

The Bookshelf

December 2025



St Lawrence's Reading Newsletter!



READING!



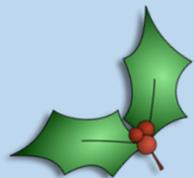
As the autumn term comes to an end, it's been so lovely to see our children's enthusiasm for reading continuing to grow across the school. Children have really enjoyed meeting authors and joining online author workshops, listening to stories and celebrating reading challenges. All of this has brought stories to life and inspired writing too! In the run-up to Christmas, our Advent Reading Challenge will encourage lots of cosy, shared reading moments at home so make sure you join in! It isn't too late to get started. Thank you for your continued support with reading. We wish you a warm and happy Christmas filled with the magic of stories. Happy Christmas reading!

Exciting Reading Events This Term!



Year 2 loved meeting Nick Sharratt and Pippa Goodhart the amazing creators of the 'You Choose' books. The children were really inspired and produced some lovely illustrations of their own!

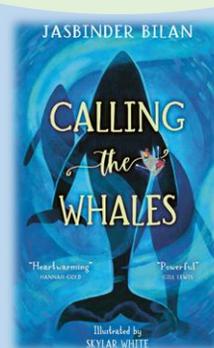
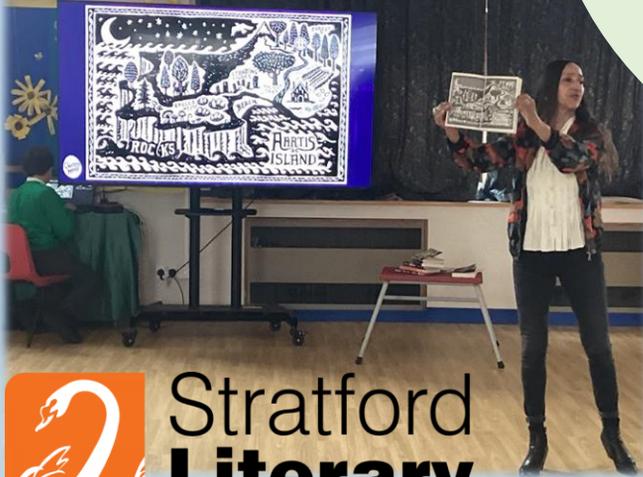
Year 5 attended a live author event with the author of our class book **The Last Bear**. We heard about how she draws from her adventures in different parts of the world and weaves them into stories. Her passion for the planet really shone through and we can't wait to check out her newest books!



More Exciting Reading Events This Term!

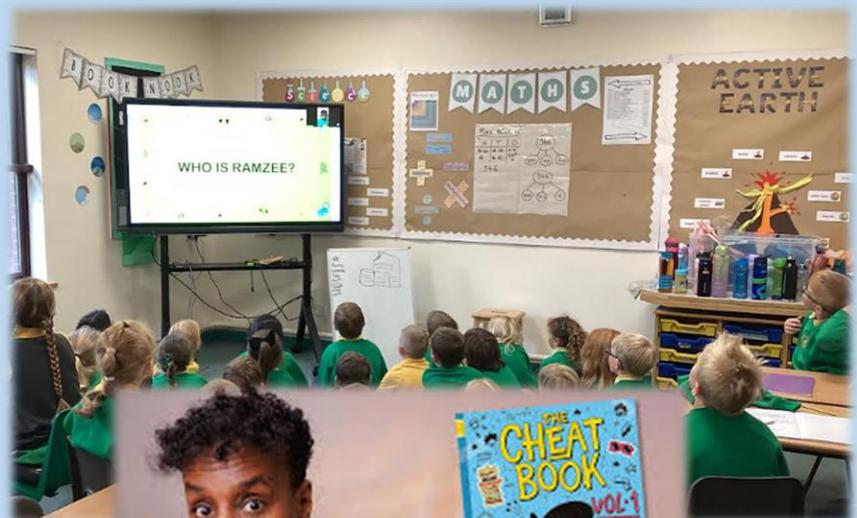


Years 5 and 6 were very lucky to meet award-winning children's author Jasbinder Bilan. She was inspirational to listen to and the children loved meeting her. Thank you to the PTA for funding this and for Stratford Literary Festival for linking us with such wonderful reading role models!



**Stratford
Literary
Festival**

Year 3 enjoyed a virtual event with author Ramzee. It was really good fun to find out about his hilarious books!



Even More Exciting Reading Events This Term!



