



St Michael's CE VA Primary School Lyme Regis



# Reading Newsletter

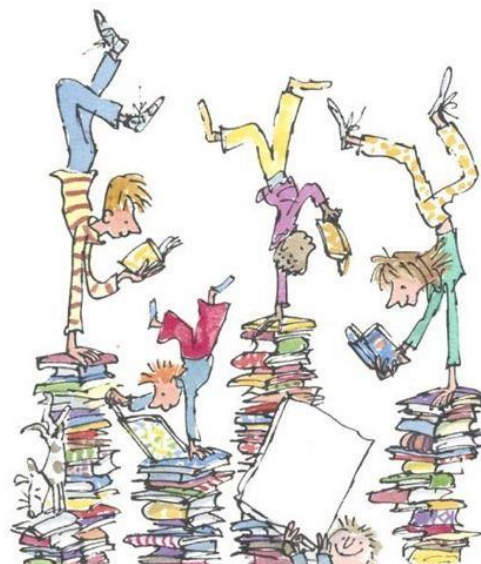
Issue 1

Spring 2022

Welcome!

Welcome to the first St Michael's Primary School Reading Newsletter. In this newsletter you will discover what your children are reading in class plus other recommended reads for their age group; we will be sharing new releases and topic-related texts with you, plus keeping you updated on events, both in and outside of school, relating to all things books! We hope you find it helpful in supporting your child on their reading journey.

Mrs Townley



## HERE'S THE IMPACT OF READING 20 MINUTES PER DAY!

A student who reads

20:00

minutes per day

will be exposed to  
**1.8 MILLION**  
words per year  
and is more likely  
to score in the  
**90th PERCENTILE**  
on standardized tests

A student who reads

5:00

minutes per day

will be exposed to  
**282,000**  
words per year  
and is more likely  
to score in the  
**50th PERCENTILE**  
on standardized tests

A student who reads

1:00

minute per day

will be exposed to  
**8,000**  
words per year  
and is more likely  
to score in the  
**10th PERCENTILE**  
on standardized tests

Source: Nagy, Anderson and Herman, 1987

 SCHOLASTIC

There is overwhelming evidence that literacy has a significant relationship to people's life chances. Reading for pleasure is more important than either wealth or social class as an indicator of success at school.

If your child isn't a 'book worm' yet, don't worry! There are so many wonderful and exciting authors out there, that there's a book to engage and inspire your child out there...they may not have discovered it yet!

In school, we will be continuing to inspire reading by sharing lots of exciting authors, old and new. We read to the children every day and share out passion for reading. Reading for pleasure is key!

# Author in the Spotlight

HI YOU LITTLE HEROES

at ST MICHAEL'S CE VA PRIMARY!!!

I'm SO excited to be your Author in the Spotlight! I am the writer of the WHO LET THE GODS OUT?, VI SPY and SCARLETT FIFE series and I cannot encourage enough to GET READING!!

Reading is the rocketship that can take you to infinite universes, so pick up a book and BLAST OFF!

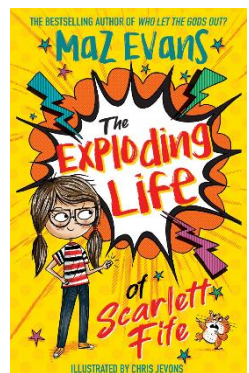
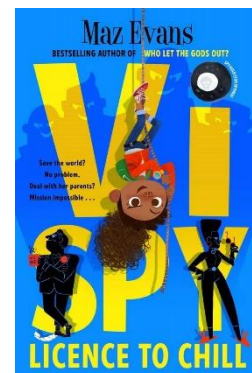
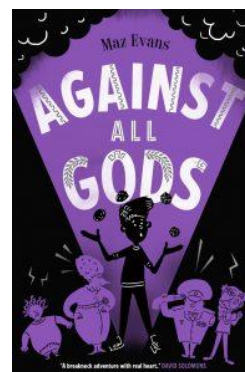
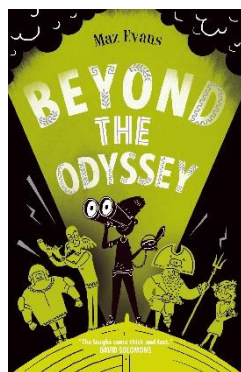
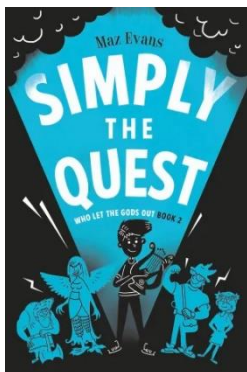
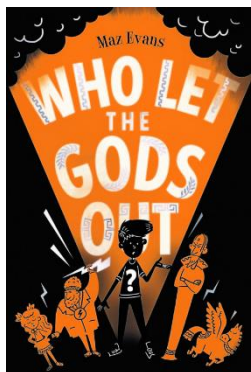
Take care of you all,

