood. We started the day with our 'Book Breakfast' event which had over 200 children and parents coming into school at 8am to watch our storytellers in action whilst enjoying a cup of tea and a pastry. The school day was action packed too.



Each class enjoyed spectacular performances from our storytellers in school; EYFS and Key Stage 1 watched a performance of the Gruffalo and met all of the characters -including the Gruffalo himself. Key Stage 2 enjoyed a spell-binding performance of JK Rowlings' 'The Tale of Beedle the Bard'. A number of our children and staff were sorted into Hogwarts' houses using a magical sorting hat. In class the children took part in book related activities throughout the

day; there was a real buzz about reading and the library with older children who had been paired with a younger reading buddy to share their favourite stories. We also watched the videos uploaded across District 12 as part of the We Are Reading campaign – a magical, book-filled day!

World Book Day

St John's CE Primary, Burscough

We had a fantastic response this year. Almost all the pupils came dressed as a favourite book character. Some of the home-made costumes were amazingly creative. Our head teacher came dressed as Cruella De Ville (the book version, not Disney) and all the infant staff dressed as the Dalmatians!



International Book Giving Day

Crawford Village, Up Holland

What a fantastic time we had at Crawford Primary School celebrating International Book Giving Day! The children carefully selected a book from home to give to someone else so they could get pleasure from reading it too. Adding extra excitement to our celebrations, we

also discussed the well-known phrase, 'never judge a book by its cover.' With this in mind, the donations arrived wrapped in brown paper with a few words or pictures added to aid the selection process. Everyone was thrilled with their new books and the whole event was a huge success.



The Fantastic Book Awards decision-making process has also well and truly begun. The votes have been cast and the Year 6 children involved are eagerly awaiting the arrival of this year's golden envelope containing their group's overall winner.

We Are Reading at Martyr's

English Martyrs' Primary

There was great excitement earlier this term at English Martyrs' when we took delivery of our new 'I've been reading at EM' wristbands for our '100 Books Before I Leave' initiative. For each stage children reach, a new wristband is collected: white, red, yellow and the Holy Grail being the gold band for 100 books read! So far we have 6 children on a red (50) band and 20 children on a white

(25) band. Hopefully, some Year 6s will reach the 100 books by July!

We have also renewed our Library display, linking it to a whole school theme of God's World of Books, looking at God's World, being more Eco-Friendly and Stewards of the Earth, animals and nature and feeding it through the corridors with each class taking a different Gospel Book. The overall look is fantastic and the added bonus of a sofa being donated to the library has added to the ambience.



Following the successes of reading fairy tales at lunchtime for National Fairy Tale day in February and reading stories to children in Book Week, we now have regular lunchtime sessions reading to the children, all ages, as a drop in. They are becoming more and more popular (even our ducks came to hear a story!).

We have continued with our use of digital technologies to enhance reading provision with online books being used to engage children in reading, and also using Zoom for children to read to other classes. This has greatly broken down barriers, with children developing more confidence to read and younger children becoming engaged and hooked.

Reading really has come on in leaps and bounds over recent months with a real culture of books, reading and inference taking prominence in school...what will be next!

We're Over the Moon about Reading

Helmshore Primary

EYFS and Key Stage 1 are 'Over the Moon' about reading! Staff have worked creatively together on a continuous and ongoing display for book recommendations throughout the infant department and developed strategies to engage parents further in children's reading. All the



children worked extremely hard to create a 'Book in a Box' at home and were excited to showcase these to parents in a reading focused

open session which was very well attended. Our 'Over the Moon' work continues with weekly "story swap" sessions where teachers share quality texts with a different class each week.

Reading Blossoms in KS2

Helmshore Primary

In our continued drive to promote and celebrate a love of reading throughout

school and to coincide with our World Book Day celebrations, we have embarked on a number of activities, which have engaged parents with reading at home and further enhanced reading for pleasure.



In Key Stage 2, the children had the exciting and unique opportunity to invite an older relative into school to share their childhood memories about reading. Dressed up as their favourite book characters, the pupils 'branched out', creating a colourful, stunning reading tree; the 'leaves' depicting their favourite book and illustrations. It was wonderful to see the tree coming to life and it has now taken pride of place in our entrance hall. Many lovely books were shared and enjoyed, some of which were over 100 years old.

