

## Northmead's Reading Newsletter May 2021

We have just been successful in applying to receive a Representative Reads Book Bundle from the Widening and Participation and Outreach team at Surrey University. I am pleased to say that the following titles will soon be arriving in school for our children to enjoy:

## Ruby's Worry by Tom Percival

Clean Up! by Nathan Bryon and Dapo Adeola
The Colour Monster by Anna Llenas
The Proudest Blue by Ibtihaj Muhammad
Here we are by Oliver Jeffers
Lunar New Year by Hannah Eliot
Binny's Diwali by Thrity Umrigar
Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall
The Name Jar by Yangsook Choi
Bud not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis
Race to the Frozen North by Catherine Johnson
Amari and the Night Brothers by BB Alston
The Girl Who Stole an Elephant by Nizrana Farook
Old Enough to Save the Planet by Anna Taylor, Loll Kirby, et al.
The Lotterys Plus One by Emma Donoghue
Ghost by Jason Reynolds
Ways to Make Sunshine by Renee Watson
The Infinite by Patience Agbabi
Girls Who Changed the World by Michelle Roehm McCann
Lailah's Luncbox by Ream Faruqi
The Story of Hannukah by David Adler


This outreach project from the university aims to diversify school libraries and provide a bookshelf representative of different ethnicities, genders and lives so that children can see themselves represented in literature but also learn and understand the experiences of others.

## Continuous Professional Development.

Improving the teaching and learning of reading continues to be a key focus for us at Northmead. This month our teachers have attended a session on developing fluency.

Fluency is the ability to read with accuracy, a suitable speed and prosody;


Our teaching of fluency at Northmead is based around children achieving these objectives;

| YEAR 3 | YEAR 4 | YEAR 5 | YEAR 6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Fluent reading, silently most of the time, adjusting speed of material to suit material and monitoring the precise meaning <br> Read aloud a decodable or simple text at a reasonable pace, grouping words into meaningful phrases without overt sounding and blending <br> Uses punctuation cues and some intonation and expression <br> Reads at 90 words per minute pace | Use a range of strategies effectively to read with fluency. understanding and expression <br> Read aloud a predictable text at a flowing pace, pausing to attend to more complex punctuation. <br> Uses effective intonation, stress and expression that indicate comprehension. <br> Reads without finger tracing <br> Sustain silent reading to include longer, more varied and complex texts. | Able to read most words effortlessly and to work out how to pronounce unfamiliar written words with increasing automaticity <br> Reads aloud a range of moderately complex texts with fluency and phrasing, adjusting pace, volume, pitch and pronunciation to enhance meaning and expression and according to purpose and audience | Read aloud a range of moderately complex and sophisticated texts which include multisyllabic words and complex sentences with fluency and appropriate expression. <br> Consistently and automatically integrates pausing, intonation, phrasing and rate. |

Reading speed is an interesting skill to ponder. Children do need to read at a pace which allows them to extract meaning from what they read. If a child is decoding each word, their reading will be laboured and they will struggle to understand what they are reading. To read for comprehension requires a reading speed of at least 90 words per minute. However, children who read extremely quickly are not the best readers when reading aloud. Children need to alter the pace of their reading dependent on the purpose and the meaning of the text.

## Making Reading More Fluent ghos



In 'non covid' times, children in Year 6 have to sit a reading SATs paper. The government's guidelines for KS2 reading tests state they should be between 1,500 and 2,300 words long. The most recent test paper had 2168 words. This test does fall within the guidelines, but right at the top end of the scale. Children with a slower reading rate struggled to complete the tests in the time given.


So, children need to be able to read quickly in their heads when accessing information, but when reading aloud they need to think about the performance they are providing and read at a speed which is most suitable.


Many of our children are working hard to earn their green Blue Peter badge. If you are interested in the environment, this book list may inspire you. Credit to Dean Boddington for this list (https://misterbod.wordpress.com)


## Book of the Month- May

We have been reading this book as part of our Book Club at school. If you want to join our book club do ask Miss Lewis for the google classroom code.

## What is the story about?

After Arthur, Cecily and Ren try to rescue a dog from a burning warehouse, they slip through a time portal and find themselves thrown 400 years into the future, trapped in a complex virtual reality video game world called Wonderscape. And unless they want to be turned into slime - they have to work out what the game is, how to navigate it, and what it all means... within 57 hours!


## Accelerated Reader

Quiz Number: 238625
Book Level: 6.2
Colour Band: Red

## Who is the author?



Jennifer Bell
Other books written by Jennifer Bell


