

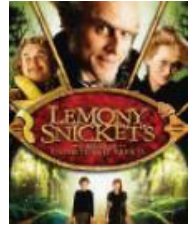
Reading at Norwood

Spring 2022



Many famous people have very strong emotions regarding reading. This fact demonstrates how emotive reading can be and why it evokes such passion. At Norwood we love this quote:

“Never trust anyone who has not brought a book with them.”
– Lemony Snicket



Reading can expand our minds, so grab a book at every opportunity. Lemony Snicket is a pen name for the author called Daniel Handler. He wrote the book collection ‘A series of Unfortunate Events’. These books are for the older child, but are full of cunning, adventure and dastardly deeds. This is why preparing yourself through reading could lead to being prepared when someone is up to mischief!

More information about the Reading Team can be found on the Reading part of the school website. If you would like to be involved in any future reading updates or have any questions that you want answering, please email the Reading team on:

team-reading@norwoodmail.co.uk

Support at home

How to foster a love of reading for your child.

Here are some of our ideas:

- Read yourself! It doesn't matter what it is – pick up a newspaper or magazine, take a look at a cookery book, read a computer manual, enjoy some poetry or dive into a romance or detective novel. And get your children to join in – if you're cooking, could they read the recipe? If you're watching TV, can they read out the listings?
- Give books as presents. And encourage your children and their friends to swap books with each other – it'll give them a chance to read new stories, and get them all talking about what they're reading.
- Visit the local library together. It's always fun choosing new books to read, and keep an eye out for special author events at the library or local bookshops – children love meeting their favourite authors. Jacqueline Wilson and Anthony Horowitz always have signing queues that are miles long!
- Encourage children to carry a book at all times. That way, they'll never be bored (this is something you can do, too!)
- Have a family bookshelf. If you can, have bookshelves in your children's bedrooms, too.
- Keep reading together. Just because your children are older, it doesn't mean you have to stop sharing stories – perhaps you could try the Harry Potter series or *A Series of Unfortunate Events*.
- Don't panic if your child reads the same book over and over again. Let's be honest - we've all done it!



Reading at Norwood

Spring 2022



Spring Term
January
National Handwriting Day 23 rd January
National Storytelling week - 30 th January - 4 th February
February
National Storytelling week - 30 th January - 4 th February
Harry Potter Book Night (Celebrating 25 years of HP) 3 rd February Register at https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/discover/harry-potter/harry-potter-book-night-2022/
World Read aloud Day - 5 th February
International Book Giving Day - 14 th February
March
World Book Day - 3 rd March
World Storytelling Day - 20 th March
World Poetry Day - 21 st March
April
International Children's Book Day celebrated on Hans Christian Andersen's birthday to inspire a love of reading. 2 nd April
D.E.A.R. Drop Everything and Read Day - 12 th April

Reading skill - Fluency

You can help your child read more quickly and accurately. Schools call this reading fluency. Your kids will call it fun!

When children can read fluently, it's easier for them to understand what they're reading, they read aloud easily and with increasing expression. Needless to say, this makes reading a lot more enjoyable.

Less fluent readers read more slowly and word by word. Their attention is focused on sounding out each word, so they often pay less attention to understanding what they've read. As a consequence, their comprehension and their motivation can suffer. Of course,

Reading at Norwood

Spring 2022



early readers aren't fluent yet, but by the end of Reception, children should be reading books at their level with ease and expression.

Here are four things we can all do to help:

Choose the right books

Help your child choose books that they can comfortably read. The "five-finger test" is a useful guideline for early readers. As your child reads, count the number of words they cannot read per page. In general, there should be five words or fewer that give them trouble on each page. If a book contains several pages on which you count more than five words that they can't read, consider reading that book to your child until they develop more reading skills.

Listen every day

Once you've found a collection of books that your child can read, listen to your child read every day. Be patient — new readers often read slowly! Offer help when your child gets stuck, and always give lots of praise and encouragement.