Fund Raising at Stanah

Stanah Primary

We have been working hard to further improve reading standards at Stanah. We found that comprehension and the children's understanding of what the questions were asking was our area of improvement. Following careful thought, we have introduced an additional Reading lesson which is being taught across all year groups alongside English lessons and other Reading sessions. We have taught and modelled the individual reading skills (e.g. inference, sequencing and comparison) alongside the twinkl reading dogs in all year groups. Each class have reading



packs containing lanyards, question cards, prompts and tasks to support their lessons. During lessons, the children use these resources to support them in taking on reading roles and leading sessions across KS1 and KS2. This has resulted in a huge improvement in the children's independence in answering, understanding and asking their own comprehension questions. The children are really enjoying leading the learning, collaborating with each other and are showing a renewed enthusiasm for reading!

March has been a busy month for us and we have had a very enjoyable 'World Book Day' with lots of amazing costumes, a visit from the Book Bus, reading activities and we finished the day with a KS1 bedtime story with our local author Dan Worsley. Alongside this event, we had a great response from our 'Stanah Sponsored Read' which raised an impressive total of £898! We can't wait to buy lots of new exciting text for our School!

Scarisbrick is Reading

St Mark's CE Primary

Over the past year, as part of the Lancashire initiative 'We Are Reading' St Mark's has been very busy. As a school, we have had a major focus on Reading and set the children a reading challenge of reading at least three times per week at home. For those children that achieve this, they are rewarded with a certificate at the end of each term. Parents have also been involved and have

been invited in to school to read alongside their children so that a love for reading can grow together.

As part of a project involving other local schools around the Ormskirk area, the children have designed and created a canvas that displayed their favourite book characters. All classes within the school contributed to the final piece.

Children have also taken part in an Extreme Reading Challenge where over February half term the children were asked to photograph themselves reading in a strange and unusual but safe place. The responses from the children were amazing and we received photographs of them reading in front of the Houses of Parliament, whilst skiing, in front of a panda at the zoo, inside a stately home, upside down during a gymnastics lesson and many more.

Finally, as part of World Book Day the children came to school dressed as their favourite book character. The children participated in a number of activities throughout the day where they moved around each class and completed an activity based on a particular book. The



children really enjoyed listening to the different stories. As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we also hosted a 'Booky Breakfast' in the school hall. Children were able to come in to school early and enjoy breakfast with their friends whilst sharing their favourite books.

Reedley Quidditch!

Reedley Primary

Reedley Primary School have dabbled into the iconic sport from Harry Potter - Quidditch. As part of the World Book Day celebration, coaches from Enrich Education came in to play some magical sports and immerse us into life at Hogwarts.



The Sorting Hat chose four captains to represent each house: Gryffindor, Ravenclaw, Hufflepuff and Slytherin. We all had to earn points and at the end of the day, whomever had the most would win a trophy. It was the most magical day ever!

In the exceptionally exciting sessions, everyone had spontaneous practices

to prepare for the BIG game. The sessions included defensive and offensive lessons to train you to be the best. You would first split up into one of the four houses to define your team members. Three balls were used: the bludger, quaffle and golden snitch (which was the teacher!) and there were four positions which all used the different balls. They were the beater, chaser, seeker and keeper.

We enjoyed the real life experience of Quidditch and even wrote 'A Muggle's Guide to Quidditch' which reinforced the rules for the non-magic folk. The day was thoroughly exciting and reinforced our love of the world J.K. Rowling created.

World Book Day

St Mary's Sabden

World Book Day was a great success! The outfits were been fantastic and the children thoroughly enjoyed it.

The whole school shared a brilliant afternoon together in the hall taking part in lots of different activities based on books!

The children read a variety of books, newspapers and magazines, made split-pin book characters, carried out book reviews, redesigned book covers and took part in story time in the library with Miss Taylor! Different age groups read to each other and spent time with each other and the adults in school got to enjoy the afternoon and take part in the activities with the children.



It was an afternoon that saw the whole school come together to celebrate our love of books and that of reading!

Trinity Book Day

Trinity CE/Methodist Primary (needs expanding per Sarah Barraclough)

In the spirit of World Book Day, sharing the enjoyment of reading, we asked our children to donate a book they had enjoyed to help another school in a more challenging context to improve their classroom reading resources.

Our church also asked the church family, so it was a real community effort.

