

THE READING CORNER

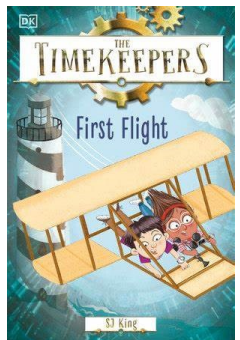
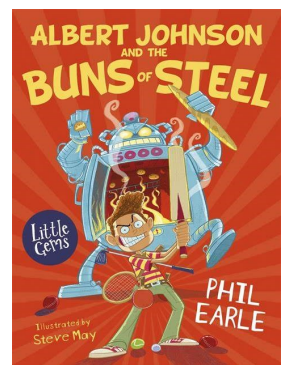
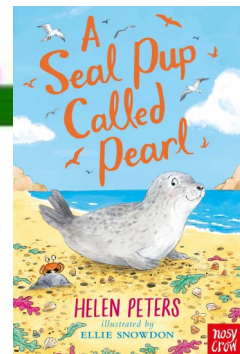
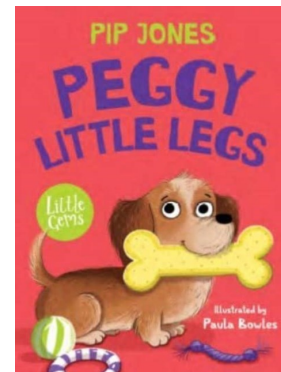
The Blowers Green Reading Newsletter

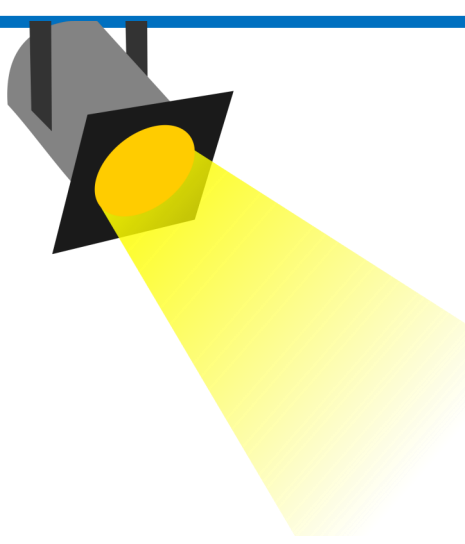


December 2023

The Book Quiz

It's that time of year again... We are not talking about Christmas and the winter holidays—it's nearly time for the **Dudley Book Quiz**. Preparations are well underway in school as we will be entering a Year 3 and 4 team into this year's competition. The Dudley Book Quiz has been running for many years and pitches teams of children against other schools who answer questions about a series of books that the children have read. The competition begins in earnest in February and we hope that we can emulate the success of last year's team who reached the quarter finals or go even better and bring home the prestigious trophy. This year's books selected for the competition are: *A Seal Pup Called Pearl* by Helen Peters. *Peggy Little-Legs* by Pip Jones. *First Flight* by S.J. King. *Albert Johnson and the Buns of Steel* by Phil Earle and *Arctic Adventure* by Damien Harvey.



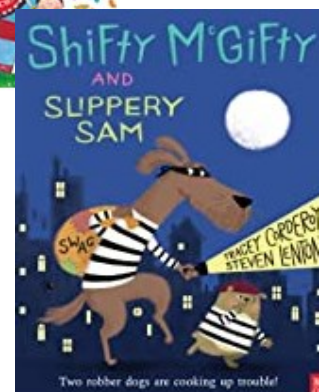
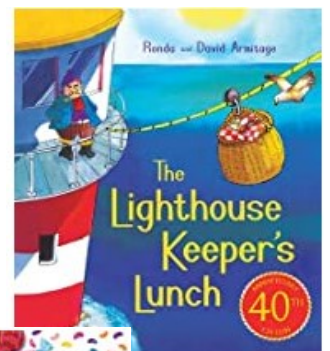
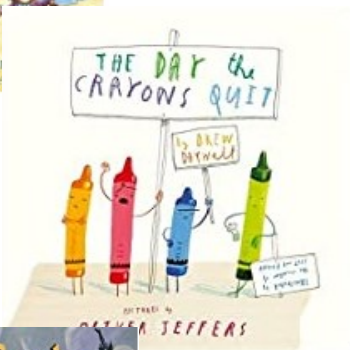
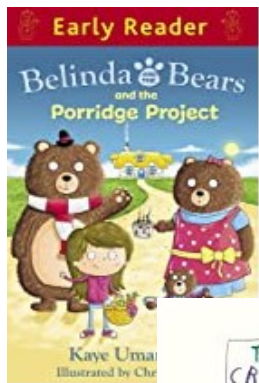