Read it again, Sam

Encourage your child to reread favourite books and make it fun! Repeated readings improve children's fluency and comprehension. They also provide opportunities to practice reading with expression. Children will enjoy giving the wolf a scary growl or using a squeaky little voice for a mouse.

Read to your child every day

Model your own fluent reading as you read and reread books with your child. Even though your child may be able to read on their own, continue to find time each day to read books to them that are just beyond their reading level. They will enjoy listening to more advanced stories, and they will hear a great example of fluent reading.



Reading at Norwood

Spring 2022



READING FOR
6 MINUTES A DAY
REDUCES STRESS
BY 68%.

When children have a home library, as little as **20 books** of their own, they achieve **3 more years** of schooling than children who don't have any books at home.



If you read just **one** book a day to your child, they will have been read **1825** books by their 5th birthday.

Read **20 minutes** a day and you'll read **1,800,000 words** per year.

Children who read **1,000,000 words** a year are in the top 2% of reading achievement.



Diversity in children's books has become an increasing and important issue over recent years with much research showing that the large proportion of children's literature does not reflect our society, with a distinct lack of BAME (Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic) characters. Following recent events, many schools and families are beginning to explore the stories (both fiction and nonfiction) that their children are regularly exposed to.

At Norwood Primary, we fully recognise the importance of creating an inclusive reading curriculum where our young readers get the opportunity to see themselves portrayed in literature, to reflect their own lives. In addition, we use texts as windows so that our children can learn and understand about the lives and issues of others, both past and present.

In this newsletter, we have included a selection of children's literature with BAME representation.

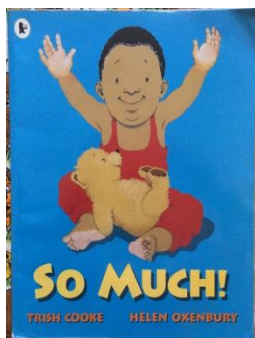
Here are some recommendations for Reception and KS1:

Reading at Norwood

Spring 2022



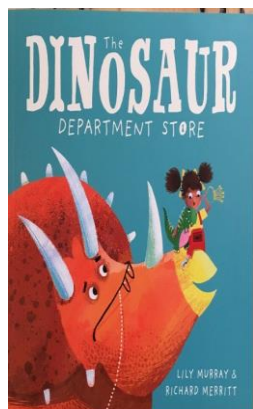
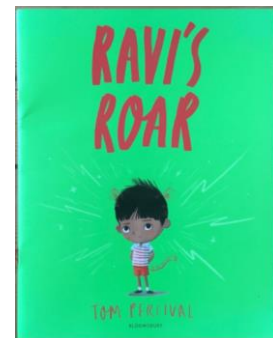
So Much! by Trish Cooke



The love and joy that a baby brings to a family is a precious thing, with this fascinating little person becoming a focal point for loved ones. This award-winning and uplifting story captures this sense of adoration perfectly. The language is rich, descriptive and repetitive, with Helen Oxenbury's bright gouache pictures capturing their energy perfectly. While the book reflects Trish Cooke's Afro-Caribbean heritage, the message is universal – and just a joy to share.

Ravi's Roar by Tom Percival.

Being the smallest sibling is great most of the time but sometimes Ravi gets frustrated. Why does he have to share a train seat with Dad and the dog? And why can't he reach the monkey bars in the park? Normally Ravi can control his temper but one day his fury bubbles over and he unleashes the tiger within, with a roar far bigger than his size. He's delighted with his new fierce persona – until no one wants to play anymore. A sweet and engaging story about dealing with emotions and learning to express your feelings, with really charming illustrations too



The Dinosaur Department Store by Lily Murray and Richard Merritt.

Dino-loving Eliza Jane demands a prehistoric pet of her own for her fourth birthday – which her reluctant parents bravely agree to. Thus follows a bonkers trip to the Dinosaur Department Store owned by flamboyant Mr Magisaurus. After a tour of his collection of hadrosaurs, sauropods and ankylosaurs, Eliza-Jane declines to take one home... and secretly sets the stock free because she decides they would be happier in the wild. Huge fun, with a hearty helping of dinosaurs and many important messages for children, not least that girls can like dinos too.