Maz

XXX



Maz Evans



## About Maz Evans

Maz Evans is the author of the bestselling WHO LET THE GODS OUT? series, which has sold to 19 countries worldwide and has received over 20 award nominations. Her career began as a TV journalist and she still regularly broadcasts her views on anything from politics to parenthood on the BBC and the bus. She lives in Dorset with her family.

## Accolades and awards

### WHO LET THE GODS OUT?

- ✓ Shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2017
- ✓ Shortlisted for the Books Are My Bag Readers' Awards 2017
- ✓ Longlisted for the Branford Boase Award 2018
- ✓ Nominated for the CILIP Carnegie Award 2018

### VI SPY: LICENCE TO CHILL

- ✓ Shortlisted for the Indie Book Award 2021





# Reading in class

Whole class reading lessons where one text is read and studied for up to 6 weeks at a time, take place regularly in Lister, Coram and Langmoor classes. Often these texts are linked to a topic the children are learning about in class and are also sometimes linked to their writing lessons. In Anning class their book focus changes every 1-2 weeks. Below are the texts that the children have been reading in class this term.

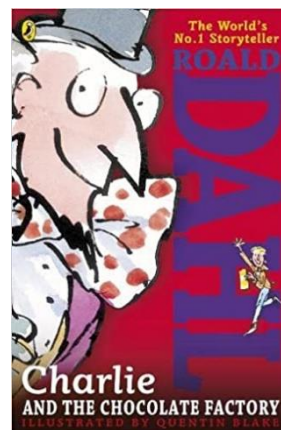
## Anning Class

(Reception & Year 1)



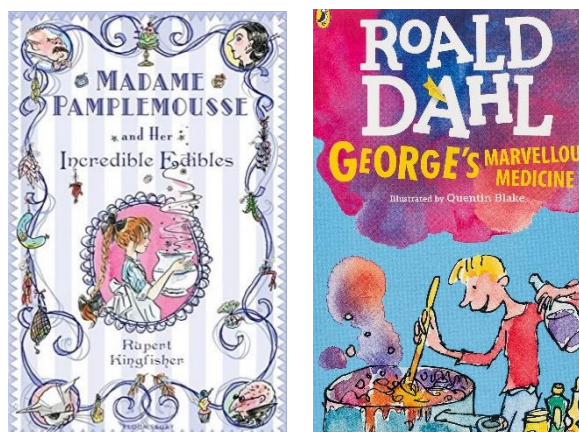
## Lister Class

(Year 2 & Year 3)



## Coram Class

(Year 4 & Year 5)



## Langmoor Class

(Year 5 & Year 6)



# Recommended Reads

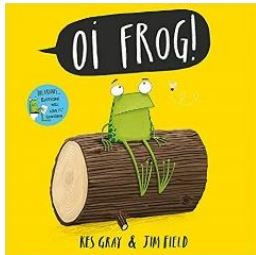
## Anning Class

(Reception & Year 1)

### Fiction

The laughter never ends with Oi Frog and Friends!

Jam-packed with the silliest of animals, this bestselling rhyming story will have the youngest of readers in fits of laughter. Over 1 million copies sold!

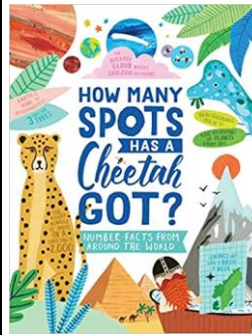


Cats sit on mats, hares sit on chairs, mules sit on stools and gophers sit on sofas. But Frog does *not* want to sit on a log. Jam-packed with animals and silliness, this original rhyming story is guaranteed to get children giggling!

### Non-Fiction

*How Many Spots Has a Cheetah Got?* is full of mind-blowing number facts. Did you know that the average cheetah has over 2,000 spots? Or that your face has 43 muscles?

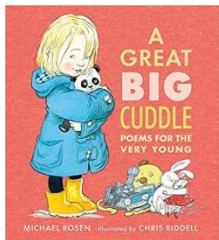
Packed with stats and figures about every topic imaginable - from sharks and stars to knights and pirates - there's tons to explore and discover.



