



# WE ARE READING



Issue 4 – Autumn (1) Newsletter 2018

## Welcome!

We hope that you have had a good start to term. We have been pleased to hear about all the exciting reading activities and projects that you have been involved in both individually and with other schools. We continue to be impressed with the level of commitment, enthusiasm and creativity that you have demonstrated.

Many of you are now fully immersed in your district projects and we are delighted to be able to share about your successes inside this newsletter.

Please can you send in articles for the next newsletter by 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018.

The general theme is Christmas/Winter but we are happy to hear about any reading events or examples you have of promoting reading.



## Keep Reading!

### Contact & Social Media

E-mail: [WeAreReading@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:WeAreReading@lancashire.gov.uk)

Facebook: [@LancashireWeAreReading](https://www.facebook.com/LancashireWeAreReading)

Twitter: [#LancashireWeAreReading](https://twitter.com/LancashireWeAreReading)

Mind Map: [mm.tt/1041391553?t=ZtymprHwIH](http://mm.tt/1041391553?t=ZtymprHwIH)

## Statistics

How close are we to having every school signed up?

Type	% Signed
Primary	95.6%
North	94.4%
South	98.6%
East	94.3%
Secondary	62.4%
Nursery	100.0%
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>88.0%</b>

(Source: the We Are Reading register of 632 Lancashire schools, 02/10/2018)

## National Events Calendar

### October 2018

8<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> October – Libraries Week (Focus – Wellbeing)

### November 2018

All through November – National Non-Fiction November

### January 2019

18<sup>th</sup> January – Winnie the Pooh Day

26<sup>th</sup> January – February 2<sup>nd</sup> – National Storytelling Week

### February 2019

February 14<sup>th</sup> – International Book Giving Day

February 26<sup>th</sup> – National Tell a Fairy Tale Day

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*"If a book is well written, I always find it too short" – Jane Austen*

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## Co-ordinating Schools List

### District Co-ordinating Primary School

1	Bowerham Community Primary
2	Northfold Community Primary
4	Heyhouses Endowed CE Primary
6	Alston Lane Catholic Primary
7	St Catherine's Catholic, Leyland
8	Ormskirk Asmall
9	Lancaster Lane Community
11	Balderstone St Leonard's
12	Rosewood Primary
13	Coates Lane Primary
14	St James-the-Less Catholic Primary

### District Co-ordinating Secondary School

1	Central Lancaster High School
2	Millfield Science & Performing Arts
4	Lytham St Anne's College
6	St Cecilia's RC College
7	Penwortham Girls' High School
8	Our Lady Queen of Peace
9	Parklands High School
11	St Augustine's RC High School
12	Sir John Thursby Community
13	Pendle Vale College
14	Fearn Community Sports College

*More details on the back page...*

## Submit an Article

Thank you for all the articles you have been sending to us. Please continue to share your good practice by e-mailing [WeAreReading@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:WeAreReading@lancashire.gov.uk). If you wish to supply an image, please make sure you have proper permissions\*. If you provide a Twitter account name for your school, it will appear with your article. Please note: articles should be limited to 200 words and can include only one image.

Issue	Term	Theme	Deadline
5	Autumn 2	Christmas/Winter	23 November 2018
6	Spring 1	Nature/Eco	31 January 2019
7	Spring 2	Celebrations	22 March 2019

*\*by submitting an article with an image, you confirm that you have the rights and permissions to use the image you included, and that you give permission for Lancashire County Council to use this image for the purpose of publishing this newsletter.*

# Bowley Bookfest

## District 11

District 11 held the long-awaited 'Bowley Bookfest' at Bowley campsite on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> September. The two-day event started with a superb day's INSET for 30 staff from our local schools, led by Sarah Atkinson and Paul Cookson, where we explored some of our district's key areas for reading development – expanding vocabulary, engaging parents and peers in reading and also using poetry as a tool to engage reluctant readers/writers.

The Wednesday saw 50 schools and over 1000 pupils, from Nursery to Year 6, join us for a day filled with reading adventures. We had the honour of former Children's Laureate Chris Riddell sharing his new 'Goth girl' book and his 'Poems to Live Your Life By.' The children were treated to a number of readings, book signings and some amazing live illustra-



tions! We were also joined by Maria Farrer, Mimi Theobo, Rachel Lyon, Seth Burkett, Paul Cookson, Dom Conlon, Sue Allonby, Ian McDonald, Gez Walsh and Paul Murdoch. The children (thanks to the steering group schools) had over 48



different book based activities to explore, with each school setting up their own book themed tents, gazebos and wigwams! The activities ranged from meeting the real owl babies (thanks to Lancashire Hawks and Owls), recording their own audio books (courtesy of Shamrock studios), going on a real bear hunt and creating their own dream catchers from the BFG. The event was also supported by Lancashire's very own school library service and local publishers EPSL, who gave each child their very own goodie bag.



It was amazing to see the children engrossed in stories and so enthused by the books they had swapped and purchased on the day. One little boy even told Chris Riddell to keep the noise down during the book signing, as he was busily engrossed in his new book!

The weather was kind and the Bowley team were even kinder! Many thanks to everyone who supported District 11 to inspire a whole new generation of readers, storytellers and poets.

## Signing Up

If you are a school that has not yet signed up to *We Are Reading* but would like to, please send an e-mail to [WeAreReading@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:WeAreReading@lancashire.gov.uk).

Childminding services that would like to sign up, please instead send an email to [lancschildcareteam@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:lancschildcareteam@lancashire.gov.uk)

# Teaching & Learning Section

## Cross-Curricular Reading

*Catherine Leyland (English Team)*

Planning cross-curricular reading opportunities is vital if we are to develop a love of reading. We must ensure that the links we are making are not tenuous, and the texts have rich vocabulary whilst providing age-appropriate and relevant information.