We were thrilled with the donations, some families donated packs of books, and each child wrote a mini review of the book as a letter to their 'reading friend'.

We collected over 800 books and the receiving school were beyond thrilled.

Poetry Workshops

St Veronica's Primary

Since the last newsletter the children have taken part in lots of reading activities. Most recently the Poetry Workshops and World Book Day.

To link in the visit from poet, Andy Tooze and to continue the theme of poetry, the children wrote their own poems, on World Book day, which have been displayed around the school for everyone to read. The children also had great fun dressing up as their favorite book character. We also had a guest visit from, 'The Cat in the Hat'! Thank you to Mr. Tomkinson!

Earlier in the term we also had a visit from Lancashire Reading Services, who held story telling sessions with each class.

Our school library has also grown with an additional 200 brand new books (fiction and non-fiction) for the children to borrow and read at their own leisure.

We also had a recent visit from the West End London School of Dancing, who ran workshops with each class. The theme of the workshops was to bring books to life through dance and drama.

This gave the children another experience and different perspective on how we can enjoy books. The sessions were especially choreographed around chosen books or authors the classes have been reading or studying.



All the children had a fabulous time and engaged well with the sessions.

Lots of photos and videos have been taken of all the events which can be viewed on the school website.

Secondary Schools

Carr Hill Festival

Carr Hill High and Sixth Form Centre

Carr Hill High School has delivered its first festival dedicated to celebrating the importance of reading and writing. Working alongside two other local schools, St Bedes Catholic High School and Lytham High School, as part of the Lancashire based initiative, 'We are Reading', Carr Hill students took part in the 'We are Reading' Festival.



The festival, and initiative as a whole, was designed to encourage reading and creative writing amongst students. The day included visits from three famous authors who delivered a mix of writing masterclasses, interactive workshops and biographical talks. Students were joined by Alan Gibbons, who is an award-winning children's author, Non Pratt, who has been shortlisted for awards such as YA Book Prize and the Branford Boase Award, and M.A. Griffin, who has won the Times Children's Fiction Competition.

Year 8 Edward said: "The workshop I took part in was really interesting and

fun. I can also use the creative writing techniques I learnt during the workshop to improve my writing."



Year 7 Robyn said: "The experience was so educational. I enjoyed the part of my workshop where I had to take a villain and use their characteristics to describe them in a positive way. It was challenging but fun."

Assistant Headteacher Mr Daniel Morton said: "We launched the 'We are Reading' initiative at the start of this academic year and it has created a platform for us to encourage reading and creative writing amongst our students. We've run short story competitions and a book bingo challenge and now we have hosted our first 'We are Reading' Festival which has been a huge success. Encouraging reading and writing amongst our students is so important. It's not only about enhancing their prospects now whilst they are sitting exams, it's also about their future as reading and writing will play a huge part in their further education, in employment and beyond that."

Celebrating Reading on World Book Day

Lathom High School, Skelmersdale

World Book Day 2019 is the biggest celebration of reading in the calendar year. This year we were visited by the author of The Spooks series Joseph Delaney. A whopping 310 students were given the opportunity to work with Delaney in the Arts Theatre in two separate sessions. We also had the pleasure of hosting 90 Primary School children from Brookfield Park and Trinity who came dressed up for World Book Day and thoroughly enjoyed Delaney's talk. Students were then given the opportunity to ask questions, purchase books and meet the author for a book signing event. Ryce Alexander in Y8 bought the whole series of Delaney's Spooks books and met with the author to have them all signed. We are super proud of him and can't wait to see what he thinks of the books!



On the morning of Thursday 7th March, in celebration of World Book day, a group of Year 7 students took a trip out to Skelmersdale library with Mrs Boyers and Mrs Hargate. On arrival, they took a tour of the library to look at all the wonderful free resources available to use, including books for young adults and 'shelf help' wellbeing books for young people. They explored the ICT facilities, the games room and even the DVD section!



They learned about all the other fantastic resources available, including the digital library and the e-book library – all free for library card holders. The students also helped to create a fabulous display, which will be exhibited in the library for the public to see, before sitting down for a shared read on a heart-warming and moving story called 'Finding Winnie' – the story of the real

bear who inspired the award winning and infamous 'Winne-the-Pooh'! The students thoroughly enjoyed the morning exploring the library and celebrating World Book Day!

