

Autumn Reading Newsletter



Welcome to the Autumn Reading Newsletter. We have hit the ground running this year, with our enthusiastic Year 6 Librarians doing an amazing job before school each day and at lunchtimes, helping to change home reading books and helping pupils to find their next book adventure. We are excited about the new library space we are creating and have been busy preparing for the “2026: The National Year of Reading”.

We are already planning lots of special events for pupils and our wider Coppice community and can't wait for you all to get involved! If you have any suggestions of reading related activities you would like to see happening in school, please do get in touch and we will see what we can do! Don't forget to check out the Spooky Book recommendations, so you have something fun and thrilling to read over half term!



Non-Fiction November

Non-Fiction November is an annual celebration that was created by the Federation of Children's Book Groups. Its aim to highlight the joy and value of factual reading for young readers and beyond. This year, the theme is *'Past Puzzles and Timeless Treasures'*, which invites pupils to explore history, archaeology, legends and the evolution of places and objects over time.



Why celebrate National Non-Fiction November?

The research by The Literacy Trust demonstrates, providing pupils with the opportunity to read and explore non-fiction plays a vital role in helping them to learn about their world, as well as fostering reading for pleasure. It is therefore vital that pupils have access to a high-quality and engaging | non-fiction collection.

Overall, the report found that those who read non-fiction are motivated to read for educational purposes, to satisfy curiosities, to foster social connections and to support their own mental wellbeing.

In school, we will be running some non-fiction book activities and actively encouraging everyone to dive head first into a book about something they are passionate about! We will be creating a sharing wall in the library and spending some time in shared reading sessions exploring some of the amazing non-fiction books we have in school.

Those who read non-fiction are more likely to want to take care of the environment compared with those who don't read non-fiction (68% vs 49%).

Why not try to get involved, visit the local library, find facts and have fun!

Top 3 Reading Classes in Autumn 1 are:

1st Place – 6D,

2nd Place – 6S

3rd Place – 5W



Little Wandle..

Using the Little Wandle Books with your child at home is incredibly important to ensure that your child makes the best progress possible.

However, we know it can be challenging to know what to do to support your child and so that is why there is a specific “For Parents” are on the Little Wandle website. Check it out for more information.

<https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/and Sounds>



We're teaching every child to read with Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised
A complete SSP validated by the Department for Education



A reminder that as part of ensuring our school remains up to date with best of children's literature, we have a book club through Love Reading.

If you would like to buy books for your child and support us here at Coppice Academy, while doing so, we would greatly appreciate your contribution.

When you make your purchase on the site, please select Coppice Academy as your chosen school.

<https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/>

SPOOKY, FUNNY AND SCARY READS FOR HALLOWEEN

Explore if you dare...

FREE books for your school when you buy at the Book Fair!

SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS

A pop-up book-store with hundreds of books from just £2.99

COME to the BOOK FAIR

17th - 24th November

As always, there will be a fantastic array of books, starting from just £2.99, and a range of fun stationary items on offer. Payment will be via a QR Code link, at the book fair or via the 'Wish List' your child will fill in during their class visit to the fair.

All purchases you make gives our school free books to add to our Library and class book corners.



Library Updates...



This year has begun with lots of new additions and improvements to our Library. We now have a “Wondering what to read next...?” display created by pupils in each year group to give other pupils help in finding their next book adventure. Each pupil chose their favourite book and artistically recreated the spine of that book to appear on year group shelves. We have also updated and added to our library collection with books from our last Scholastic Book Fair rewards and with the preloved books that some of you have very generously donated to our collection.

We hope that many more of you will be able to help us in keeping our libraries across the school well stocked with books. When you are having a clear out of books that your children may have outgrown or are simply making room for new favourites, we would be very appreciative of any, pre-loved but still in good condition, books that you would be willing to donate to us. Both fiction and non-fiction would be very much appreciated.



