

THE SCOOP

EXTRA

'Getting all children to read well, quickly'



St James'

Church of England
Primary School

July 2022 #welovereading

Have you heard about our new approach to teaching phonics?

At St. James' we are continually reviewing our approaches to teaching and learning to ensure they are the best possible for our children. Since March, we have introduced a new phonics scheme in EYFS and Year 1 called Essential Letters and Sounds (ELS). Essential Letters and Sounds is a Systematic Synthetic Phonics (SSP) programme, validated by the Department for Education that builds on the strength of our previous phonics programme, Letter and Sounds (DfE, 2007).

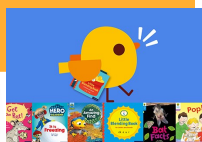
We have been extremely pleased with the children's response to ELS and the noticeable impact it has already had on not only the development of early reading skills but also confidence!

It's had such an impressive impact in such a short time, especially in developing confidence to have a go.

It's great, I like the end part when the aliens are there!

I like being shown how to do the writing and doing lots of reading.

Look out for our Reading Scoop in September for more details.



English: Reading Special #2

Summer Reading Challenge 2022



At St. James' reading is a high priority and underpins everything we do. Our aim is not only to teach our children to be able to read to acquire knowledge, but to also develop a love of reading.

It is evident through research that reading as little as 10 minutes everyday has a significant impact on improving reading and writing skills, but is also great for your child's happiness and well-being!

So... wondering how to keep reading over the Summer Holiday?

The Summer Reading Challenge returns to Gloucestershire Libraries in July 2022.

The national event, which is led by the Reading Agency charity in partnership with public libraries, was launched on **Saturday 9 July** and runs until **10 September 2022**.

It aims to encourage children to enjoy reading and visit their library, where they can also get involved in a range of free events and activities that are being held in libraries around the county throughout the summer.

This year's challenge has been developed in partnership with the [Science Museum Group](#) and features the **Gadgeteers** – 6 fictional young innovators who plan a party for their town's summer fair using creative thinking and teamwork. **Children aged 4 to 11** will be able to join six fictional Gadgeteers by taking part, with free materials available from libraries and online via the challenge [website](#).

The characters - brought to life by children's writer and illustrator Julian Beresford - use their curiosity and wonder to understand the science behind a range of interests, from fashion and technology to cooking and music.

The challenge is to read **6 or more library books over summer**. Your local library will give you a sticker for every book you read, and after finishing 6 books you'll get a medal and certificate.

Through an exciting [book collection](#) and other activities, the Gadgeteers will help to spark children's curiosity about the world around them and encourage them to feed their imagination over the summer holiday.



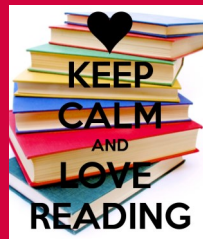
[Summer Reading Challenge events at Gloucestershire libraries can be found here](#) and you can [find out which services are available for families to enjoy here](#).

SUMMER READING RECOMMENDATIONS

Looking for some good children's books to get stuck into during the summer holidays? **Books for Topics** have put together a list of some of our favourite new children's books out this summer, listed by age group. Their summer selection includes stories of adventurous getaways, creatures of the deep, treasure quests, seashore escapades and plenty of exploration of the great outdoors. For more recommendations by age, check out their [Reading for Pleasure](#) hub or their [Year Group](#) booklists.

Summer Reading Bingo!

Books for Topics [Summer Reading Bingo](#) is an activity for children (and adults if they wish!) to complete over the summer holidays. The focus is on **reading for pleasure experiences** rather than specific texts, with activities like *make a den and read inside*, *read in the dark using a torch* and *read to a pet or a soft toy*. Children can choose *what* they read for the challenges, although we have included some Summer 2022 recommended reads for those looking for new ideas.



DOWNLOAD YOUR SUMMER READING BINGO HERE!

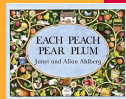
<https://www.booksfortopics.com/bingo>

What have been our favourite class readers this year in the Infants?

EYFS: *The Snail and the Whale* by Julia Donaldson and *Whatever Next!* by Jill Murphy

Year 1: *Each Peach Pear Plum* by Allan Ahlberg and Janet Ahlberg and *The Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister

Year 2: *Queen Victoria's Bathing Machine* by Gloria Whelan and *George's Marvellous Medicine* by Roald Dahl



I ♥ Reading



What have been our favourite class readers this year in the Juniors?

Year 3: *A Series of Unfortunate Events* by Lemony Snicket, *Truckers* by Terry Pratchett, *The Night Bus Hero* by Onjali Q. Rauf and *Frost Heart* by Jamie Littler

Year 4: *The Last Bear* by Hannah Gold and *Varjak Paw* by SF Said

Year 5: *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell

Year 6: *Some Places More Than Others* by Renee Watson and *Ghost: Thirteen Haunting Tales to Tell*