Featuring a humorously-written text and beautiful, friendly illustrations by Amber Davenport, this is the perfect book for curious children.

### Poetry

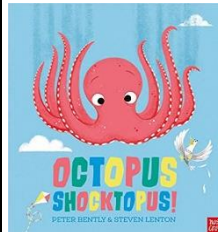
Two of the biggest names in children's publishing, Michael Rosen and Chris Riddell, come together in a new poetry collection. The poems in *A Great Big Cuddle* fizz off the page with sound and rhythm, energy and laughter, as Rosen captures in the most remarkable way what it means to be very, very young.



A child's world with all its details and feelings – toys and games, animals and made-up creatures, likes and dislikes – is vividly conjured up in the most memorable, playful language, and Chris Riddell has produced some of his most extraordinary pictures ever to bring this world to life. It's a book that will be enjoyed by the oldest grown-up and the youngest child – and a future classic.

### Linked to current topic in class

A brilliantly bonkers story about an octopus who lives on the roof, by two award-winning and bestselling picture book creators.



When a giant octopus arrives, the children LOVE their new friend; he makes the perfect slide and is fantastic at football! But some of the grown-ups aren't so pleased. Will they drive him away . . . or will they realise just how helpful an octopus can be?

A warm and witty rhyming story about welcoming newcomers. Sunglasses at the ready this book has zingy fluorescent ink on the cover and inside illustrations.

### Science inspired

After George visits the Museum of Wildlife with Grandad, all he can think about is bugs! The very next day he goes out hunting, but he soon finds there are no more insects left in the garden, and the ones he has captured in jars don't look very happy...



..George is about to learn exactly why bugs are so important. A brilliant, vibrant debut from Alex G Griffiths, featuring a wonderful grandfather-grandson relationship.

### Celebrating Diversity & Inclusion

Haroun, the cat, likes nothing better than to spend his days sleeping in the sunlit courtyards of Damascus. But one thing always ruins his sleep: jasmine! Haroun can't stand the sweet-scented flowers. Their pollen sends him into fits of sneezes!



So one day, Haroun hatches a plan to fix the problem. But little does he know that in doing so he deeply angers the Jasmine Spirit who plans her revenge in her own crafty and hilarious way. A beautifully illustrated and enormously entertaining story by award-winning Syrian author-illustrator, Nadine Kaadan, that sheds a welcome light onto Syria's long and proud cultural heritage in a period of history marred by war.



# Recommended Reads

## Lister Class

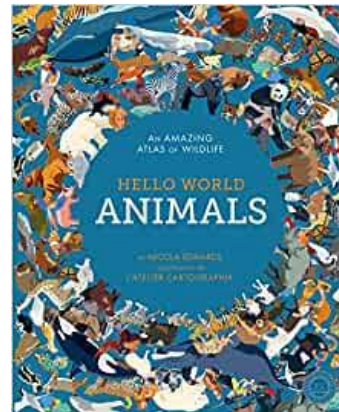
(Year 2 & Year 3)

### Fiction



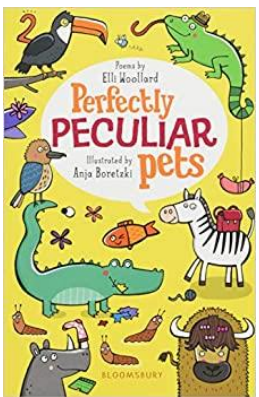
Meet Toto: she's no ordinary cat, and she can't wait to have an adventure with you! Toto the cat and her brother Silver live footloose and fancy-free in a townhouse in London. Toto is almost totally blind, and learned to trust her senses from a ninja cat-master who taught her back in Italy where they were born. By day, Toto and Silver seem to be ordinary cats, but by night, they love to have adventures! One evening, news reaches Toto that a king cobra has escaped from London Zoo! Together with help from a very posh cat and two hungry tigers, Toto and Silver must investigate. Can they find the giant snake, before it's too late?

### Non-Fiction



Discover some of the most incredible creatures on Earth in this interactive atlas of world wildlife! Featuring more than 180 animals from a variety of habitats, with flaps to lift on every spread, this stunning book offers exploration many wonders of the natural world

### Poetry



We love this whacky A-Z of weird and wonderful pets. With a different pet poem for each letter of the alphabet (from armadillos to zebras via kookaburras to umbrella birds!), the poems are quirky and energetic, making them perfect to read aloud. Children will enjoy finding the poem that matches their name's initial or just dipping in and out of the rhythmical menagerie of verses.

