



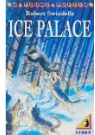

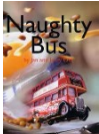

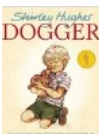

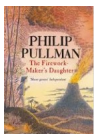
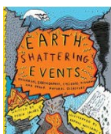
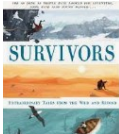


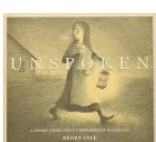


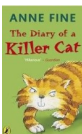

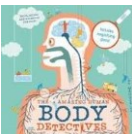




It has been a very jam-packed half term on the run up to Christmas and we have managed to hold a variety of really wonderful reading for pleasure events. This has included holding our first 'Book Swap' in three years! It was wonderful to see the children all moving around the school and sharing stories with different year groups. We are also so pleased with how regularly children are reading at home and we now have lots of 'word millionaires' displayed in the Key Stage 2 corridor. Thank you so much for continuing to encourage and support your children with their reading.

A small selection of what we have been reading in each year group in Autumn 2

Reception	  	Year 4	  
Year 1	   	Year 5	  
Year 2	 	Year 6	  
Year 3	  		

Mrs Dowdall recommends: Three books set in the snowy north...

All the snow and ice we have experienced lately makes me think about the North Pole and the Northern Lights that people living there experience at this time of year. My book recommendations this term are all set in the snowy north. Wrap up warm and enjoy!

EYFS and Key Stage 1

'The Lights That Dance in the Night' by Yuval Zommer

In this gorgeously illustrated picture book, Yuval Zommer imagines the Northern Lights' fleeting journey from space to Earth and how they weave a special magic for those living in the frozen lands below. It's a lovely book for bedtime!



Lower Key Stage 2

'Sky Song' by Abi Elphinstone

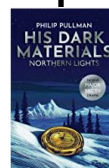
This beautiful novel is set in the snowy kingdom of Erkenwald. The story follows the adventures of Eska as she searches for a song to break the ice queen's hold on the land. Beautiful language make this lyrical novel a perfect one to share.



Upper Key Stage 2

'Northern Lights' by Philip Pullman

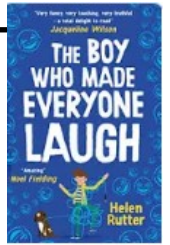
This classic novel is full of adventure and peril. Once started it is impossible to put down. Lyra is an irresistible heroine and the first in this classic trilogy will get you hooked. It's also one of Mrs Oram's favourites as you'll find out from her reading interview! Enjoy!



Children's Recommendations

We always ask our children to share their favourite reading recommendations. Here are a few of the books they have read and enjoyed lately...

'The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh' by Helen Rutter, recommended by one of our Year 6 students

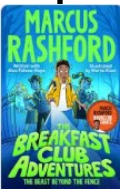


This book is funny, yet sad at the same time. It is about a boy called Billy who is starting secondary school but he has a stammer. Sadly, he is also facing a bully at school. Billy loves telling jokes and wants to be a stand-up comedian but is too scared to enter the school talent show. This book is all about Billy overcoming his fears. I would recommend this book to people who like a really interesting story with a main character you'll care about. I recommend this book for ages 8+.



'Breakfast Club Adventures: The Beast Beyond the Fence' by Marcus Rashford, recommended by one of our Year 5 students

This is a book about a boy called Marcus who loses his football: it goes 'beyond the fence'. Anything that goes beyond the fence never comes back. Marcus joins an investigation team and they work together to solve the mystery of what happens to the things that go beyond the fence. This book is perfect for anyone who likes a good mystery story and I would recommend this book for ages 7+



Have you read a brilliant book recently?

We would love to hear about the books you love and publish your recommendations in the next newsletter. Write your short review on a piece of paper. Remember to include the title of the book and the author, what makes the book good and a short synopsis (without giving the ending away!) and the age group it is appropriate for. You can also give it a score out of 5 stars. Give your completed review to your teacher or to Mrs Dowdall.