As mentioned in our last reading newsletter, the opening of our Community Reading Library for parents and families of our pupils is now open and well stocked with books in a wide range of genres. It can be found at the front of the school building next to the gate onto the playground. We are in the process of building a sign for the community box that matches the main school library – so keep an eye out for it!

As with our pupil library if any of you have books you have read that you would be willing to donate, or swap for a new read, please drop them into reception or pop them into the box.

In other exciting news we are in the process of developing a new library space in school for our younger learners. We are busy behind the scenes looking at plans and possible layouts but as soon as we are able to we will share the amazing new space that will, not only foster our younger learners passion for reading, but will allow us to promote small group work and provide a warm, inviting and inspiring place to enjoy a story or two.



Autumn Quiz



Autumn is the season when we go back to school, the leaves turn brown and start to fall off the trees. How much do you know about autumn? Have a go at our quiz to find out!

Test your knowledge on the Autumn quiz!

<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/activities/take-a-quiz-about-autumn/>





Department
for Education

National Year of Reading 2026

National
Literacy
Trust

Change your story

The National Year of Reading 2026 is a campaign that will engage new audiences in reading, encourage reading for pleasure and change the nation's reading culture for future generations.

Reading is central to the Government's Plan for Change: it supports success in school, work and in life, boosts wellbeing, brings people together and expands our knowledge about the world.

In a fast-moving, AI-powered world, the campaign will reimagine what reading means, making it modern, meaningful, and relevant. Reading unlocks potential, boosts wellbeing, builds skills, and brings us together.

There are many multi-sector partners joining forces to get the nation reading. The goal is bold: to inspire thousands of community reading champions, welcome millions of new library members, and help businesses champion reading in their workplaces and communities.

From online influencers and social platforms to teachers, libraries, and colleges, everyone has a role to play. At the heart of this movement is a dynamic, insight-driven campaign powered by national champions and local communities.

Together, we'll build a culture where reading is for everyone, everywhere. Be part of the story and help get the nation reading.

Education Secretary, Bridget Phillipson has stated:



COPPICE
ACADEMY

WE ARE A

READING SCHOOL



As someone whose love of reading was sparked in childhood, I know just how powerful books can be in shaping young lives.

Reading holds the keys to so much of children's education, so the decline in reading for pleasure among young people should sound alarm bells loud and clear.

This can't be just a government mission. It needs to be a national one. So, it's time for all of us to play our part, put our phones down and pick up a book.

When parents take the time to read with their children early on, they lay the foundations for strong literacy skills, helping kids to be school ready. By making reading a daily habit, even just 10 minutes a day, we can help give kids the best start in life, as part of the Plan for Change.

The campaign will be packed full of exciting school and community events and activities supported by a dedicated website, backed by over 30 organisations so far including Premier League, Julia Rausing Trust, Arts Council England, the Very Group and a range of publishers.

At Coppice, we cannot wait to dive into the National Year of Reading and all the amazing opportunities that it will offer our pupils. We are already a reading school but this year will give us the chance to share this with our families, with everyone from across Arden Multi Academy Trust and the local community.

“Reading not only shapes a child's educational journey and future career prospects – it also has a profound impact on their mental wellbeing, building confidence, self-esteem, and a sense of connection to the world around them.”

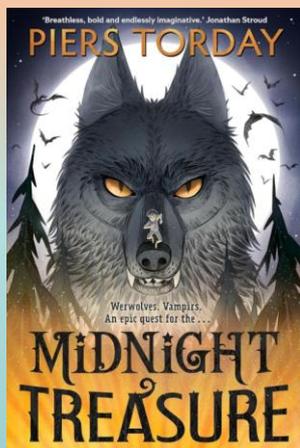
What Should I Read Next?



Reading Genre Focus

This reading newsletter we are diving into a spooky book genre.

Those of you who love everything that goes bump in the night, will love some of the books on offer below. Make sure the doors are locked, the curtains closed and delve into a new story... that is, if you dare!