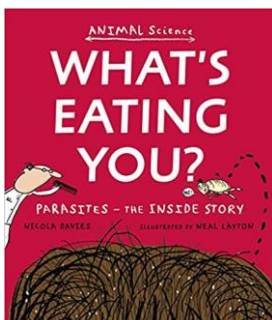
### Linked to current topic in class



Follow Buzzwing the honeybee on a beautifully illustrated journey through the world of bees filled with amazing science and intriguing folklore.

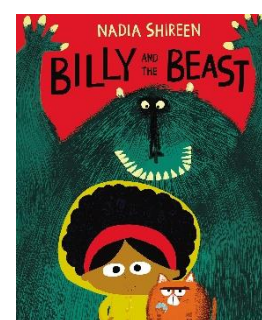
Did you know that bees love to dance? Or that they have an amazing sense of smell to help them find the best flowers? In *The Secret Life of Bees*, Buzzwing shares with you all the details of her life as a bee, in and out of the hive, starting with the day she was born.

### Science inspired



Every animal has a habitat where it can find food and shelter and have its babies. But there is one group of creatures whose habitats are not forests, seas or deserts. Instead they live on or in the bodies of other animals – in skin, hair, fur, feathers, blood, guts, livers, hearts and lungs. They are *parasites*. Uncover the secrets of their amazing life-cycles and dare yourself not to scratch or groan as you read ... then give in; it's impossible! Short written sections with creepy-crawly diagrams and comic strips by Neal Layton make this information book engaging and accessible for young minds.

### Celebrating Diversity & Inclusion



While out on a lovely walk in the woods, Billy and her trusty sidekick Fatcat hear a terrible rumble... a terrible rumble coming from a Terrible Beast!

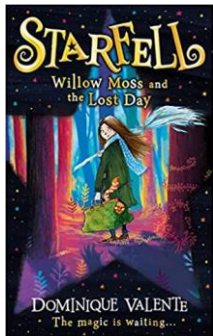
He's making a Terrible Soup out of all of Billy and Fatcat's friends!

Luckily, our brave heroine Billy has a trick or two up her sleeve (or in her hair)... Join quick-thinking Billy on her mission to defeat the Terrible Beast (and save those adorable little bunny rabbits too).

# Recommended Reads

## Coram Class (Year 4 & Year 5)

### Fiction



Willow Moss, the youngest and least powerful sister in a family of witches, has a magical ability for finding lost things – like keys, or socks, or wooden teeth. Useful, but not exactly *exciting* . . .

Then the most powerful witch in the world of Starfell turns up at Willow's door and asks for her help. A whole day – last Tuesday to be precise – has gone missing. Completely. And, without it, the whole universe could unravel. Now Willow holds the fate of Starfell in her rather unremarkable hands . . . Can she save the day – by finding the lost one?

### Non-Fiction



Enter the incredible world of plants to learn about the green machines of the natural world. Using just the rays of the sun, trees and flowers help create everything from rubber to honey. Find out the powerful science going on in every leaf, petal and stem with vibrant illustrations that will make you look at plants in a whole new way.

This comprehensive guide covers everything from the parts of a plant through to conservation, and also features DIY projects for young gardeners.

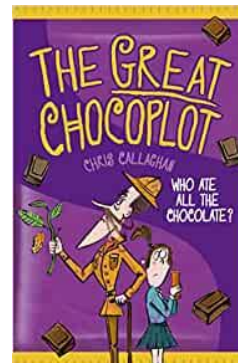
### Poetry



The Lost Words is a collaboration between Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris, seeking to 'summon what has vanished' and celebrate a host of disappearing words relating to the natural world. This is a poetry book about preservation - of nature, of language and of childhood – and the beautifully illustrated over-sized hardback volume is in itself a book to preserve and treasure. Inside the

book, readers will find acrostic 'poem-spells', with each one intending to preserve a nature word that has disappeared from the dictionary as well as to evoke the unique sounds, sensations and moods associated with the experiences of encountering wildlife first-hand.

### Linked to current topic in class

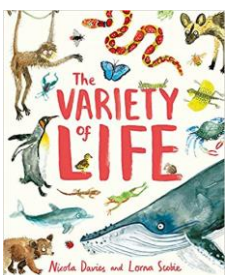


Jelly and her family live in Chompton-on-de-Lyte, where everyone loves a Chocablocka bar or two - so when the end of chocolate is announced, she can't believe it.