READING CHALLENGE



Spotlight on Year 2

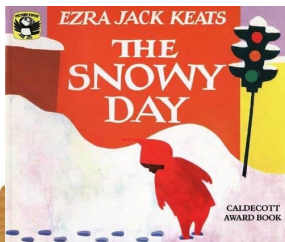
We love our Reading Challenges here at Blowers Green and Year 2 have had a fantastic term with **five** children completing all six books in just one term. A **HUGE** well done to:



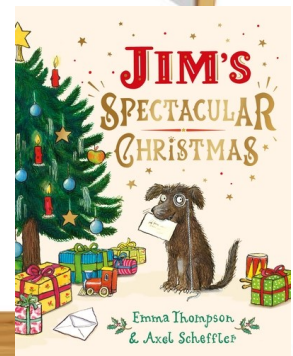
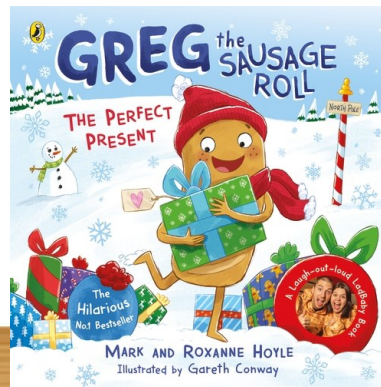
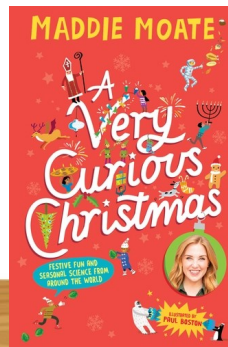
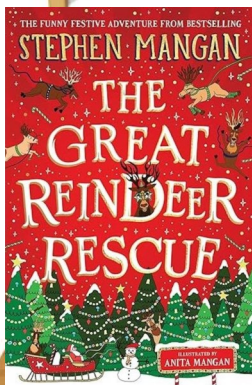
Enzo
Esme
Khloe
Nza
Rayaan

❄️ Seasonal Reads ❄️

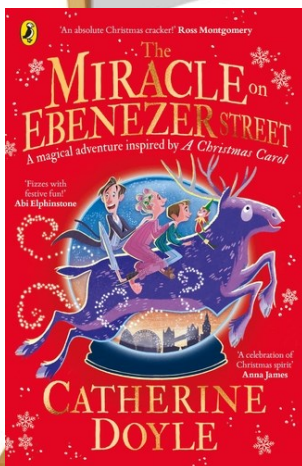
Winter is here! Take a look at these wintry and festive book recommendations. Don't forget to let us know what you've been reading—we love to hear all about your favorite books.



Younger readers EYFS and KS1



Ages 7-9



Ages 9-11

STAFF PICKS



Hear about all the wonderful books the adults in school have been reading.