This term's interview is with Mrs Oram who teaches lots of Key Stage 2 PE lessons at Arbury. She also loves books and reading!

Mrs Oram's Interview

What is your favourite book and why?

My favourite books are 'The Northern Lights Trilogy' by Phillip Pullman. It took me on the most wonderful adventure and I became completely immersed in this other world and the characters in it. I was very sad when it ended.

When and Where do you like to read?

I like to read at the weekends and holidays when I have just had my breakfast and we are in no rush to be anywhere. I quite often listen to an audiobook when I am making the dinner in the evenings.

What are you currently reading?

I am currently reading two books. The first is 'Skullduggery Pleasant' by Derek Landy, which is a series of books recommended to me by my daughter. It is about a quick-witted detective skeleton magician and his sidekick apprentice, Valkyrie Cain. It's full of action and adventure, making it very hard to put down!

The second book I am reading is called 'Wild Maps – a Nature Atlas for Curious Minds'. I have just bought this for my children and we have been looking at it together. It is beautifully illustrated with lots of infographic maps and asks the most interesting questions: Which countries have no sea views? Which countries are the biggest consumers of dairy products? How many countries are named after animals? So many fascinating facts about the world that we live in today!

Why is reading important to you?

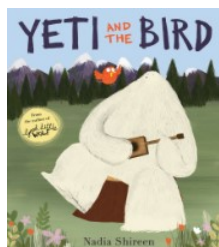
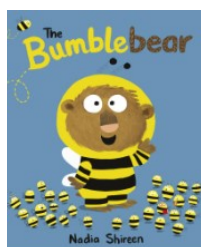
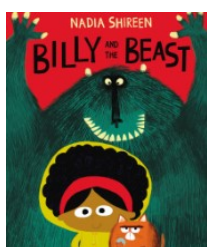
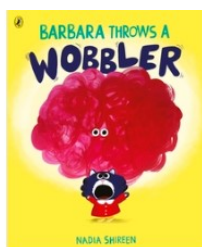
I enjoy learning about new things from non-fiction books. I also love that reading allows my mind to wander and escape into new and exciting worlds.



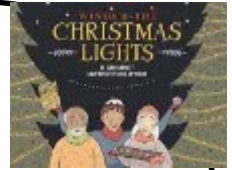
Author of the term...

This term's author is: Nadia Shireen

Nadia Shireen is an author and illustrator who has written lots of books for children. She actually studied children's book illustration at Anglia Ruskin University here in Cambridge. Her books are usually funny and she has won lots of prizes for her writing and illustrating including the 'Roald Dahl Funny Prize' and the 'Waterstones's Children's Book Award'. She has written both picture books and chapter books. Have you read any of her books? We have a few in school if you think you'd enjoy this author's work!



Some reading news from this half term...



Story Swap

We held our first story swap in three years and it was great. Classes across the school got together to share stories for the morning. The older children were fantastic at reading to the younger children and it was lovely to see the enjoyment we all get from reading books and stories!

Author John Barnett visits Year 4

Classes 9 and 10 had a visit from John Barnett, the author of a beautiful picture book, 'Windy B - The Christmas Lights'. John read his book to the children and then answered their questions. It was wonderful to have a real author visit and a lovely way to spend the morning.

Arbury Court Library visits for EYFS

Class 1 and 2 enjoyed visiting Arbury Court Library back in November. They met the librarians and had lots of fun exploring all the wonderful books in the library.

Reading Ambassador Meeting– Autumn 2

The Arbury Primary School Reading Ambassadors held their second meeting of the year. We gathered together and thought about some of the Reading for Pleasure activities taking place in school this term and how to help promote them. The Reading Ambassadors then made some really lovely posters to go up around the school to tell other students about our school 'Story Swap' event.

Remember, there are photos of all these events on our school website!

Joining a library gives you access to a wide range of different books and is a lovely place to visit with your children. If you are not yet a member of the library and would be interested in joining, it is really easy. Just use the website below to find out more...

<https://cambridgeshire.spydus.co.uk>