Accelerated Readers

Rhyddings Business and Enterprise School

At Rhyddings Business and Enterprise School we follow the Accelerated Reader scheme for Years 7 and 8. During weekly reading lessons, the students read their books and complete any quizzes on books they have read. If the quiz is passed at 60% or above, the number of words in the book is recorded. We have a display board, which students' names are added to when they reach certain milestones on their word count. The students pictured have all read over 1 million words since September which is a massive achievement. They have been rewarded with a certificate and a £10 gift voucher.



Dress A Door for World Book Day

Moor Park High and Sixth Form

Moor Park High School and Sixth Form enjoyed celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 7th March with various events and competitions. Pupils and teachers really got into the spirit.

Celebrations included the annual 'Dress a Door' competition where each form was invited to dress a classroom door to represent a book of their choice. There were some stunning designs but Year 10 won it with 'The Twits'. We also held our first ever 'Moor Park Book Battle'. This was a debate about what makes the best book and we were delighted to crown a winner on World Book Day. There were also numerous competitions and quizzes throughout the day but, perhaps most excitingly, we played instalments of one of Roald Dahl's most famous short stories 'Lamb to the



Slaughter' throughout the day. Pupils were hooked!

It was a fantastic day and pupils and staff thoroughly enjoyed the celebrations.



Library News from Hutton

Hutton CE Grammar

Like most schools, World Book Day included the usual medley of activities celebrating all things about books! Staff dressed up as book characters for a pupil competition, the languages department ran a "Little Miss" competition in



French, the whole school did "Drop Everything and Read" and the kitchen made wonderful book themed cakes! Oh and we had a book swap too!

Mrs Nathan in the English department is trying something new with her group. Reluctant readers in Year 8 are participating in a 'Revolutionary Readers' scheme as part of their English lessons. They have signed a pledge (on a bookmark) to read three accessible but age appropriate books and, once they've fulfilled this commitment, they will write a short written recommendation to be displayed in the library alongside their favourite of the three. They will also be asked to give an oral recommendation - either to their class, to another class or possibly even on a pre-recorded video.

In order to offer incentive to these students, once they've finished their pledge, they are going to receive a postcard home and, of course, there have been lots of house points as well. The project has been so successful that we are now looking for other opportunities to get them reading - and am trying to organise for them to do some paired reading with the local toddlers' playgroup. We will hopefully be able to give an update on this in the next newsletter.

Competing in Reading

Lathom High, Skelmersdale

This week Mrs Boyers took two teams to 'The Big Book Quiz' in Preston on Wednesday 20th March. Students had to read one book each and teams competed against one another answering questions about each book. Although we did not win, we are extremely proud of our Year 7 and Year 8 competitors: their hard work and determination shone through! Well done to those involved.



On the day, all of our staff members started their lessons by reading a passage from a favourite or current book. This led to some brilliant conversations about books and what they had inspired staff and students to do. It was great to see so many students and staff discussing and sharing their books. Our literacy and library coordinator Mr Swindells spent a long time wrapping up lots of books to allow our students to do

Writes of Passage and Blind Dates with a Book

Shuttleworth College

At Shuttleworth, we have been doing lots to encourage our pupils to get reading and this has created a real buzz around reading in school.

We celebrated World Book Day in lots of different ways. We started the week before, creating a 'Writes of Passage' board in the library. Students and staff filled in loads of index cards sharing what their favourite books or sharing a book that really meant something to them.



'blind date with a book' which proved to be really popular. We were aiming to encourage students to read books that they usually discount because the cover isn't particularly exciting!

We have also been running Readathon in school and alongside this we have run a checklist challenge to encourage students to read more widely and challenge themselves with texts they wouldn't normally read e.g. poetry and newspapers. This has proven really popular and we are considering rolling out our checklist as a termly challenge next year. Students who showed real enthusiasm for both were rewarded with an afternoon tea on World Book Day. For the afternoon tea, all students brought along a favourite book and shared them with the group, discussing what they liked and reading short passages. It was a lovely afternoon of sharing our love of reading.

Lancashire Book of the Year is in full flow and our in school panel of judges are busily making their way through the newly announced shortlist. They are now meeting on a weekly basis to discuss and share the books they have been reading. One student is particularly excited an author on twitter had responded with a message to her shortlisting this book! She now champions this book at every opportunity with her peers!

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