Poetry is a brilliant tool for cross-curricular reading. '1066 And Before That' by Brian Moses contains poems linked to many of the KS1 and KS2 areas of study for History: prehistoric times, the Stone Age, the Bronze Age, ancient Greece, the Romans and many more!

Geography lends itself to wider reading opportunities e.g. stories from around the world. A unit on a European city for example could see children researching famous landmarks, biographies of key figures, recipes for traditional foods, the history of a city and online tourism websites/videos/ leaflets. Aspects of physical Geography, e.g. studying volcanoes, could be introduced by reading poems about volcanoes. This would also have the benefit of pre-teaching the vocabulary that will be met further on in the unit.

In Science, a Year 3 topic on rocks and their properties could be linked directly with Ted Hughes' The Iron Man. When innovating a new character for children's own stories, each body part

could be changed to a different type of rock depending on its properties e.g. reflective rocks for eyes; hard rock for legs to support its weight. Links here can also be made with Minecraft blocks. 'Blockopedias' contain detailed lists of many exciting rocks (obsidian, lapis lazuli) and their properties including how the rocks are formed.

Reading lyrics as part of the music curriculum provides valuable reading opportunities. This again will be engaging, especially if current songs are used. Lyrics from the Greatest Showman's 'This is Me' would provide an excellent starting point for a discussion/ debate on the topic of perceived beauty and individuality (also providing PSHE links).

Above all, reading should ignite a passion for reading. Finding out what motivates the children is a valuable starting point. Keep it relevant, closely linked to the topic or theme and enjoyable! Challenge the children to find cross-curricular links to themes themselves and use these in lessons - they will probably have ideas that you didn't even think of!

## New Start

*Anne Kenworthy, Secondary Consultant*

A new school year and a new start: schools look polished and uniforms the smartest they will ever be - perhaps a time to think about the way we present reading? How do you inspire pupils to

"pick up a book" through the physical presentation of reading?

I know there are some fantastic ways of using the building out there: Shuttleworth have awe inspiring murals created by a talented artist on their staff; at Park High form tutors compete to have their rooms as spaces to advertise good reads, using the ceiling where walls aren't available and Walton-le-Dale decorate classroom doors as book jackets...these are just a few of the things I have seen on my travels around Lancashire.

Boys into books images are useful for free posters- just to brighten and refresh corridors:

<https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=boys+into+books+posters&tbs=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjH1J32yZ7dAhXML8AKHTqFDH8QsAR6BAgGEAE&biw=1172&bih=469>

Reading Champions is another good place to find free posters:

<https://www.thefreelibrary.com/Free+%27Reading+Champions%27+posters.-a0168512845>

Struggling to get them into the library? Why not invite groups of pupils to have a say in book selection- this could be done on a rotation across a year group. Try getting teachers to volunteer to lead a short lunchtime event- telling stories/reading the opening of a new book/leading a quiz/leading a library treasure hunt. If each teacher did just one thing, your calendar for the year

would be amazing! Many schools are being successful in running reading groups for pupils with similar interests- these can be led by school staff or local business people- even grandparents!

How often does the library reach out to the school in a physical way? A "pop up library trolley" in the dining room or on play areas can work well. Brave librarians visit forms and English classes to introduce new stock or read a chapter to entice pupils to borrow the book.

I am sure there are lots more great ways out there- do let us know so that we can share in forthcoming newsletters. In the meantime, however you get your pupils involved - enjoy and happy reading!

## Jigsaw Reading

By *Izabela Zawelska-Ratajczak*, EAL Consultancy & Support

Jigsaw reading is a fun activity for curious learners who enjoy team-work. It emphasizes cooperative learning by providing students an opportunity to actively help each other build understanding of new concepts. It teaches students team-working skills as group members share responsibility for each other's learning to complete an interesting task. Consequently, it improves listening, communication, and problem-solving skills in a fun and collaborative environment.



Teachers using this strategy should assign students to reading groups made of children of varying reading skill level, where each group member is responsible for becoming an "expert" on one section of the assigned material and then "teaching" it to the other team members. Teachers should direct students to read the selection of text assigned to them. When the reading has been completed, the students should meet for approximately 20 minutes with others assigned to the same topic. They should discuss the material, identify the most important learning points, and return to their "home groups" to instruct the others about information in which they have become an "expert". Each student should takes turns teaching what she/he has learned to their group members. You can use questions on the text to make this reading and discussion more focused if needed.

There are lots of useful jigsaw reading activities on our webpage <http://www.collaborativelearning.org/> or you can create your own.

## Magic Bookfest

*Julie Blyzniuk, Lancashire School Library Service*

Once there was Magic...Lancashire School Library Service supports the Bowley Bookfest

The Wizards of Once by Cressida Cowell, author of How to Train Your Dragon is one of this year's nominated Fantastic



Book Awards (FBA) stories. To find out more about FBA and available pupil workshops contact Lancashire School Library Service [preston.sls@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:preston.sls@lancashire.gov.uk)

## Cross-curricular Reading

*Jill Anderton and Anne Conroy, School Improvement Service*

Cross curricular reading is an integral part of early years practice as knowledgeable adults follow young children's interests and provoke their ideas through a range of exciting books and resources. Creating a focus on non-fiction or information books in a nursery or preschool book area can help children to make links between their thinking and also develop new vocabulary. Using books to find pictures to stimulate talk with young children will encourage them to explore lots of different ways of describing things. Adding stories that use the same vocabulary in a narrative way enhances children's confidence

and their understanding of new vocabulary will be secured.