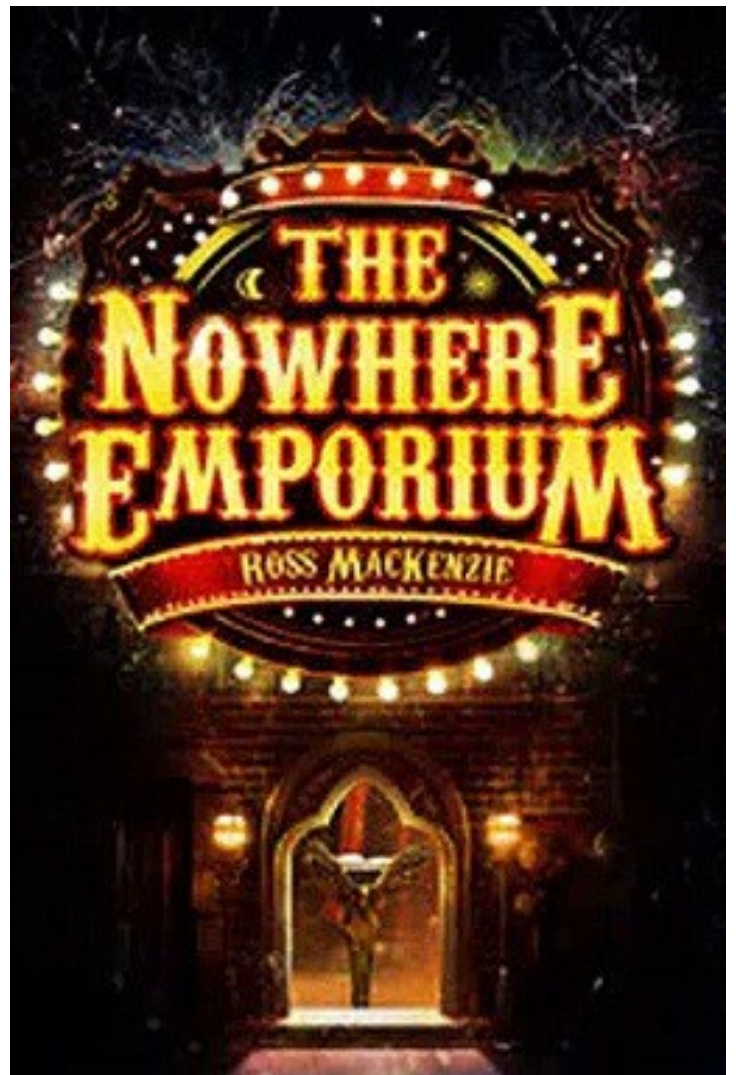
**Miss Parkes
Recommends**



If you enjoy Harry Potter, I highly recommend this read. I could not put this book down, it is a real page turner! I fell in love with the magic and fantasy of this story, and would love to visit the *Nowhere Emporium* myself. The book was certainly an escape into the great imagination of the author, Ross Mackenzie

The *Nowhere Emporium* is a magical and enchanting story about a young boy, Daniel, who stumbles upon a mysterious shop. He is strangely drawn into the *Nowhere Emporium*, where the magic immediately begins. When Lucien Silver (a magician) sees so much of himself in Daniel, he swiftly takes him under his wing and changes his life.

The story is full of twists and turns jumping from the present day to the past, leaving you hanging in suspense at the end of every chapter. There is a theme of good versus evil spiralled throughout the tale. The end is totally unexpected, a real surprise! I thoroughly recommend this book.



STAFF PICKS



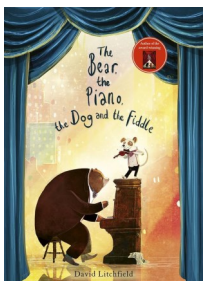
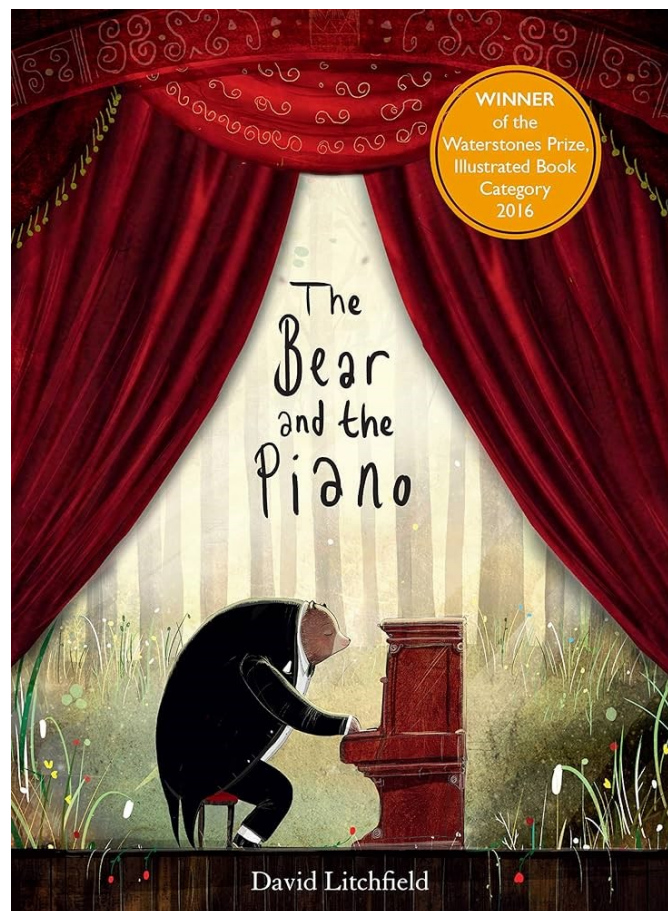
Hear about all the wonderful books
the adults in school have been reading.

