



Reading Newsletter

Term 2 2024/25

A super term of reading at St Mary's!

At St Mary's, we are really lucky that our library is so well resourced. But it is not a small job to look after it and ensure it is always well-presented for our children when they visit weekly. We have some wonderful Upper Juniors **library monitors** and I would like to say a big thank you to them for giving up some of their lunch time to help keep the library tidy. I would also like to acknowledge the work of **Mrs Davies and Mrs Jones** who have been busily revamping the library, ensuring our books are well-organised and current.



In our penultimate week of term, we received the wonderful news that some of our own St Mary's children made it through the to the **next round of the BBC 500 Words** writing competition, out of tens of thousands of entries! A big well done to Meredith, Annabelle and Millie in Lower Juniors. Watch this space!



As you know, this week we have introduced to the children the **Winter Reading Bingo challenge** which began this week and will conclude on

Sunday 5th January. You will have seen the bingo card stuck in their Reading Records. We really hope you and your child enjoy participating in this light-hearted, but valuable activity. The children's achievements will be celebrated in our first Friday assembly after the Christmas holidays.



Our Reception and Year 1 children have been really lucky to receive a free copy of the book **Gobble Gruff** by Elle Stevenson and Sam Curry. The copies were kindly donated by the illustrator, Dominic Trevett, and brought into us by his friend and a parent from our school, Victoria Rozputynski. The kind of donation we love to receive! Many thanks to them both for arranging this.



In our final week, the children enjoyed the **Christmas Reading Buddies** activity where every child was partnered up with a child from a different year group to share a Christmas story. What a lovely event!

Finally, we would like to celebrate some of the fantastic progress the children at St Mary's have made this term. 100% of children are being heard read at least weekly in school. 96% of children are being heard read daily at home.



Recent assessments have shown that five out of six year groups have an increased number of children at the expected level against data from this time last year. What an impact the first term of our Big Year of Reading has had – thank you for all your support and well done!

Upcoming book events in the first week back:

Wednesday 6th January – Author Workshop for Upper Juniors – David Barker; Thursday 7th January – Book Swap for Reception to Lower Juniors.