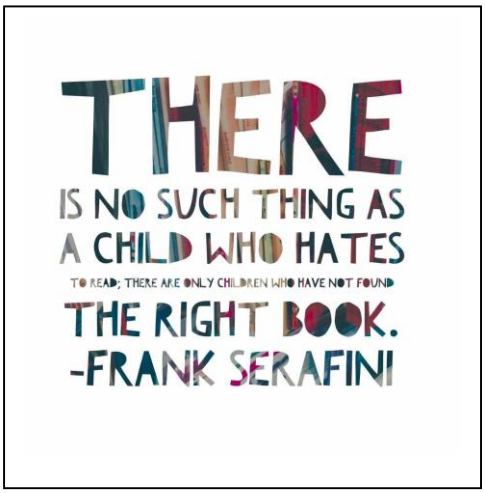


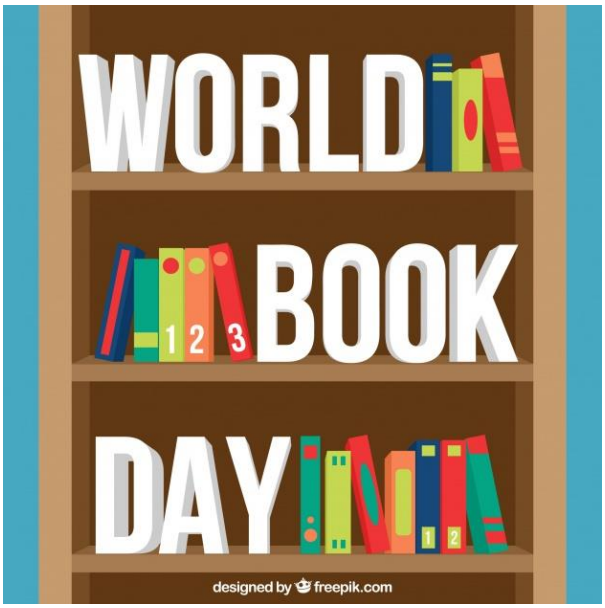
Northmead's Reading Newsletter

March 2021

This year, World Book Day looked a little different, with many of our children working from home This did not stop us celebrating and we loved seeing the costumes you managed to create.

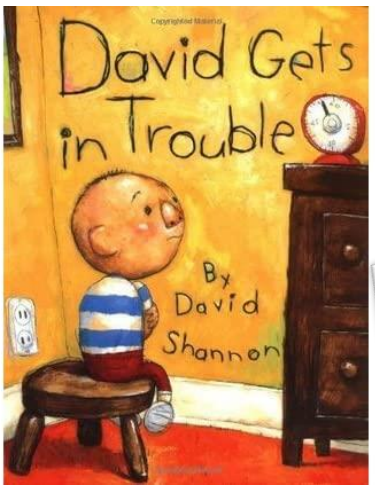
All children should have brought home a World Book day token. Remember to spend these before Sunday 28th March. If your child has missed out on their token do encourage them to ask Miss Lewis who has spares.

The World Book Day website indicates that the book tokens can be used at Sainsburys and Tesco. This might be an easy way to purchase the books during lockdown.



Book Week

Years 3,4, & 5 took part in a book week as they all returned to school the week beginning March 8th. The children read a book as a stimulus for their own writing and art work. We were really impressed with their enthusiasm and learning.

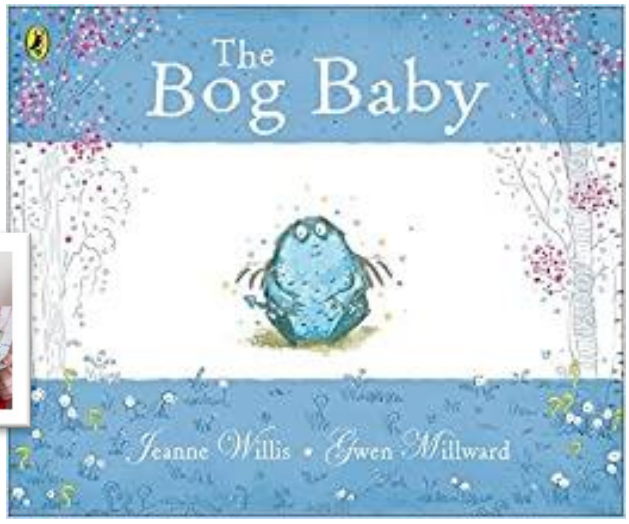


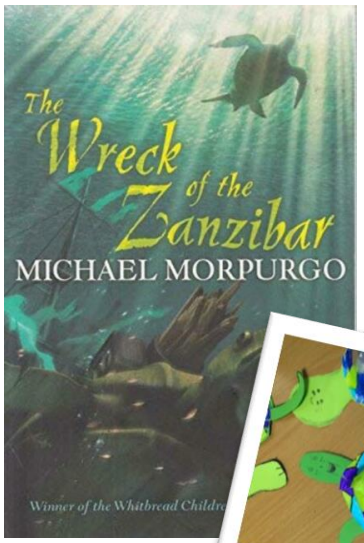
Book Week in Year 3

Year 3 read the book "David Gets in Trouble" by David Shannon. The children produced some super pieces of work this week with a focus around writing dialogue.