Mrs Francis Recommends...

The Bear and the Piano by David Litchfield

'The Bear and the Piano' is a beautifully illustrated, poignant and inspiring story of friendship, courage, and the power of music to bring everyone together. In the forest, a little bear discovers an object he's never seen before, a piano. At first the cub isn't sure about the strange device, but over time he comes to love the instrument and the music. The other animals in the bear's forest home delight in his talent, but he dreams of bigger things. When the opportunity comes to play in the city, it's a hard decision, but off he goes, and stardom awaits. The bear becomes famous beyond his wildest dreams. He finds great success, but eventually he comes to miss his home. He returns, nervous that his friends may be angry with him for leaving, but instead he finds the entire forest beaming with pride for all he has accomplished. This is a truly heart-warming story with illustrations that will captivate your imagination.

If you enjoy this story, there are two more 'Bear and the Piano...' books to enjoy, both equally as charming and superbly illustrated. I was able to borrow both of these books from my local library, I couldn't wait to share them with my children, who just loved hearing more about the bears adventures!



THE Reading ROUNDUP



Since September our Key Stage Two library has had a 're-fresh' with many new titles and books added to the shelves. These books have been specifically selected to



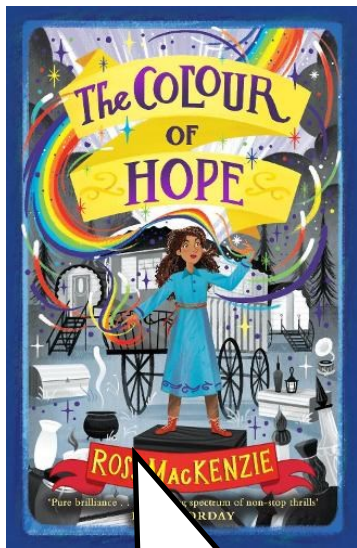
support the learning of reading in our 'Book Talk' reading lessons. The titles have also been organised into five categories each providing an opportunity to develop reading stamina and comprehension. Texts may contain more old-fashioned vocabulary or have a more complex plot or be narrated by different characters. The books include old favorites as well as contemporary and newly released titles too. Why not ask your child what they have been reading in school!

Reading Ambassadors

Introducing...

Moniya

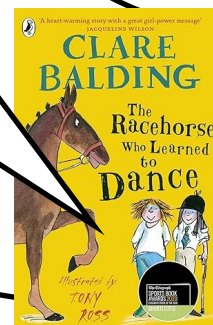
In every *Reading Corner* newsletter this year, we'd like to introduce our Reading Ambassadors. Our Reading Ambassadors play an important role in school; they promote reading, books and a love for stories across our school. Let's meet **Moniya**.



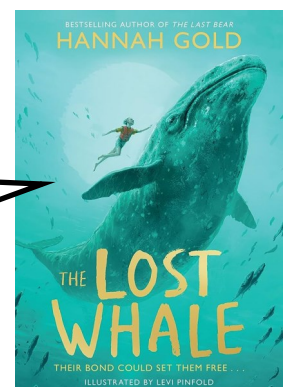
Polly from *The Race Horse Who Learned to Dance* is one of my favourite book characters.