Purposefully displaying books in interesting places across the early years classroom can ignite children's curiosity and provide opportunities to stimulate learning linked to the natural world, people,



places within the local environment and the wider world. For example add books about the park, shops, houses and homes alongside small world resources. Add books about water including uses of water and water in the environment, (rivers, ocean, the pond, under the sea, etc.), alongside the water area together with exciting resources to further develop language and vocabulary and to build on children's experiences of the world around them. Use the role play area as a place to support children in retelling familiar stories, taking on the role of story characters, for example Percy Park-keeper stories linked to the seasons. Books can open up a world of knowledge and experiences for our youngest children.

## Co-ordinating Schools

### Primary

#### Boxes and Books

*District 9 – Lancaster Lane*

District 9's lead school - Lancaster Lane - is awash with books, boxes and notepads. After much research on choosing mainly new 2018 titles for children of all ages, these are now ready to be sent from Lancaster Lane to each of the 52 schools within District 9.



Working in groups of either 3 or 4 schools, each school has a box, a group set of books and a notepad which is kept within the school for half a term. This is aimed at a specified year group. The children are encouraged to read, share and enjoy the books in anyway their imagination allows them and to record their responses in the notepad ready for the next school to read and share before passing on.

Hopefully, the boxes will be filled with exciting and interesting items as they journey from school to school around the district before returning to its 'home school' in half term 4.

## Reading Rox in District 12

### *District 12 Project*

As part of the District 12 project, schools have been paired up to become involved with Reading Rox. The idea is that children decorate a rock with a book character, item or title to be hidden. Each school visits their partner school to hide their rocks. Pupils will then hide their rocks within the partner school grounds. Upon finding a rock, the children at the home school will search for a book at home or in your school library which links to the image.

This has worked brilliantly between Rosewood and Worsthorne and the children are currently in the process of writing to each other discussing their books and their favourite parts.

Children are asked to write #WAR12ROX on the back of their rock!



## Celebrate Reading Picnic

### *District 13 - Coates Lane*

During July, numerous schools in District 13 came together to celebrate reading by holding a Reading Picnic at Coates Lane Primary School.



The children all brought their favourite books and paired up with other children to make new friends and read their books together. It was so lovely to see all of the children (and staff) talking and discussing what they were reading and we ended our fabulous afternoon by spelling out WE LOVE READING and having it filmed by a drone!

## Reading Day at Burnley FC

### *District 13 schools*

Pendle schools and Burnley Football Club came together with pupils from thirteen local schools for a Reading Day in July, with children enjoying classroom based reading activities and swapping book presents, before being treated to a ground tour around the stadium, home of the famous Clarets, taking in sights such as the press room, dugouts and players tunnel.

Local schools in attendance included Kelbrook Primary, Lomeshaye Juniors, Saint John Southworth, Marsden Community, Great Marsden St Johns, Salterforth Primary, Barrowford Primary, Trawden Primary, St Philips Primary, Reedley Primary, Coates Lane Primary, Colne Park Primary and St Joseph's Primary.

The schools and BFC were delighted to get involved in the event as literacy and the concept of encouraging children to read more is one of the key pillars of learning in Pendle at the moment.



Sarah White, Headteacher at Coates Lane Primary School organised the event and said: "Our reading day at Turf Moor was a huge success with 13 schools from across district 13 all coming together to inspire and enjoy reading. It was a pleasure to see all 44 children engaging with each other during the workshops, there were smiles all day! We believed that planning a day linked to reading and football would create increased engagement and the day itself was proof of this. A few days after the event, a parent approached me to thank me and to tell me that for the first time her child had come home from school for the last three days and sat down to read. A passion for reading is so important for children and we were all thrilled that we were able to ignite this at Turf Moor."

Sport Development Manager, Sam Howell said: "It's brilliant to be involved

in the council's We Are Reading campaign and to hold this fantastic event here at Turf Moor. The campaign complements the literacy element of our Premier League Primary Stars programme which uses the power of football to stimulate literacy engagement in children who lack motivation in reading and writing."

## Secondary

### SARCHS update

*Angelina Priest, St Augustines RC High, Billington*

We have contacted all the schools in our district, reminding those who have not yet signed up to do so, giving them encouragement, advice and ideas on areas of focus. We also invited schools to join us on 20<sup>th</sup> September for a conference day where we focused on reluctant readers (funds to be used on this). We suggested each school representative brought along two pupils who they felt would benefit from the activities, which are designed to target reluctant readers. Opportunity for inter school book swaps were also given. Rhyddings School contacted us to register their interest and we hope to hear back from others soon.

We also launched our 'Graphic's Novel Award' on the conference day, intending to supply each school with two books (paid from the funds), which will then be swapped between schools; (reviews being given and then we will find an overall winner). We are using the model we developed last year in our own school which proved very successful for reluctant readers.

Although we couldn't take part ourselves, I passed on the information to all schools regarding the offer of a visit by the author Joseph Delany on the 11<sup>th</sup> July. We have also arranged a visit on the 11<sup>th</sup> October by the author Alan Gibbons. We will be aiming to focus on Year 8, Pupil Premium and AG&T pupils (frequent readers to maintain engagement) for the visit, but will be inviting the other schools to bring pupils who they think may benefit. They are aware of the visit, but we are still in the process of finalising details for the other schools. (Funds to be used again).

Our own school ran a photographic competition over the summer holiday encouraging both pupils and staff to 'Get Caught Reading' in unusual places. This is an incentive which has been successful in previous years. We have already invited the year 6 pupils and their families to get involved, as something to look forward to when they start our school. I have also encouraged parents to keep their child reading over the holidays, as preparation for high school.