Billy and the Beast / Billy and the Dragon by Nadia Shireen.

Sassy Billy is a heroine for every independent lady out there, with her glorious hair that hides a thousand handy things and her cool companion Fatcat. The first adventures see unflappable Billy rescues the woodland creatures from the clutches of a hungry beast using just her sharp thinking, while the follow-up has our gal heading after a fire-breathing dragon when fancy dress goes very wrong. As with all of Nadia Shireen's books, these stories are quirky, witty and have strong messages about friendship.

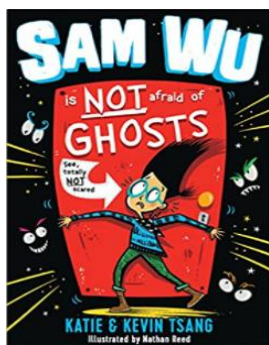


Reading at Norwood

Spring 2022



Here are some books recommended for KS2:

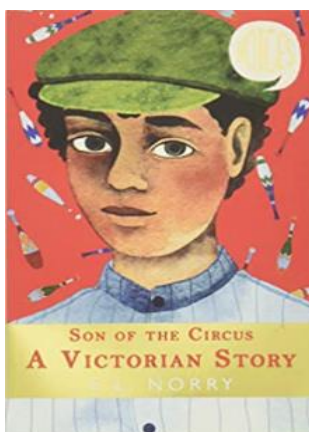
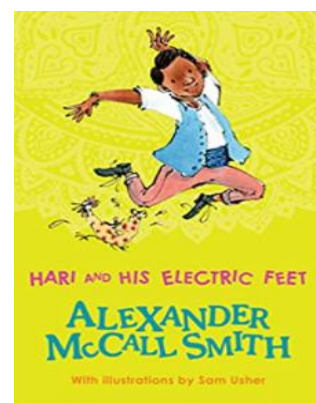


Sam Wu is not afraid of ghosts! By Katie and Kevin Tsang

Sam Wu is NOT a scaredy-cat (except he is). When a trip to the Space Museum goes terrifyingly wrong, Sam begins a mission to prove to the school bully, and all of his friends, that he is a fearless space adventurer. A truly laugh-out-loud, voice-led and madcap story of ghost hunting, snakes and mischievous pet cats called Butterbutt, perfect for fans of Tom Gates, Wilf the Mighty Worrier and Barry Loser, and readers aged six plus.

Hari and his Electric Feet By Alexander McCall Smith

Hari is a dreamer with an unusual talent. He spends the few coins he earns washing cars on cinema trips to watch (and learn from) his beloved Bollywood films. Then one day Hari's gloriously fancy footwork is spotted by Mr Ram, a man on a mission to resolve conflicts near and far. Hari so entrances everyone with his magical dancing that soon he is summoned to the White House itself where his electric feet bring harmony to the presidential couple and an easier life for Hari's family.



Son of the circus A Victorian Story By E.L.Norry

A Victorian Story explores the life of a young mixed-race boy, Ted, living with his mother and poorly older brother in Victorian Bradford. When a stranger, a man the boys don't remember ever seeing before, appears in their kitchen, Ted is hit with a shocking revelation. This man is his father – the first black circus owner in Victorian Britain, Pablo Fanque. Before Ted can recover from his shock, he is sent away with Pablo to learn the tricks of the circus trade. Pablo is determined for Ted to follow in his footsteps. But can Ted adapt to this terrifying new life amongst strangers? And will he ever see his beloved mother and brother again?

Agent Zaiba Investigates By Annabelle Sami

At her cousin's Mehndi party, Zaiba gets her first challenge: to discover the identity of the VIP staying at the same hotel. With the help of her best friend Poppy and brother Ali, Zaiba puts her sleuthing skills to the test. And when the celebrity's precious dog disappears, along with its priceless diamond collar, it's up to the trio to save the day!