In an empire of vampires and werewolves, Tibor and Roza are hunting a treasure more valuable than gold ...

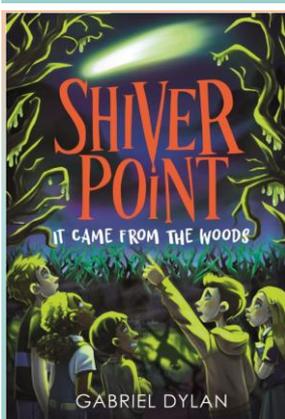
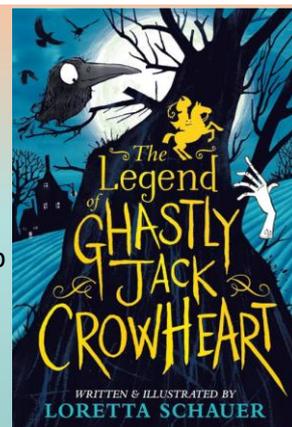
Tibor is a child of the night, a werewolf, adopted by his guardian, a powerful vampir. He and his friend Roza are on the deadliest of quests, and one that will test their very immortality. And they're not the only ones hunting for the Midnight Treasure. Battling with bears, wrestling with vampires and racing against the clock, Tibor and Roza must decide who to trust. And whether they will dare reveal the secrets ... of the Midnight Treasure.

From the award-winning Piers Torday comes this spectacular, irresistible treasure hunt: there will be clues, spells, imprisonments and escapes, fights, betrayals ... but above all there will be courage and hope.

For Lil, life at the Squawking Mackerel inn couldn't be more miserable. She's tasked with the sloppiest, grottiest jobs and picked on at every turn. Her only friend is Augustus Scratchy, a cantankerous crow with a habit of stealing. When the dread villain Rotten Bob Hatchet and his gang of cut-throat highwaymen begin attacking travellers on the road, things get really dire.

Joining forces with a new servant boy, Ned, and armed with the contents of the inn's lost property cupboard, a pocket full of revolting dumplings and some knicker elastic, Lil comes up with a plot to scare off Rotten Bob. And so the legend of Ghastly Jack Crowheart the Demon Highwayman is born!

Dangerous highwaymen, furious crows, ludicrous underwear, and a turnip apocalypse - stand and deliver!



Welcome to SHIVER POINT, home of spooks, screams and small-town horror! Enter if you dare...

Shiver Point is boring. Nothing interesting ever happens there and there's never anything fun to do. At least that's what Alex has always thought. Until one night, in the dead dark, he spots what looks like a meteorite plummeting into Howlmoor Forest.

Intrigued, Alex goes to investigate. But little does he know, four other kids have also spotted the strange streak in the sky: 'troublemaker' Oli, studious Sophia, curious Mo and budding engineer Riley. What they discover is far beyond their wildest dreams - in fact it belongs in their nightmares. Can the gang work together to save the town from the bloodthirsty body snatcher that's arrived with the meteorite before it's too late?

Step into the magical world of Maggie Sparks: the mischievous little witch who turns every day into an adventure. Maggie Sparks is NOT afraid! Especially not on her favourite day of the year: HALLOWEEN.

Maggie is determined to show Arthur that Halloween is FUN not scary. But with giant spiders, floating ghosts, evil Ella and ... is that a real VAMPIRE?! There's plenty to be scared of.

Luckily, Maggie is a super powerful, super smart, super talented WITCH. She plans to use her powers to solve the vampire mystery, and help Arthur find his courage too. All she needs is a little magic ...



Other spooky books you may enjoy...



Home Reading Reminder...

Just a quick reminder that in order to maximise the impact our reading curriculum has on your child's progress. **We ask that:**

- **You listen to your child read each evening and sign their planner.** Each day in school your child will get up to 2 ticks – one for having their planner and the other for it being signed to prove they have read. If they manage this at least 3 times a week, they are in with a chance of winning Reading Champion of the Week – where they are gifted a book, to keep and enjoy, from our vending machine!
- **You ensure your child has their home reading book in school every day,** along with their planner, to enable us to ensure that they are being suitably challenged and supported in their reading progress.