We now have the 'We Are Reading Pledge' on our website under the book mark 'Parents' and 'Curriculum'. It is also displayed in the school library.

The school's Librarian and myself took four pupils to the SLA pupil Librarian conference, which was very inspiring and so we have many ideas and plans for future events in the library and around school. We also met with some of the librarians from the other schools in our 'We Are Reading' District.

During the World Cup we encouraged reluctant readers and others, with a lovely football display and promotion of sporting books in the library. I am extremely fortunate to be working with our super Librarian Claire Llewellyn, who is as committed and enthusiastic about getting the whole school reading, as I am and with whose invaluable assistance, we are driving this initiative forward.

More information about what we are doing can also be found in the 'We Are Reading' Newsletter Issue 3 pages 9 and 35.

# School Projects

## Nurseries

### 'Share a Story' corner

*Reedley Hallows, Burnley*

At our Campus Fun Day we were keen to link Nursery school activities with family learning. For younger children we had a share a story corner, this involved us choosing four popular pre-school stories. On the hour one of the chosen stories was read in our story corner by a character from the book, so we started with the Little Old Woman from 'The Gingerbread Man', the Tiger from 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea', the Witch from 'Room on the Broom' and finally Mr Bear from 'Peace at Last'.

Parents and children were invited to listen to the story and complete a simple five question quiz. They received a sticker for each story they shared together and if they shared three stories over the course of the day, they were given a tube of bubbles!!



Initially it was quite difficult to compete with roundabouts and candy floss but as the day wore on and purses got

emptied and Mums and Dads needed a breather, our audiences grew!! The message we were aiming to convey was that time together sharing stories is one of the best presents you can give your child and you can't buy it!!

### Engaging Parents Workshop

*Rosegrove Nursery & Infants*

Rosegrove Infant School and Rosegrove Nursery held a workshop for parents to support them with reading with their children at home.



We spoke about why, where and how to read effectively with children. Our families enjoyed taking part in the fun and interactive reading activities with their children.

### Forest & Woodland Links

*Staghills Nursery School, Rossendale*

Last term as part of the 'We are Reading' campaign we set up a new school library at nursery that has been popular with the children. As we began to think about cross curricular links we decided

that we would combine this area with an enquiry area focussing on the world.



We have a forest school as part of the school that is loved by the children and by creating an area for research linked to the woodland we hope to inspire children to use books for a variety of different purposes.

We hope that having cross curricular links will give greater emphasis to and love of books by a wide variety of children. We can't wait to see what interesting facts they will discover!

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*'All the reading she had done had given her a view of life they had never seen' – Roald Dahl*

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## Primary Schools

### Performance of Poetry

*Mossgate Primary, Morecambe*

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> of June, Mossgate Primary School held their first 'A performance of poetry' afternoon. Parents, friend and governors of the school were invited to the performance where they enjoyed refreshments served by the Year 5 children before the show began.

Each class performed a poem that they had studied in their reading lessons and the themes ranged from seeds to iguanas! The performances were fantastic and individual with each child in their class playing their part brilliantly.



Feedback from the audience was really positive and everyone enjoyed the show. We are hoping to try this again next year, possibly with a different format and a showing after school so that more friends and family can attend.

## Extreme Reading

*Ridge Community Primary, Lancaster*

Ridge Community Primary School in Lancaster have been taking part in the 'Extreme Reading' challenge this term. Both pupils and staff have proved that opportunities for reading can arise in the most unusual of situations! We have focused on ensuring our children understand that reading can be carried out in a variety of scenarios, including unexpected ones! Overall, our children



have learnt that reading is a fun activity that can be carried out during many different opportunities throughout a day.

## We Are Reading goes Global

*Grindleton C of E Primary*

Children from Bolton by Bowland CEPS and Grindleton CEPS paid a visit to Holy Saviour School in Nelson on Monday 16th July 2018, to donate some books to a charity called Mission Possible. The Head teacher at Holy Saviour School,

Mrs Anne Marie Nield, is part of the charity that supports a community in Nairobi; Dagoretti Market. They visit the town on a yearly basis and provide education and resources to children in children's homes and schools in the town.



Mr Holden, The Head Teacher at Bolton by Bowland CEPS and Grindleton CEPS contacted Holy Saviour School with the offer of the books after the two schools spent money on revamping the home reading books and reading schemes at both schools. "We are part of Lancashire's 'We are Reading' year, it seemed a fitting way to support the charity, Mission Possible, and get even more people reading - even in Nairobi." The children were thrilled to hear about the work the charity does and were looking forward to seeing images of the donated books having an impact in classrooms in Dagoretti Market this time next year

## 'Read for Good' Charity

*St Thomas the Martyr CE, Skelmersdale*

Some of our bookworms have taken part in a sponsored read to raise funds to help provide much-needed books and storytellers for local children's hospitals.

The St Thomas the Martyr CE primary school youngsters raised over £150 (and rising) for the "Read for Good" charity.

The event was organised by the Literacy coordinator and keen adult bookworm, Miss Pugh!



I took my Mum to Southport Flower Show to discover that 2 of our schools had created gardens and won prizes! And the absolute added bonus that the theme for the whole show was "Once upon a time" which fits perfectly with We Are Reading!"

Well done to both schools



## 'Design a Garden – Once upon a time'

*School Advisory – Primary*

We were delighted to see that two of our Lancashire schools won a prize in the Southport Flower Show 'Design a Garden Competition' on the theme 'Once upon a time'.

The schools were Tonacliffe in Whitworth and Helmshore Primary.