Book Week in Year 4

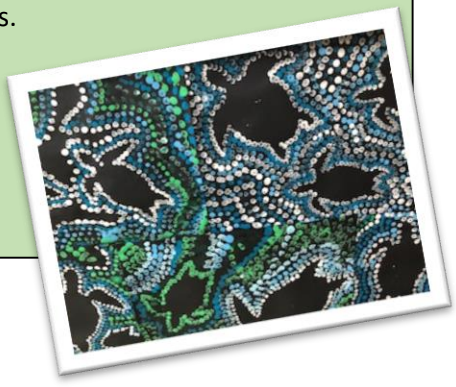
Year 4 used the Bog Baby by Jeanne Willis as a stimulus. The children followed footprints along the corridor to discover a Bog Baby in our school grounds.



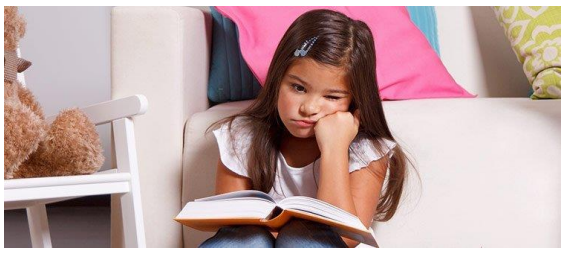


Book Week in Year 5

Year 5 used the book- The Wreck of the Zanizbar by Michael Morpurgo as a stimulus. During the week the children have enjoyed finding out about turtles, taking part in a range of reading, writing and science activities, as well as creating some brilliant art pieces.



Look out in a future issue of this newsletter for details of the book week in Year 6



I hate reading

I have been impressed with the enthusiasm for reading shown by many of our children at school. It has been lovely to hear what they have enjoyed reading over the lockdown period and the books they are looking forward to reading next. But what do you do if your child chooses not to read. Firstly, don't panic; it is not uncommon for children to 'go off ' reading and it may be for a number of reasons. Try to find out the cause without adding further pressure. If children are reluctant to read it may be because they are finding it hard work or they state that all books are 'boring'.

Your child may experience reluctance when they become aware of friends/peers progressing on to longer/chapter books. Explain that reading is not a competition and that, if they continue to read, they will soon manage similar texts.

My advice, if your child is going through a phase like this, is to focus on reading little and often with high-interest texts such as comics or non-fiction texts on a subject that interests them.

Reading books with manageable amounts of texts can encourage children back in to reading. Try reading funny poems, joke books or share a magazine article or read a recipe or craft book. (texts which have a 'real' purpose to reading).

Many children enjoy collecting cards (football, Minecraft, Lego, top trumps); get children to read the information on the cards and ask questions about the information.

Look for books with characters that appeal. Often children like to read about characters slightly older than themselves, characters they want to aspire to be, or characters that they wouldn't dare be (really naughty/terribly dangerous)

If your child is struggling to read, before reading select some potentially tricky vocabulary from the book/passage/chapter, write them on a piece of card and practise the words prior to reading the book. This will give them confidence when they come across those words in the texts.

If your child wants to read a book that is beyond their reading level, this is fine. Read it together. This can be done in a number of ways; read alternate pages/sentences. Read the text at the same time, in unison together. This 'choral reading' helps build fluency and comprehension. Read the text initially then let your child read the text.

Continue to read aloud to your child regularly and be a reading role model.

Do talk to your child's teacher if you are worried.

Books for Topics

Picture books to share with children returning to school after lockdown

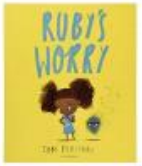
SCAN ME

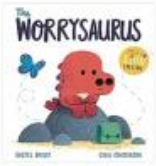
On Friendship

On Feelings

On Community & Togetherness

On Worries

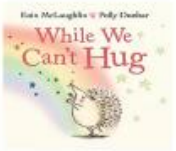




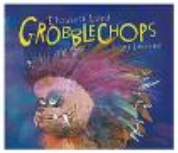
On Germs & Handwashing

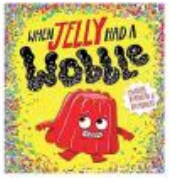
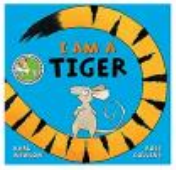
On Resilience

On Coronavirus



On Fear



On Hope

For Fun & Laughter