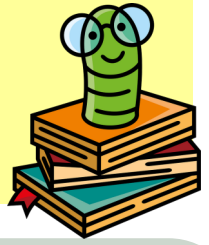


Ilsham Reading Newsletter March 2024

Can you spot the Book
Worm hiding
in this
newsletter?



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our March Reading for Pleasure newsletter.

At Ilsham, every week each class takes part in their own Book Club session—a special time of the week to share our love of reading and make recommendations to our friends.

I spoke to a number of children who shared what they enjoyed about our Book Club sessions.

Romany: I think it's great because you get to learn about new books and hear what your friends think of them.

Paige: I read Amulet because it was part of a graphic novel Book Club. I have read them up to number 8 and am waiting for number 9.

Bea: At Book Club, I learnt about Katherine Rundell and I went to Waterstones and bought Impossible Creatures. This had made me want to read more of her books.

Eelin: I enjoy hearing my friends recommend books to me and I have recommended Hannah Gold to my class.

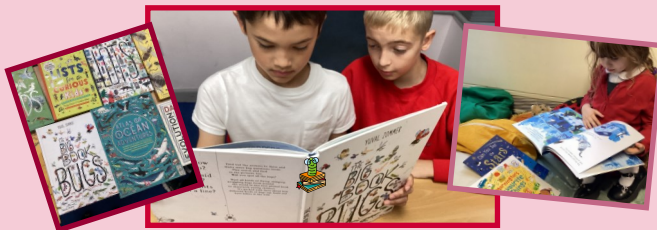
Millie: I enjoyed Eelin's talk on Hannah Gold and it made me read her books. I have read all of them! I recommended The Explorer and some of my friends read it afterwards.

Kyla: I like that we have book blankets so we can see lots of different books.

Amelia: Book Club helps me know about new books and if I'll like them or not.

Hugo: I enjoyed hearing about the Storey Treehouse books. I want to read them. The illustrations on the cover look great.

Georgi: I recommended The Day I Fell into a Fairytale; one of my class has now read it.



Spark! Book Awards

This half-term, we have loved exploring the books shortlisted for the Spark! Book Award—a book award where children decide on the winners. Earlier in the term, we had a special assembly to introduce some of the shortlisted books and authors behind them to the children.

Willows, Rowans and Hollies have already had the chance to attend fabulous online talks from some of the shortlisted authors; all children will have the opportunity to attend an online event over the next few months.

Some lucky children, who have shown an increased love for books, were fortunate enough to be nominated by their teacher to receive their own set of the shortlisted books during our special assembly.

I spoke to some of these children about the brilliant books they received:

Henri: My favourites are Investigators and Peanut, Butter and Crackers because they are funny. Graphic novels are awesome!

Bane: When I was given the books I felt happy. I feel excited about reading them.

Jacob: The Final Year is brilliant because it's both funny and emotional. The author captured how people my age speak.



Silver Stories

Ilsham is proud to be part of Silver Stories —a charity based in Cornwall, which links young readers (Silver Readers) to older listeners (Silver Listeners). As part of this, children telephone Silver Listeners on a weekly basis to read them a story. This enables children to become more confident readers, creates connections between our children and older members of the community and aids in reducing the chances of them becoming isolated. In March, our Silver Readers were delighted to receive their own limited edition Silver Stories lapel badges.

Two of our brilliant Silver Readers, Paige and Fynn, shared their experiences of Silver Stories with us.

Paige: I love it because I can talk to a different person all about my reading and it gives me a chance to read to someone new. It's good because, if a person doesn't have a lot of company, I can read to them and make their day better. I think lots of people should try it because it's good for your reading; it helps other people and the older person helps me to learn long words.

Fynn: I have been doing Silver Stories for over a year. I think it's wonderful to make someone's day by reading a chapter of a book. The Listener sometimes helps me with words and I think they enjoy listening to a young person reading and encouraging them to read. I have recommended it to my classmates.

Year 5 and Year 1 Picture Book Club

Members of Year 5 have volunteered part of their lunch time to run a Picture Book Club for Year 1. The aims of the club are to increase confidence in reading for our Year 5 pupils whilst providing them the opportunity to model reading, inspire younger pupils to be readers and introduce the younger children to a diverse range of authors and texts. It has been lovely to see children enjoying a space to share their love of reading and develop their 'book talk'.



Did you know...

The impact
of **READING**
20 minutes
per day

A **CHILD**
Who
READS



20 MIN

is exposed to
1.8 MILLION
words per year



5 MIN

is exposed to
282,000
words per year



1 MIN

is exposed to
8,000
words per year

Which book-loving member of staff is hiding behind this amazing book from the Spark! Book Awards shortlist?