One of our Area Team Leaders, Jane Phythian said "Imagine my delight when

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*"Reading Gardens are a beautiful, fresh way for communities to enjoy green spaces with lasting positive impacts for children and adults" – Gail Cunningham*

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## Our Library

*Sharneyford Primary, Bacup*

Over the last few weeks, all classes at Sharneyford Primary School have had a trip to Bacup Library in order to promote reading for enjoyment. It was quite surprising to find that very few children had library cards and so we asked parents to complete a form so that the library could issue their children with a card.



The librarian talked about the Summer Reading Challenge and then read poems, stories & showed video extracts of the topics they had been studying in class, e.g. the Egyptians. They had a book quiz where they had the chance to win prizes followed by a question and answer session.

Finally, the pupils had some free time and they were allowed to choose three books to take home. The most difficult part was the hike back up the hill to school.

Hopefully, the visit has inspired the children to go to the library during the Summer holidays.

## Reading at Alder Hey

*Aughton Christ Church*

At Aughton Christ Church C.E Primary School we all took part in a sponsored 'Read for Good' event, where the money raised from reading went towards buying book trolleys for children in hospital. To make this more meaningful for the children and to promote one of our school values of 'service' we took ten Year 6 children to Alder hey Children's hospital to read to some of the patients.



The children selected books to take with them to suit different age ranges and then sat in the atrium area of the hospital to read to patients. They really enjoyed the morning and were proud to help promote a love of reading whilst serving the community.

## Guy Bass - Author Visit

*Aughton Christ Church*

To promote reading at Aughton Christ Church C.E Primary school, we also invited author Guy Bass into school. Guy spoke to Years 1-6 about his childhood and imagination and how this helped him to become an author. He really motivated and enthused the children about reading especially our Year 5 children, who were reading his books as part of the FBA awards run by Lancashire Library.



Guy then judged our extreme read photograph competition and set the children a challenge to write a story based on the winning photograph.

## Don't Judge a Book by its Cover

*Mossgate Primary*

At Mossgate we have started the year with working on our reading areas in the classroom. We have got some wonderful reading trees and reading gardens for the children to enjoy.



Each class has also been thinking about how we can engage the children with reading the books in our class libraries and one idea was 'Don't judge a book by its cover.'

Cards have been made with the first line of some of the books in the class library. The children read through and choose the book that they like the sound of and open the card up to reveal the front cover. So far, the children have really enjoyed choosing a book in this way.

## Holiday Reading Challenge

*Cockerham Parochial*

At Cockerham Parochial CE Primary School as part of the 'We are reading' project we set a Summer Reading challenge for all of our children to create their favourite book as a 'Story in a Box'. We shared ideas and encouraged the children to use their creativity and include as much detail as possible. Our aim was to engage all children by linking a love of reading with their creative flare.



We had a fantastic response and the children were very excited to share their books and brilliant story boxes. We had a fantastic mixture of fiction and non-fiction books. The entries were judged and the PTFA donated prizes which were awarded to each year group. These were presented in our celebration assembly. We are continuing to use some of the story boxes in reading areas in our classes.

## Roald Dahl Day

*St Veronica's RC*

At St Veronica's RC Primary School we invited our local library to come and talk to the children about the new reading scheme, SCART, which was being run over the summer holidays. A number of the children visited the library and took part in the scheme and its workshops.

To start our autumn half term we celebrated Roald Dahl day. Everyone dressed up including some members of staff. The children really enjoyed finding out which characters the children were and from which book. All the classes took part in different writing and creative activities and even some drama sessions.



In October we are planning to run a Mystery Book fair. Our PTFA have funded the purchase of two hundred brand new books, which will be wrapped up and labelled, 'Don't Judge a Book by its Cover'. All the profits of the book fair will then be used to buy new books for our school library.

We have also sent out a newsletter to all parents to keep them up to date with

upcoming events and to promote and communicate the, We Are Reading initiative.

## Reading Reinvigorated

*New Longton All Saints'*

Since launching the We Are Reading initiative last year, we decided to reposition our library to improve the resources we had and also re-invigorate the children's love for reading. We were fortunate to have it opened and blessed by the Rt Rev. Philip North, Bishop of Burnley



on Friday 14th September. The work in the library was completed by our staff team, utilising their skills and working in addition to their roles for the benefit of the children. We feel so lucky to have such dedicated and talented staff members.

Coupling this remodelling with our Daily Read Aloud initiative, we have seen a real uptake in children reading with passion and enjoyment. This year, we saw 48% of children attain the Higher Standard for Reading at the end of KS2 and had 34% of KS1 children achieve it too.

We have now planned to include our community in the library and have invited parents, grandparents and parishioners into school to read with the children and are looking to develop our Infant Library area within the next two years.

## Year 6 Recommends...

*St Joseph's, Chorley*

Each half term, at Chorley St. Joseph's, we produce a newsletter that is packed full of reviews, new releases and recommendations from authors, staff and children to promote reading for enjoyment. We share the newsletter on our twitter page (@Yarrow\_Class) and tag in some of the authors mentioned. This has promoted lots of engagement and we even received some signed postcards from one of our recommended authors!

In the newsletter, we promote a book that is new to the library, have recommendations from pupils and staff, include quotes from authors about the importance of authors and promote new releases. We've found that children are much more engaged in talking about books and often seek out recommended reads!

## Reading Rox

*Rosewood Primary, Burnley*

We have been busy in school developing our 'Reading Rox' initiative. The children this summer have been asked to paint their rocks with their favourite book characters or titles. These have then been hidden with the hashtag #WAR12ROX. We look forward to seeing

the different rocks the children have found and designed!

