Reading Newsletter

Welcome to Prince Albert's reading newsletter! This newsletter has been designed to keep you up to date on all of the things that we are doing in school to promote reading for pleasure. We want all of our children to love reading and become lifelong readers. We hope that it will provide you with some ideas and inspiration to support your child at home.

Children who read...

Are more likely to overcome disadvantage caused by inequalities

Are more likely to be happier, healthier and experience better mental wellbeing and self-esteem

Are more likely to do better at school and make more progress across the curriculum

Are more likely to develop empathy and creativity

booktrust.org.uk/benefits-of-reading-news

BookTrust — Getting children reading

Winter Mini Challenge — Marvellous Makers

Illustrations by Natelle Quek and logo artwork by Lizzie Everard. All © The Reading Agency 2024.

THE READING AGENCY | Celebrating creativity | CREATE!

Winter Reading Challenge

Encourage children to read over winter with this free reading challenge! It's an amazing confidence booster and the perfect thing to keep the reading momentum going.

Taking part is simple. Children read three or more books (anything they like - audiobooks count too) between **1 December - 20 February** and add them to their profile. Reaching their reading goal will unlock an adorable limited-edition online badge and a new certificate of achievement to print off and treasure! Winter Reading Challenge Follow this link to find out more or scan the QR code.

Reading Ambassadors
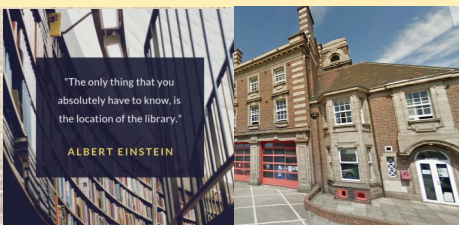
READING AMBASSADOR

There was a slight delay in establishing our new team of reading ambassadors as we were waiting for their badges to arrive. In January, we will be having a special assembly to give all children their badges and announce who our team of reading ambassadors are across school.

We are absolutely thrilled that we had so many applications and that so many children are excited to join our team and share their love of reading across school. Thank you to all of the children who applied and have been waiting so patiently for the team to be set up.
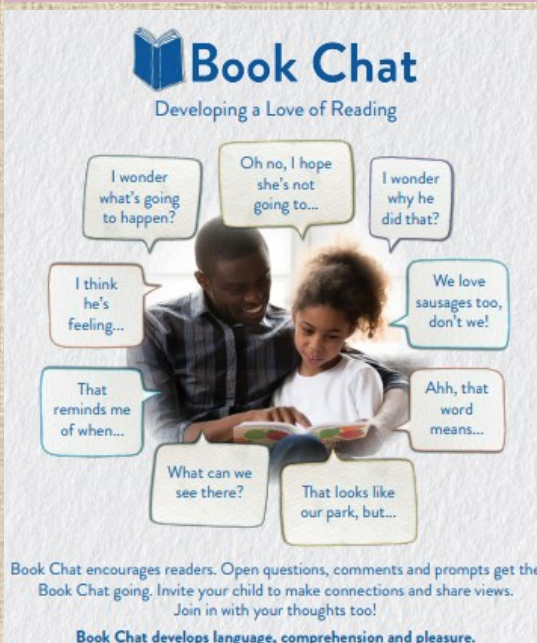
LIBRARY

"The only thing that you absolutely have to know, is the location of the library."
ALBERT EINSTEIN

It is free and simple to join Aston Library. You can join online or pop into the library. Aston Library is open: Thursday 9am-1pm and 2pm-5pm. Why not pop in, join and choose a book! Aston Library is located inside Aston Fire Station on Ettington Road. There are regularly free events at libraries across Birmingham. Scan the code to find out more.

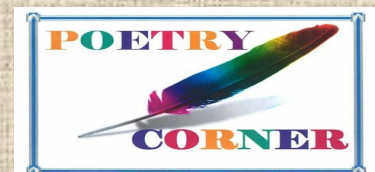### How to support reading at home:

Book Chat
Developing a Love of Reading

I wonder what's going to happen?

Oh no, I hope she's not going to...

I wonder why he did that?

I think he's feeling...

We love sausages too, don't we!

That reminds me of when...

Ahh, that word means...

What can we see there?

That looks like our park, but...

Book Chat encourages readers. Open questions, comments and prompts get the Book Chat going. Invite your child to make connections and share views. Join in with your thoughts too!

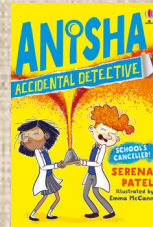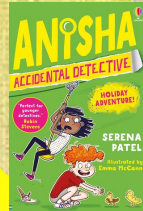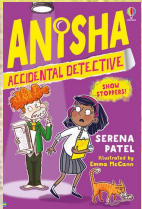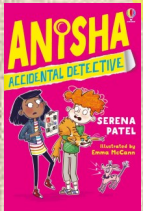Book Chat develops language, comprehension and pleasure.

POETRY CORNER

Here is a poem to share with your child:

When Winter's Here

I think the months of winter are
The finest of the year.
Snowy days, blowy days-
Aren't you glad they're here?
Sleds go coasting down the hills.
Snowmen stand and stare.
The pond is fine for skating,
And snow is everywhere.
Snowy days, snowy days,
Come when winter's here.
Whitest days are brightest days,
Of the whole long year

Elanor Hammond

Author Spotlight
Serena Patel

Born: Walsall, West Midlands– 1979

Information

Serena Patel is the author of the Anisha, Accidental Detective series which won the Sainsbury's Children's Book Award for Fiction. She lives in the West Midlands with her family and believes all children deserve to feel seen in the stories they read and that books are an important tool for empathy. When she's not writing Serena enjoys watching movies, reading and eating cake. Chocolate cake preferred.

Serena Patel was shortlisted for the Asian Writer Short Story Prize and finalist in the Undiscovered Voices Anthology 2018 and soon afterwards her debut children's series secured a multi-book contract with Usborne following a fiercely contested auction. She was diagnosed with ADHD as an adult.

Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.

Margaret Fuller

School reading events

Winter Reading Challenge - 1st December—20th February

January— Reading Ambassadors Assembly

Weekly class visits to the library and shared reading between year groups.
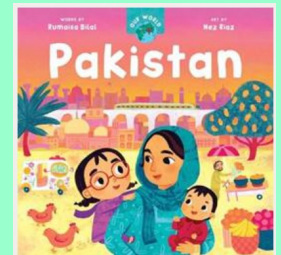
Latest Releases

These are brand new books that have recently been released.

See if you can find them in your local library. If you read one, let us know!

Our World: Pakistan by Rumaisa Bilal

In this charming board book, a little girl takes the reader through her daily routine at home with her family in Pakistan.
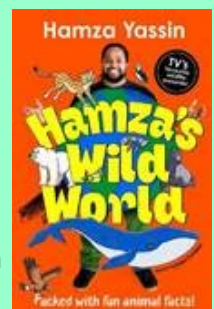
Leon: Worst Friends Forever by Jamar Nicholas

Leon is the school superhero! Or so he thinks. An action-packed graphic novel.

Hamza's Wild World by Hamza Yassin

An incredibly engaging collection of amazing animal facts, from naturalist and cameraman Hamza Yassin.