The best thing about reading is that it is like you are being transported to a brand new world.

My favourite story is *The Colour of Hope* by Ross Makenzie because it shows that even in the darkest of times there is a glimmer of hope.



The Lost Whale by Hannah is the book I would like to read next.



A Visit from St Nicholas

By Clement Clarke Moore



'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through
the house

Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;

The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads;
And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,
Had just settled down for a long winter's nap,

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.

The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow
Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below,
When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer,

With a little old driver, so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.
More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by
name;

"Now, DASHER! now, DANCER! now, PRANCER
and VIXEN!

On, COMET! on CUPID! on, DONNER and
BLITZEN!

To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!
Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!"

As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky,
So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,
With the sleigh full of toys, and St. Nicholas too.

You might know this poem as
'*Twas the Night Before Christmas*'
because of its famous opening line.
But, **DID YOU KNOW** that the
poem is actually called '*A Visit from
St Nicholas*' by Clement Clarke
Moore.

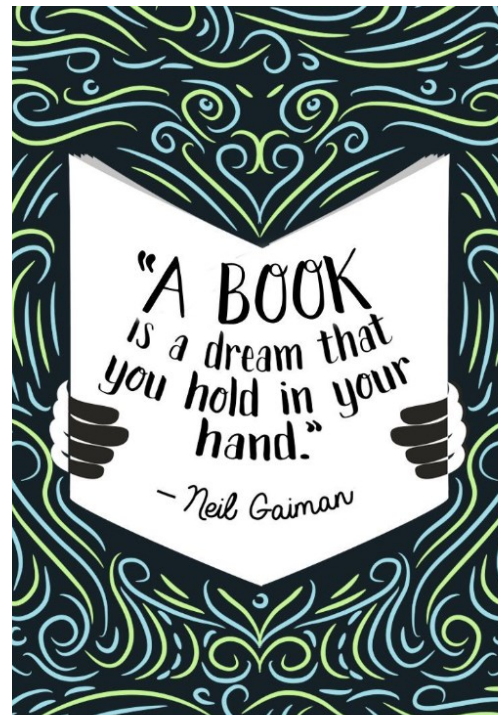
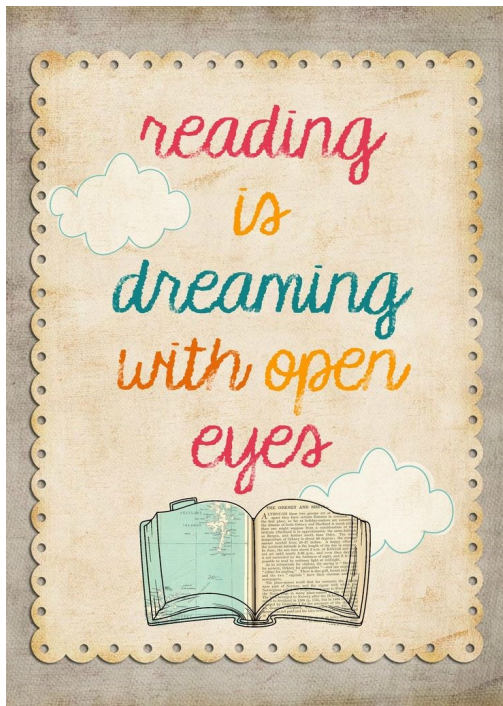
The poem is thought to have been
written in **1823** which means that
it is **200 years old** this year!

The poem tells the story of a
family getting ready for bed on
Christmas Eve and eagerly awaiting
the visit of St Nicholas, otherwise
known as Father Christmas.

Here is the first part of the poem
for you to enjoy and maybe read
aloud on Christmas Eve?



Keep Reading!



We want to hear all about your reading adventures. Let us know what you've been reading—we'd love to hear your recommendations.



Look out for the **SPRING** edition of **The Reading Corner - Coming Soon!!**