Note : *If your child has finished their Home Reading Book or has accidentally left it at school, please do still hear them read a book of their, or your, choice and still note it in their planner so that teachers can gain an insight into book tastes and interests across the class and school.*

Home Reading support places a vital role in helping consolidate the learning that goes on in school and so we want to support and enable you to have meaningful conversations with your child about what they have read. This embeds and extends vocabulary and comprehension skills that will be essential for their education and later in life.



BIG CAT

What are VIPERS?

VIPERS is an acronym to aid the recall of the 6 reading domains as part of the UK's reading curriculum. They are the key areas which we feel children need to know and understand in order to improve their comprehension of texts.

VIPERS stands for:

Vocabulary



Find and explain the meaning of words in context.

Infer



Make and justify inferences using evidence from the text.

Predict



Predict what might happen from the details given and implied.

Explain



- Explain how content is related and contributes to the meaning as a whole.
- Explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of language.
- Explain the themes and patterns that develop across the text.
- Explain how information contributes to the overall experience.

Retrieve



Retrieve and record information and identify key details from fiction and non-fiction.

Summarise



Summarise the main ideas from more than one paragraph.

The 6 domains focus on the comprehension aspect of reading and not the mechanics: decoding, fluency, prosody etc. As such, VIPERS is not a reading scheme but rather a method of ensuring that teachers ask, and students are familiar with, a wide range of questions and questions types. They allow your child's teacher to track the type of questions asked and their responses to these which allows for appropriate and specific targeted questioning to further understanding about a range of texts.

Below you will find some example question stems for each VIPERS area. You can use these to discuss what your child is reading and to help you understand, based on their answers, what areas they need to explore in more depth, in order to keep progressing their skills.

Vocabulary

Example Question Stems:

- What do the words and suggest about the character, setting and mood?
- Which word tells you that....?
- Which keyword tells you about the character/setting/mood?
- Find one word in the text which means...
- Find and highlight the word that is closest in meaning to...
- Find a word or phrase which shows/suggests that...

Infer

Example Question Stems:

- Find and copy a group of words which show that...
- How do these words make the reader feel? How does this paragraph suggest this?
- How do the descriptions of show that they are ...
- How can you tell that.....
- What impression of do you get from these paragraphs?
- What voice might these characters' use?
- What was thinking when...
- Who is telling the story?

Predict

Example Question Stems:

- From the cover what do you think this text is going to be about?
- What is happening now? What happened before this? What will happen after?
- What does this paragraph suggest will happen next? What makes you think this?
- Do you think the choice of setting will influence how the plot develops?
- Do you think... will happen? Yes, no or maybe? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.

Explain

Example Question Stems:

- Why is the text arranged in this way?
- What structures has the author used?
- What is the purpose of this text feature?
- Is the use of effective?
- The mood of the character changes throughout the text. Find and copy the phrases which show this.
- What is the author's point of view?
- What affect does have on the audience?
- How does the author engage the reader here?
- Which words and phrases did effectively?
- Which section was the most interesting/exciting part?
- How are these sections linked?

Retrieve

Example Question Stems:

- How would you describe this story/text? What genre is it? How do you know?
- How did...?
- How often...?
- Who had...? Who is...? Who did...?
- What happened to...?
- What does.... do?
- How is
- What can you learn fromfrom this section?
- Give one example of.....
- The story is told from whose perspective?

Summarise

Example Question Stems:

- Can you number these events 1-5 in the order that they happened?
- What happened after
- What was the first thing that happened in the story?
- Can you summarise in a sentence the opening/middle/end of the story?
- In what order do these chapter headings come in the story?