The Tiger Who Came to Tea



Judith Kerr



Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 all went to Warwick Arts Centre to watch a magical production of Judith Kerr's classic and much-loved children's book 'The Tiger Who Came to tea'. It was an amazing performance and the children were literally squealing with delight and happiness! It was brilliant to see this favourite story brought to life.

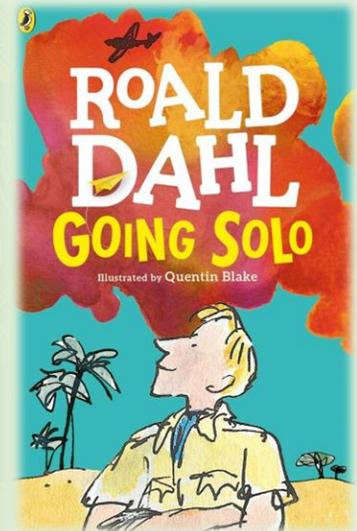
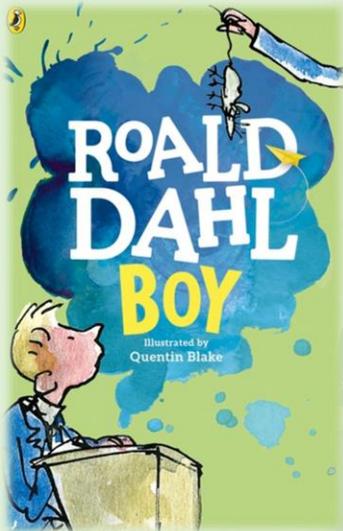
What amazing opportunities to learn to love reading the children have all had this term!

Look out for all the brilliant events happening next term, including World Book Day and a day spent with a former Poet Laureat!



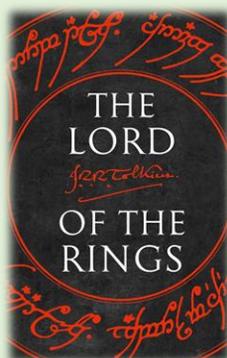
Every Teacher is a Reader

An interview with Mr Delaney by Fleur and Tim
in Year 6!



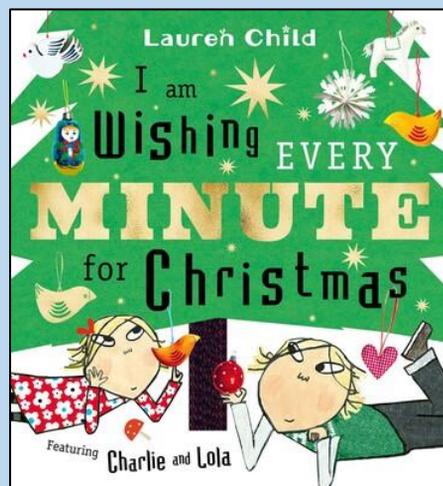
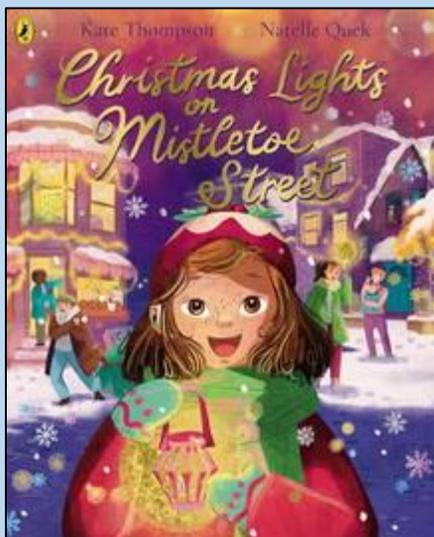
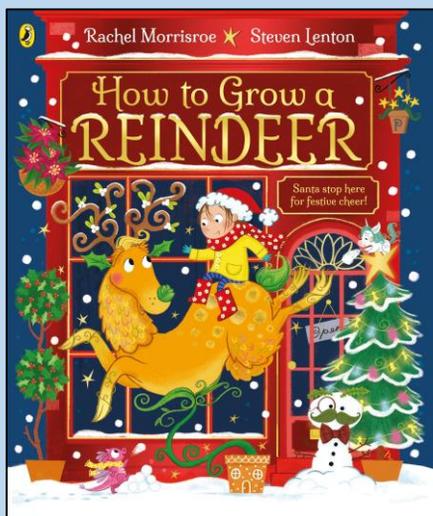
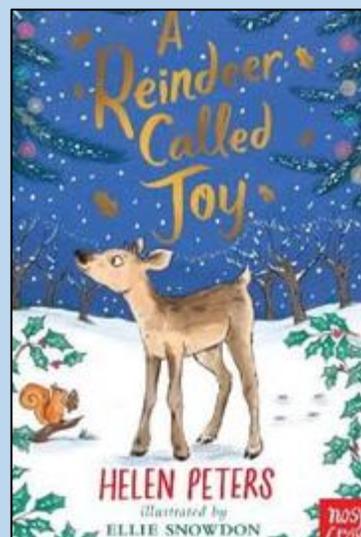
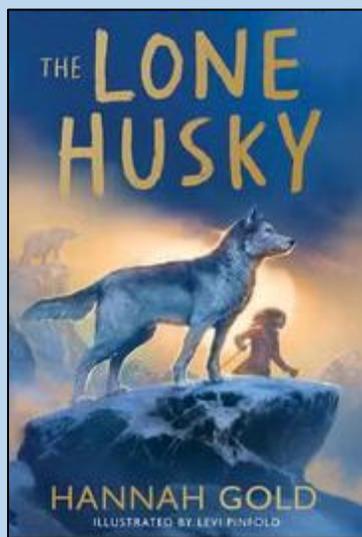
1. Why do you enjoy reading? Reading lets him switch off and lets his imagination go into his own mini world told by what he is reading but he also says he loves learning new things.