Determined to investigate, Jelly and her gran follow a trail of clues to a posh chocolate shop and its owner, the pompous Garibaldi Chocolati. Gari's suspiciously smug, despite his failing business and yucky chocolate.

Is it *really* the chocopocalypse, or is there a chocoplot afoot?

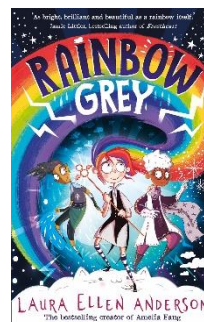
### Science inspired



Our planet is full of life! Did you know there are 400,000 species of beetle - but only eight species of bear? This stunning book explores the extraordinary diversity of the natural world and profiles some of its most surprising creatures.

A glorious celebration of diversity within the Animal Kingdom by non-fiction specialist Nicola Davies, illustrated by rising star Lorna Scobie. There is something to delight on every page with fascinating facts about mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish and insects. This exquisite book will encourage children to treasure the world's biodiversity and help to stop it slipping away.

### Celebrating Diversity & Inclusion



A magical new series from best-selling author and illustrator, Laura Ellen Anderson! Ten-year-old Ray Grey lives in the magical Weatherlands, high in the sky. Ray is surrounded by Weatherlings with astounding weather power at their fingertips . . . but she doesn't have ANY magic! Then, after a trip to Earth, Ray's life changes forever. She is transformed from Ray Grey into

RAINBOW GREY! With the help of her best friends (and exploding cloud cat, Nim) now all Ray has to do is master her powers AND save the world from a mysterious, powerful enemy . . .



# Recommended Reads

## Langmoor Class

(Year 5 & Year 6)

### Fiction



A year after the death of her older brother, Prue Haywood's family is still shattered by grief. But everything changes when a stranger arrives at the farm. A new, incredible technology has been discovered in the city of Medlock, where a secretive guild of inventors have developed a way to capture spirits of the dead in animal-like machines, bringing them back to life. Prue knows that the "Ghost Guild" might hold the key to bringing her brother back, so she seizes the stranger's offer to join as an apprentice. But to find her brother, she needs to find a way to get the ghost machines to remember the people they used to be. Yet if Prue succeeds, all of society could come apart...

### Non-Fiction

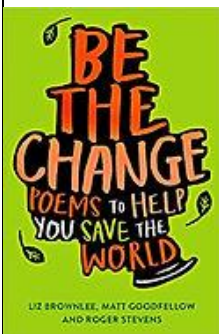


Within our bodies hides an entire world of organisms called microbes. They digest our food and protect our immune systems, and without them, we would die.

Through Katie Brosnan's personable illustrations, we follow the digestive process from the moment the food enters our mouths to the moment the waste leaves our bodies.

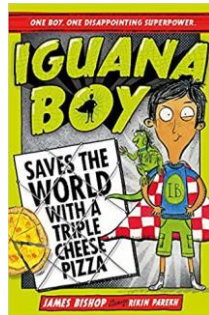
Along the way we are introduced to a variety of microbes – good and bad – and gain an insight into the vast ecosystem that exists inside us.

### Poetry



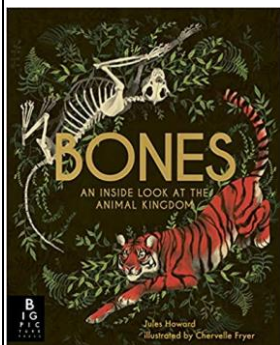
Three children's poets come together to create a collection of positive poems about looking after the planet. The poems in this stirring and topical volume explore the theme of sustainability without the doom and gloom that can too easily dominate conversations about climate change, instead encouraging positive steps that make an impact on the world around us.

### Linked to current topic in class



Dylan has wanted a superpower for as long as he can remember, especially since his brother and sister have got really cool ones. But when his wish finally comes true, Dylan is MIGHTILY disappointed. For Dylan has become ... Iguana Boy. He can talk to Iguanas ... RUBBISH! And when supervillain Celina Shufflebottom kidnaps all the superheroes in London, Dylan must work out how to use his new team of chatty iguanas to save the day. He's going to have to think outside the box, (the pizza box), if he's going to become the hero he's always dreamed of. If he's going to make Iguana Boy cool.