Improves
Language
Skills



Boosts
Concentration
and Focus



Encourages
Creativity and
Imagination



Builds Empathy

Reading at Home... The Key to Your Child's Success

Tips for helping your child choose a book

- Take time to browse
- Find a front cover that grabs their attention
- Does the blurb on the back or inside the cover make them want to read on?
- Read a few pages together. Do they want to carry on?

Encourage your child to seek book recommendations from family, friends, teachers, librarians and make recommendations if they find a book their friend might like!

Remember it's ok to change the book if it isn't the right book.

Top Tips...

**Read together
daily**

Ask questions

Visit the library

Be a reading role model



Competition Time...

The Week Junior are asking readers to design the front of our Christmas issue, on the theme of Peace on Earth. We're looking for a bright, clear and festive design. You can use pencils, pens or paints and you can download the template visiting the web address below. The judges will be a team from 'The Week Junior', including editorial director Anna, editor Vanessa, group art director Dave and picture editor Mandy, along with the illustrator of "There's a Tiger on the Train", Rebecca Cobb.

We need original artwork posted to us, not a photo of your image, so when you're happy with your design, fill in the form at the bottom of the template and post the whole page to us at: **Christmas Cover Competition**, The Week Junior, 121-141 Westbourne Terrace, London W2 6JR. **The deadline is 11:59pm on 2nd November.**

To download the entry go to : <https://theweekjunior.co.uk/cover25>

The winning design will appear on the magazine that comes out on 18 December. Please make sure you have a parent or guardian's permission to enter the competition. For the rules and conditions, go to theweekjunior.co.uk/terms – Good luck!

Regular readers achieve up to 30% better results than non-readers.

Children who read for at least 20 minutes a day are exposed to 1.8 million words a year.



Reading for pleasure promotes positive mental health.

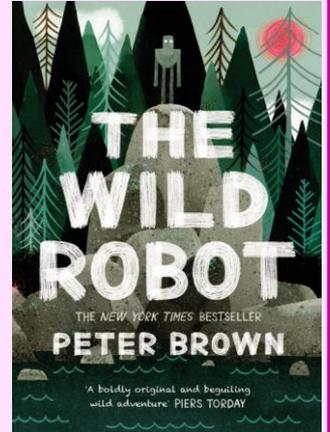
Regular reading can increase children's attention span by up to 5 times.

Our recommendation comes from Mrs Edwards...

The Wild Robot is a great book because it's easy to read and full of adventure. It teaches kindness, friendship, and how to care for nature. Children enjoy the story of Roz the robot learning to live with animals on an island. It's great fun and helps them to think about feelings and the world around them.

There's also a brilliant animated film based on the book, which children can watch afterwards to bring the story to life in a new way.

I would recommend this to any young reader and give it 5 out of 5 stars!



November Readathon Challenge

Turn Pages. Expand Minds. 30 Days, 600+ Pages of Growth

Challenge launches: 1st November

Transform your mind this November with TheChallenge.org's free 30-day Readathon Challenge.

Commit to reading books daily for 30 days in November.

Choose your level: Standard (20 pages), Hard (50 pages), or Hardcore (100 pages).

Read any books you genuinely enjoy - fiction, non-fiction, biographies, or self-help.

Rules: Follow these guidelines daily for 30 days:

Choose Your Level: Standard (20 pages/day), Hard (50 pages/day), or Hardcore (100 pages/day).

Any Book Counts: Fiction, non-fiction, biographies, self-help - read what you love and what interests you most.

Track Progress: Keep a reading log noting pages read, book titles, and favorite quotes or insights.

Physical or Digital: Print books or e-readers all count towards your daily goal!

Helpful Tools & Tips: Make your reading challenge successful with these strategies:

Set a Time: Morning reading jumpstarts your brain, evening reading helps you unwind. Choose what works for your schedule.

Create a List: Prepare 4-6 books in advance so you always have your next read ready. Mix genres to keep it interesting.

Reading Spaces: Designate a comfortable reading spot free from distractions. Good lighting and a cosy chair make all the difference.

www.thechallenge.org/november-readathon-challenge