2. What kind of books did you like when you were our age? The books he enjoyed when he was at primary school were BOY and GOING SOLO because Mr D lived in the city it was set in and he used to walk past Mrs Pratchett's sweet shop. His favourite book of all time was Lord Of The Rings but he also loved going to the library to choose out new books.



Festive Favourites!

Why not try one of these amazing Christmas titles.



St Lawrence Advent Reading Challenge 2025

Try to complete the challenges for Advent. Tick each day you complete a task.

1. Read under a cosy blanket.
2. Read a book with a winter setting.
3. Read to a teddy, pet, or toy.
4. Read a story by torchlight.
5. Read a book written by a new author.
6. Read a poem out loud.
7. Read a book with a colour in the title.
8. Read for 10 minutes in your silliest voice.
9. Read a nonfiction book and share a fact.
10. Read a book that makes you laugh.
11. Read somewhere unusual.
12. Read a story to someone younger.
13. Read a favourite book.
14. Read a book with an animal character.
15. Read a festive story.
16. Retell what you read using just 3 sentences.
17. Read outside for 5 minutes.
18. Read a chapter or picture book at bedtime.
19. Read a book and draw your favourite character.
20. Read something other than a book (menus, signs, instructions).
21. Predict the ending of a book.
22. Read a book recommended by a friend.
23. Read quietly while listening to peaceful music.
24. Read with a hot chocolate to drink!
25. Have a very happy Christmas!





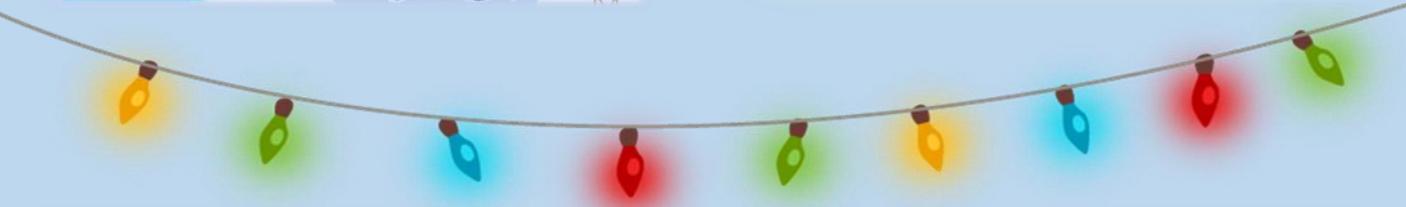
Lawrence Advent Reading Challenge 2025
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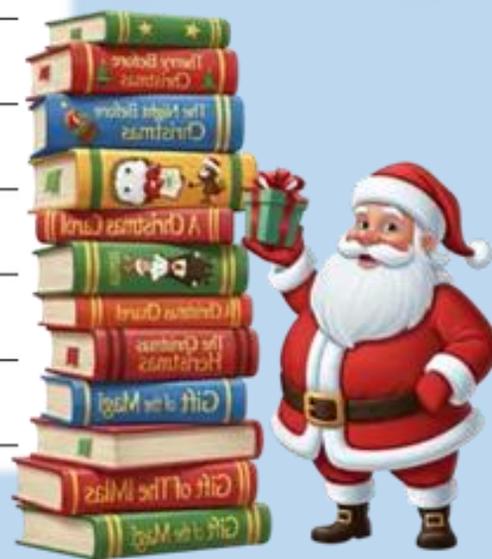
Have you been taking part in our Christmas Advent Challenge? Send us any photos you have of you enjoying some festive reading! It's not too late to get started!