The children of Rosewood have also been engaging with our 'We Are Reading Everywhere' competition. Our children, and staff, have been asked to read in the most extreme and unusual places possible. There will be an awards event at Barden Primary School which

## Collaborative Workshop

*Lomeshaye Junior School*

On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June Lomeshaye Junior School hosted a collaborative drama workshop for year 5 boys from 3 different schools. Pupils from Lomeshaye Junior School, Holy Saviours and Barrowford Primary spent the morning with Nicole from Shakespeare's Sisters developing a range reading and performance skills, working in groups from across the schools. The boys then collaborated to perform 'Odysseus', an abridged version of the Odyssey combining ancient Greek mythology and English to an excited audience of staff and pupils from the three schools.

## Comfy Corners to Hide and Read

*Coppull Parish*

We always try to make our reading areas as inviting as possible- even in the upper juniors!

These are our Year 5 and Year 6 reading areas. Year 5 is currently learning about World War 2 and have created a bunker style reading area. Year 6 have styled their reading area on a Starbucks



cafe which links in perfectly with our Careers Week later on in the term. We think it's important to keep making reading fun, not just in the infants but for the juniors too!

## Book Penpals

*Saint John Southworth RC*

Whilst celebrating 'Jeans for Genes' day we received some very special post from Author, Eloise Williams. This came about due to the Book Penpals initiative on Twitter where Schools are paired up with an author. Once set up Authors write to the class and the class can respond about what they are reading,



what they love to read and anything else related to the love of reading.

Enclosed we found postcards of the area in which she lives, postcards explaining what she loves about reading and writing and a copy of her brand new book 'Seaglass' to read.

This links well to our cross-curricular reading as we are currently looking at the different countries of the United Kingdom. Looking at the pictures on the postcards prompted discussion around how places vary and the differing features that we could further explore as part of our Geography lessons.

Details of how to get your own author link can be found on Twitter - @bookpenpals

## A Box of Books

*Lancaster Lane Primary*

Staff at Lancaster Lane Primary School decided that their pupils needed to experience a better variety of storybooks – both classic and new. After researching and delivering INSET on *Reading for Pleasure*, one of the barriers which was identified was the teachers' knowledge of high-quality, up-to-date children's literature, due to the lack of time to research and read new books as well as changes to year groups.

To address this, the school have begun purchasing a 'Ten a Term' bundle for each age-range, which showcases current recommended titles – these are provided by *Just Imagine* and have been a big hit!

Both the children and teachers eagerly awaited the arrival of the book boxes and were so excited to dive into them once they arrived. All staff agreed to a non-negotiable, dedicated daily story time, ensuring this wasn't at the end of the day, as previously it often ended up rushed or even missed altogether. For professional development, a staff meeting has been dedicated each term for teachers to bring along the books they have been reading with their class and to offer a brief synopsis and suggested VIPERS (set of questions).

Teachers feedback already is that it is an absolute delight to hear the discussion prompted by the books, as children compare stories and talk about their preferences. Children have even started bringing in their own books from home that they are keen to share with their class too!



## Secondary Schools

### Joshua Khan Comes to Read

*Lathom High, Skelmersdale*

On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July both the Y7 and Y8 cohort met with Joshua Khan as he presented his books and read extracts to engage students in reading and creative writing. He told us about his inspiration to writing the books, he gave advice on how to start your own book and asked students questions about what they were interested in reading.



Students were thrilled to meet Khan and we sold over 100 copies of his book to students as Khan signed books and met with individual students after the session. We are looking forward to welcoming Andy Briggs, Joe Delaney and Gareth P Jones in the new academic year as we have found author visits to be so valuable.

### Lancashire Book of the Year

*Lathom High, Skelmersdale*

The Lancashire Book of the Year Award celebration was on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July. Students were excited to find out which books had made the LBoY 2018 Top 10.

The celebration event was held at UCLAN in Preston and 7 of the 10 top 10 authors were there.



Students have had fantastic discussions and enjoyed reading the range of books chosen in the process. Mrs Garner, our Librarian, and Mrs Boyers took 20 of our 9X1 students to the celebration event. Sue Wallman was the winning author with her Young Adult novel 'See how they lie'.

One of our students, Bartosz Frankowski, spoke at the event and read a passionate speech he had written about becoming an avid reader because of the process: admitting to "not being excited about books" in the past.

This is the third year Lathom High School have been asked to be a judging school at the event and it has been a privilege to be involved. We have seen

real progress in students reading, speaking and listening skills and confidence due to the Lancashire Book of the Year process.

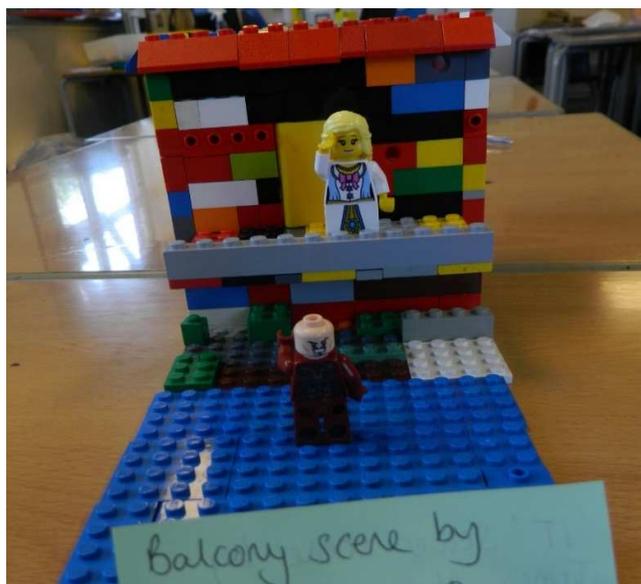
## Reading with Celebrities

*Millfield Science & Performing Arts*

Millfield enjoyed a fantastic last term filled with reading events. Firstly, year 7 and 8 students took part in our annual sponsored read and raised a whopping £441.30 for the 'Read for Good' charity who provide a regular supply of brand new books along with storyteller visits to brighten up the days of children in all of the UK's main children's hospitals.

