

# BOOK TALK #theJSway

November 2025

## NON-FICTION NOVEMBER



### READING, READING EVERYWHERE!

Why Reading Matters!

Reading isn't just fun - it's powerful! When children read regularly, they build stronger brains, boost their vocabulary, and learn to understand other people's feelings better. Reading helps us relax, reduces stress, and opens the door to endless knowledge and imagination. So whether it's a bedtime story, a funny comic, or a fascinating fact book - every page makes a difference!

Books cover a wide range of learning opportunities. At our recent Maths Fair, we showcased books that support the learning of maths. Whilst reading these types of books, children are developing their maths skills whilst enjoying a good book.



## CLASS CORNER

Year 4 have thoroughly immersed themselves in the world of Harry Potter in their English lessons. They have been writing stories and recipes for magical potions. To finish their learning, they had a Harry Potter day!



## NON-FICTION NOVEMBER!

For those children who love facts and information, this month is for you! It is Non-Fiction November, where information books are celebrated!



If you need some new books to check out, try this website for ideas:  
<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklist/s/non-fiction-november-2025-booklist/>

# READING DIARY REMINDERS

**Read Aloud 15 MINUTES**  
Every child. Every parent. Every day.

DOES READING ALOUD REALLY MATTER? YES!

More than one in three children arrive at kindergarten without the skills necessary for lifetime learning.

Research shows that reading aloud is the single most important thing you can do to help a child prepare for reading and learning.

**LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**  
The number of words that a child knows on entering kindergarten is a key predictor of his or her future success.

**LITERACY SKILL BUILDING**  
Vocabulary, Phonics, Familiarity with the printed word, Storytelling, Comprehension, Reading aloud builds literacy skills.

**WHY READ ALOUD?** YES!

**INSTILL A LOVE OF READING**  
Your example demonstrates that reading is important, pleasurable and valued.

**BRAIN DEVELOPMENT**  
From birth to age 3 are critical years in the development of language skills.

**KNOWLEDGE GAINED & SHARED**  
Books are a pleasure, yes, and they are also informative. You and your child can learn something new as you read aloud.

**BONDING**  
Is anything better than sharing a good book?

More than 15% of young children, 3.1 million, are read to by family members fewer than three times a week.

DON'T GOOD PARENTS ALREADY READ ALOUD DAILY? NO

Only 48% of young children in this country are read to each day.

IS 15 MINUTES ENOUGH TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE? YES!

45% 25 HOURS

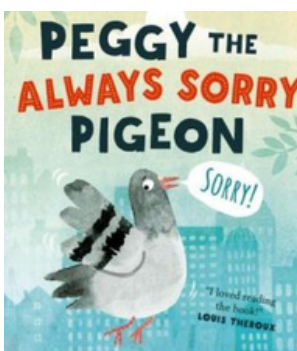
Reading 15 minutes every day for 5 years: 27,375 MINUTES

Tell a friend at [www.ReadAloud.org](http://www.ReadAloud.org)

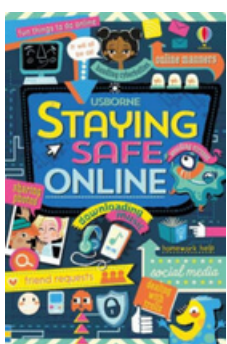
- All JS children are to read at home a minimum of 3 times a week to practise their developing reading skills.
- Children can read a couple of pages, a chapter or the whole book. As long as they are reading regularly, there is no expectation on how much they read.
- Adults should write a written comment in the diary to reflect on their child's reading - there are prompts in the reading diaries to support you with this.
- Children will have the opportunity to change their reading book twice a week if they have finished their book or are not enjoying it.
- Re-reading books is good! It helps children read more fluently and develop their understanding more.

## READING RECOMMENDATIONS

This month, we are participating in Anti-Bullying Week. Here are some recommendations for books linked to this important focus...



Peggy is an apologetic pigeon. She always assumes she's in the wrong. Even when she's the one getting bullied. But Joan, an older female seagull, gives her the necessary skills to stand up for herself. This hilarious tale from award-winning author Wendy Meddour contains an important message about the importance of being assertive. Carmen Saldana's illustrations are full of personality and humour.



Covering important e-safety topics including cyberbullying and social media messaging, this is an essential book to help older children to know how to protect themselves in the digital world. Find out how online interactions can affect friendships, why cyberbullying is so dangerous and how image-sharing can get out of control. Due to the nature of the topics covered, this is most suitable for children in Year 5 and 6.