



# St Chrysostom's Early Reading Newsletter

November 2020

Welcome back everyone! It is wonderful to have our classrooms filled with the voices of children again: singing nursery rhymes, joining in with stories, reading and sharing books. Our classrooms are buzzing with reading excitement and we want to share that with you each term through our Early Reading Newsletter.

Here at St. Chrysostom's we believe learning to read is one of the most important skills your child will ever learn. In the Early Years and KS1 it is vitally important that strong foundations are laid for our children, so that they can read widely and often throughout their lives. Our staff are passionate about reading and pass that on to the children.

Parents, we recognise that you are our partners in this endeavour, so each term we will share with you some of the work we do to develop reading in school and at home.

Mrs Harrison

Early Reading Assistant Head teacher



## Reading Stories at Home

All of our children in EYFS and KS1 take home a *Reading for Pleasure* book each week. This is a book they have chosen themselves from our class library and can take home to enjoy with their family.

**DO** read it aloud to your child and point to the pictures on the page, saying the name of the objects that appear.

**Do** point to the words, moving from left to right, so that your child understands the direction of the print.

**Do** get cosy and have a lovely experience together! This *shared reading* is a very special experience for your child.

## Our Key Texts

Each half term our curriculum is driven by a beautiful, carefully chosen book! Each book matches the age and interests of your children and teaches certain themes. Children get to know this book really well and learn to retell it in a story-tellers voice. These are the 'Key Texts' for your child this half term.

Nursery	 <b>Key themes: Light and Dark/ Harvest</b>
Reception	 <b>Key themes: Food, Celebrations</b>
Year 1	 <b>Key themes: Belonging, Identity, Families, Homes, Changes over Time.</b>
Year 2	 <b>Key themes: Nighttime, Overcoming Our Fears</b>

**READING**  
*is to the*  
**MIND**  
*what*  
**exercise**  
*is to the*  
**BODY.**

Dr Richard Dawkins

## Look at our 'Joy of Reading' events at St Chrysostom's this term...

### Reception Blended Learning



We have been celebrating how in Reception it is possible to blend home learning and school learning together! Miss Jeffrey and the Reception team shared the traditional story **The Gingerbread Man** with their children - over Zoom- during their bubble closure. The children were so excited that they made Gingerbread Man houses at home, then brought them into school to share with their friends! Thank you to all our amazing families who support our children's reading at home.

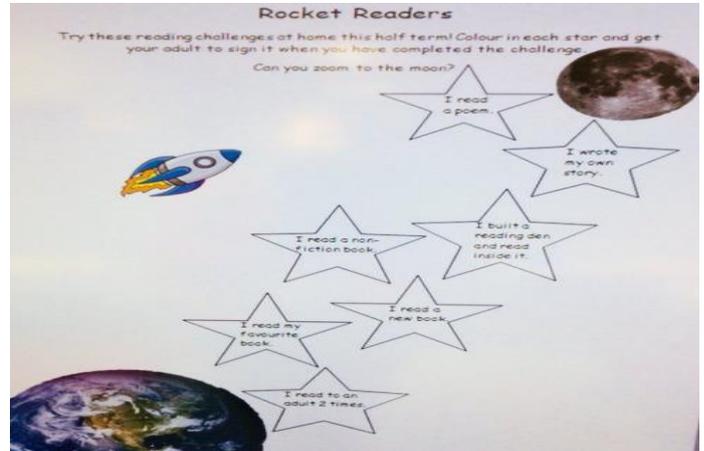
### Nursery Cosy Story time



Our Nursery at St Chrysostom's like to get cosy for a story at the end of the day! Nursery children settled down together to enjoy a hot chocolate and a great story ahhh...**Peace At Last!**

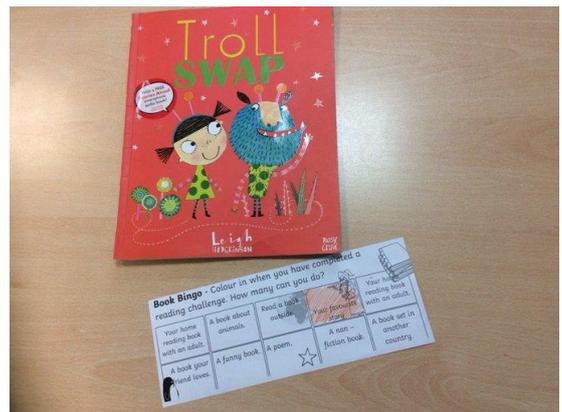
### Year 1 Rocket Reading Challenge

10...9...8...7...6...5...4...3...2...1...lift off!



The Year 1 Rocket Reading Challenge took off and children went sky high over Half Term! Our children used some amazing (and free) on line reading books to read: poems/fiction and non-fiction. Miss Twine and Miss Fisher report that there is no stopping the children now, the sky is the limit in their enjoyment of reading! Log in to Oxford Owl to check out some fabulous books which match the children's developing reading skills:  
<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/please-log->

### Year 2 Bingo Reading Challenge



**A Year 2 highlight** this term was the Bingo Reading Challenge. Year 2 children were challenged to read all the different types of books on their bingo reading grid and colour the squares as they went along. Miss Humphreys and Miss Weddle report that Year 2 children scored a full house! Well done children! Of course reading widely is not just confined to Half Term! Do use the EPIC library to enjoy reading all year round. Just log in at this link:

<https://www.getepic.com/sign-in/parent>