We were delighted to welcome world famous author Cathy Cassidy to talk to our students about reading, the writing process and to promote her new book 'Love from Lexie' the first in the new 'Lost & Found' series.

In reading week, KS3 students took part in a library treasure hunt, blind date with a book, and attempted to build their favourite scene from a book out of Lego,



among other exciting events. Reading was promoted across all subjects with teachers sharing their favourite reads and everyone beginning lessons with a nice relaxing reading session.

Finally, we were very lucky to welcome our second bestselling author, Joseph Delaney. Joseph was a big hit with our fans of fantasy fiction and many of our students are now proud owners of a personalised, signed copy of the newest Delaney book, 'Aberrations'!

## Lancashire Book of the Year

*Ribblesdale High, Clitheroe*



Here are the four main pupil judges from Ribblesdale who took part in Lancashire Library Book of the Year 2018. They really enjoyed the experience and Kate, one of our judges has prepared some reviews for the rest of the school based on some of the books she read.

## We Are All Reading

*Archbishop Temple*

Here at Archbishop Temple, we have started the new term with a new reading initiative which has also become part of the school timetable.

All pupils are required to read for 5 minutes at the beginning of the last lesson of the school day.

Our second in English, Mrs Cath Knight who organised the new initiative has said. "The feedback has been positive with many teachers commenting on a peaceful and calm start to lessons that allowing for a productive start to lesson 5."

We also celebrated Roald Dahl day in the library with a lunchtime party. Activities included a read aloud by our Head of English, Mr Stringfellow from George's Marvellous Medicine, a "Glorumptious Books" display, and Dahl inspired puzzles and sweets.

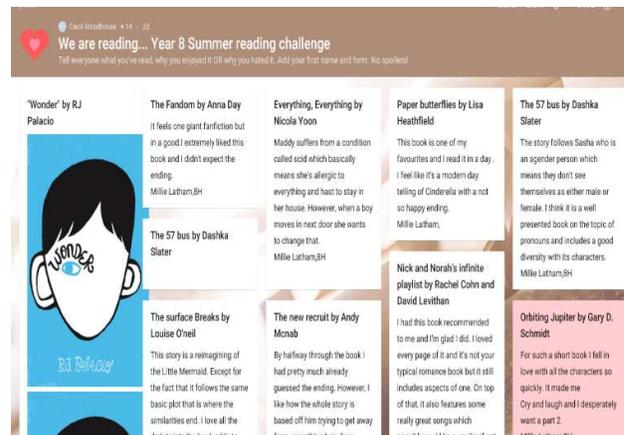
We are looking forward to October, when all month the entire school will be participating in "The Big Read". This is a sponsored read, raising money for charity.

## Summer Reading Tracking

*Penwortham Girls' High*

Schools in District 7 have been using Padlet as an engaging way to promote and track Summer reading. This will culminate in a quiz to be held at Hutton Grammar School where our most avid readers will compete to prove their reading knowledge!

Padlet is easy to set up – it takes minutes. There is the facility to set a password, so only users in the school community can access it. Comments can be enabled or disabled, and there is a "like" button so students can give very speedy feedback. It works like a noticeboard; students post their brief reviews of the books they have read over the summer. The advantages are that it is extremely user friendly, quick and secure to access (I shared a QR code in school), cheap (no photocopying reading rec-



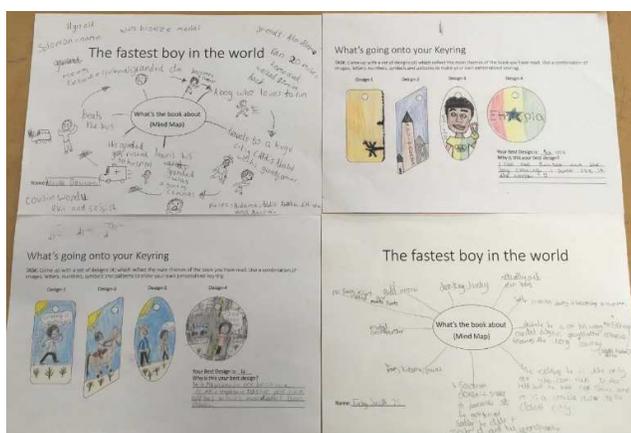
ords) but perhaps most importantly, requires no teacher maintenance. You can delete any inappropriate posts but it does keep track of who is reading and what. We've found it has been extremely well received at Key Stage 3 and worked very well with Year 6 moving into Year 7.

There is a cost but I have also started using it to generate responses during starters in lessons.

## Year 7 Transition

*Moor Park High School*

At Moor Park High School and Sixth Form we think it is very important to ensure that no time is wasted between Key Stage 2 and 3 and that the transition from primary school is a smooth and positive one. Year 7 pupils have this term, therefore, been studying a cross-curricular transitional unit, with all lessons linked to - or in some way inspired by - Elizabeth Laird's novel 'The Fastest Boy in the World'. Pupils began by reading the story with their Year 6 teachers before the summer holidays.



The transition unit has provided pupils with a more familiar approach to learning and allowed for curriculum continuity. This has helped Year 7 to adjust very quickly to secondary school life and has already proven to be very popular.

## We Are Reading Conference

*St Augustines RC High, Billington*

A fun time was had by all in the St Augustine's 'We Are Reading Conference' on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

Pupils from St Augustine's, Clitheroe Royal Grammar, Ribblesdale, The Hollins, Oswaldtwistle and Rhyddings schools enjoyed 'Literature Basket Ball', 'Freeze Frame Books' and various other activities to encourage reading.