Just for fun, have a go at the Christmas word scramble below! Answers on the next page but no peeking!



1. nagle _____
2. rast _____
3. reptnes _____
4. etre _____
5. llbse _____
6. mstcahris _____
7. ldecna _____
8. obnirb _____
9. llyjo _____
10. rebdecem _____

Can you unscramble these Christmas words?



Christmas Word

Unscramble

Answers

How many did you get right?

1. Angel
2. Star
3. Present
4. Tree
5. Bells
6. Christmas
7. Candle
8. Ribbon
9. jolly
10. December



Gift a book,
change a life



This Christmas, change a child's world – one book at a time.

Right now, 1 in 3 children in the UK grows up in poverty.

Many don't own a single book. No story before bed. No characters to inspire them. No quiet moment to escape and dream. They're not just missing stories – they're missing out on a bright future.



<https://literacytrust.org.uk/support-us/fundraising/christmas/>

This Christmas, remember the importance of supporting your child read at home. Cosy up and share a book!



Supporting Readers at Home



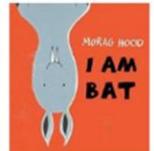
Open University research suggests there are three important ways to support readers to develop a love of reading.



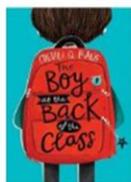
Reading aloud to your children shows them reading is enjoyable, not a chore. Older children can read to younger ones, too.



Making time to read alongside one another helps develop children's reading stamina and motivation. Let them choose what to read and relax together.



Book Chat encourages readers. Invite them to make connections and share their views. Join in with your thoughts, too!



Children who read and are supported as readers develop strong reading skills and do better at school.



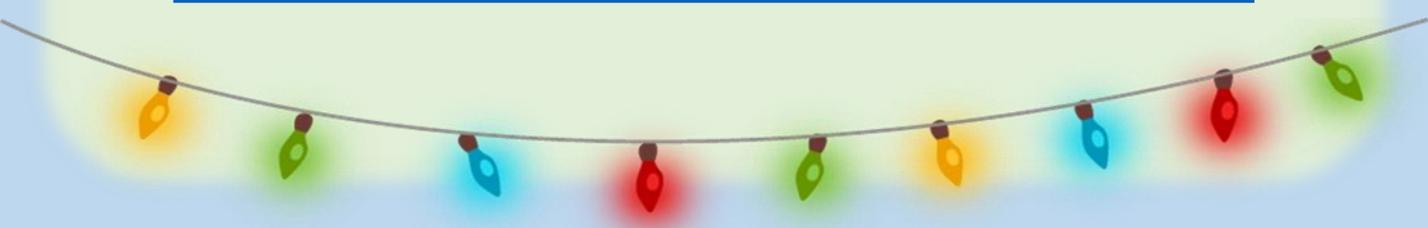
For more ideas, visit the OU RfP website: www.ourfp.org



What's on?

Visit your local library to take part in some of the brilliant children's activities and workshops they offer this Christmas!

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/southam-library-information-centre-71494300233>



Rhyme Time at Southam Library
(Drop in no Need to Book)
Tomorrow at 10:00 + 4 more
Southam Library & Information Centre
Free



Lego Club at Southam Library-
Booking essential.
Today at 15:30 + 7 more
Southam Library & Information Centre
Free



Story Stomp at Southam Library.
Tomorrow at 11:00 + 7 more
Southam Library & Information Centre
Free



Winter Crafts at Southam Library
Mon, 22 Dec, 11:00
Southam Library & Information Centre
Free



We were so lucky that Mike, from Southam Library, was able to join us again this term. We love his story telling! Make sure you say hello when you visit the library!



Festive Fun!

Join illustrator Rob Biddulph and learn how to draw some fun Christmas characters!



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m002fcf8/go-get-arty-drawalongs-16-rob-biddulph-christmas?seriesId=more-like-this>

Wishing all of our children and their families a very happy Christmas! Time to put your feet up and enjoy a good book.



**THAT'S WHAT I DO
I READ BOOKS**



**I DRINK COCOA
AND I KNOW THINGS**