A 'Graphics Novel Award' was also launched, with a selection of Graphic Novels being distributed amongst the schools to share and enjoy.

## Interschool Book Club

*Corpus Christi, Fulwood*

An idea from Preston schools was to start an interschool book club for Y7 &8, with a set of fiction books bought with the We Are Reading money.

Four schools agreed to join Corpus Christi: Our Lady's, Archbishop Temple, Moor Park and Fulwood Academy are each going to choose and buy a set of ten books to use for a book club. Pupils will be invited to join their school's book club and read the book over the next half term. The book sets will then be rotated between the participating schools each half term until by next summer we have all read each other's

choices and then we hope to have a meeting, getting all the pupils together to 'talk books' and vote for their overall favourite.

After that we propose to share the books sets between the schools so that we have two or three copies of each book for our libraries.

## Graphic Novels

*Ribblesdale High*

I took two of my year 9 boys who are reluctant readers to an event at St Augustine's High school connected to 'We Are Reading' focusing on graphic novels a couple of weeks ago. They were given a graphic novel to take away, read and give it a rating.

One of my boys got the book 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan much to the envy of other pupils as it didn't have any words in it and they thought it was going to be an easy option. Not so it seems, as you have to be very careful looking at the images to work out the story, even I thought it was a bit of a challenge! Both boys have now read the book and thought it was great, they are looking forward to swapping books soon with the other schools.

## Co-ordinating Schools

District	Contact	Primary School	E-mail address
1	Becky King	Bowerham Community Primary	<a href="mailto:rking@bowerham.lancs.sch.uk">rking@bowerham.lancs.sch.uk</a>
2	Lucy Avis	Northfold Community Primary	<a href="mailto:l.avis@northfold.lancs.sch.uk">l.avis@northfold.lancs.sch.uk</a>
4	Elizabeth Hodgson	Heyhouses Endowed CE Primary	<a href="mailto:head@heyhouses.lancs.sch.uk">head@heyhouses.lancs.sch.uk</a>
6	Katherine Maher	Alston Lane Catholic Primary	<a href="mailto:k.maher@alstonlane.lancs.sch.uk">k.maher@alstonlane.lancs.sch.uk</a>
7	Clare Malcolm	St Catherine's Catholic, Leyland	<a href="mailto:c.malcolm@st-catherines.lancs.sch.uk">c.malcolm@st-catherines.lancs.sch.uk</a>
8	Rebecca Whitfield	Omskirk Asmall	<a href="mailto:r.whitfield@asmall.lancs.sch.uk">r.whitfield@asmall.lancs.sch.uk</a>
9	Joanne Geldard	Lancaster Lane Community	<a href="mailto:head@lancasterlane.lancs.sch.uk">head@lancasterlane.lancs.sch.uk</a>
11	Janet Banks	Balderstone St Leonard's	<a href="mailto:head@balderstone.lancs.sch.uk">head@balderstone.lancs.sch.uk</a>
12	Nerys Ditchburn-Hughes	Rosewood Primary	<a href="mailto:head@rosewood.lancs.sch.uk">head@rosewood.lancs.sch.uk</a>
13	Sarah White	Coates Lane Primary	<a href="mailto:head@coateslane.lancs.sch.uk">head@coateslane.lancs.sch.uk</a>
14	Gary Hall	St James-the-Less Catholic Primary	<a href="mailto:head@st-jamesless.lancs.sch.uk">head@st-jamesless.lancs.sch.uk</a>
District	Contact	Secondary School	E-mail address
1	Amy Newsham	Lancaster Central	<a href="mailto:amy.newsham@lancasterhigh.lancs.sch.uk">amy.newsham@lancasterhigh.lancs.sch.uk</a>
2	Jane Fawcett	Milfield Science & Performing Arts College	<a href="mailto:j.fawcett@milfield.lancs.sch.uk">j.fawcett@milfield.lancs.sch.uk</a>
4	Julie Gillespie	Lytham St Anne's College	<a href="mailto:julie.gillespie@lythamhigh.lancs.sch.uk">julie.gillespie@lythamhigh.lancs.sch.uk</a>
6	Robert Baldwin	St Cecilia's RC College	<a href="mailto:rb@st-ceciliass.lancs.sch.uk">rb@st-ceciliass.lancs.sch.uk</a>
7	Carol Woodhouse	Penwortham Girls' High School	<a href="mailto:c.woodhouse@penworthamgirls.lancs.sch.uk">c.woodhouse@penworthamgirls.lancs.sch.uk</a>
8	Claire Hallwood	Our Lady Queen of Peace	<a href="mailto:c.hallwood@olqp.lancs.sch.uk">c.hallwood@olqp.lancs.sch.uk</a>
9	Andy Johnston	Parklands High School	<a href="mailto:ajohnston@parklandsacademy.co.uk">ajohnston@parklandsacademy.co.uk</a>
11	Mike Wright	St Augustine's RC High School	<a href="mailto:m.wright@sarchs.com">m.wright@sarchs.com</a>
12	Jody Jackson	Sir John Thursby Community	<a href="mailto:j.jackson@sirjohnthursby.lancs.sch.uk">j.jackson@sirjohnthursby.lancs.sch.uk</a>
13	Liz Brown	Pendle Vale College	<a href="mailto:e.brown@pendlevale.lancs.sch.uk">e.brown@pendlevale.lancs.sch.uk</a>
14	Kath Humphries	Fearn Community Sports College	<a href="mailto:khumphries@fearn.lancs.sch.uk">khumphries@fearn.lancs.sch.uk</a>