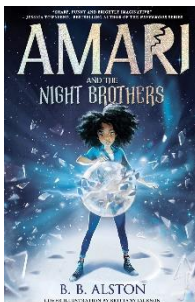
### Science inspired



*Bones: An Inside Look at the Animal Kingdom* takes the reader on a fascinating journey through the biological history of the skeletal system in the animal kingdom.

With sections focusing on different abilities and features, from biting and flying to jaws, tails, and more, this exciting collection explains how animals' amazing bodies have adapted to allow them to do so many different things.

### Celebrating Diversity & Inclusion

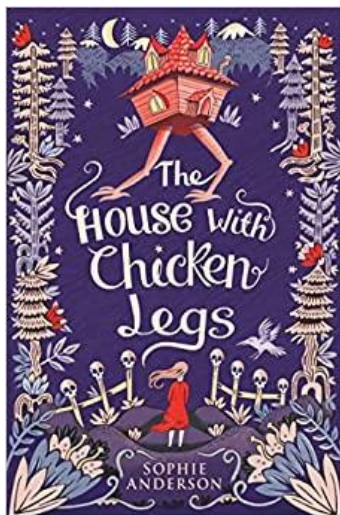


Amari Peters knows three things. Her big brother Quinton has gone missing. No one will talk about it. His mysterious job holds the secret . . . So when Amari gets an invitation to the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs, she's certain this is her chance to find Quinton. But first she has to get her head around the new world of the Bureau, where mermaids, aliens and magicians are *real*, and her roommate is a were dragon. Amari must compete against kids who've known about the supernatural world their whole lives, and when each trainee is awarded a special supernatural talent, Amari is given an illegal talent – one that the Bureau views as dangerous. With an evil magician threatening the whole supernatural world, and her own classmates thinking she is the enemy, Amari has never felt more alone. But if she doesn't pass the three tryouts, she may never find out what happened to Quinton . . .

# Librarian recommendations



Nadia

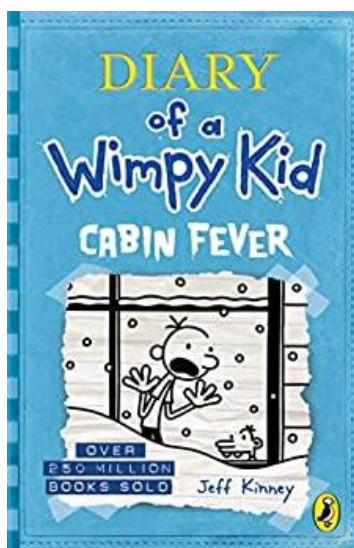


Marinka dreams of a normal life, where her house stays in one place long enough for her to make friends. But her house has chicken legs and moves on without warning.

For Marinka's grandmother is Baba Yaga, who guides spirits between this world and the next. Marinka longs to change her destiny and sets out to break free from her grandmother's footsteps, but her house has other ideas...



Thomas



Greg Heffley is in big trouble. School property has been damaged and Greg is the prime suspect. But the crazy thing is, he's innocent! Or at least sort of.

The authorities are closing in, but then a surprise blizzard hits and the Heffley family is trapped indoors. Greg knows that when the snow melts he is going to have to face the music but could any punishment be worse than being stuck inside with your family?





# Books locally



## Lyme Regis Book Shop

### Opening times

Monday- Saturday- 9:30am to 5:30pm

Sunday -10am to 4pm

*Kier is very much looking forward to meeting you.*



## Lyme Regis Library

### Opening times

Monday – 10am to 1pm and 2pm- 5pm

Tuesday – 9:30am to 1pm

Wednesday – 2pm to 5pm

Thursday- Closed

Friday – 2pm to 6:30pm

Saturday 9:30am to 12:30pm

Sunday- Closed

## SCHOLASTIC SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUBS READING EVERY DAY...

...**CREATES** lifelong readers.

...**TEACHES** children to find adventure, ideas, and answers through books.

...**STRENGTHENS** relationships and creates memories as a family activity.

...**OPENS DOORS** through which children can learn about themselves.

...**BUILDS** a diverse vocabulary and strengthens fluency in reading.

...**ALLOWS** a child's imagination and creativity to blossom.

...**GIVES** children the tools needed to become successful students.

...**TAKES** the "scary" out of reading in the classroom.

...**HELPS** children make connections to new places, people, and concepts.

...**AWAKENS** children to the world around them.

**READ**  
Every Day  
Lead a Better  
**LIFE**



If you would like to share anything about reading please let us know!

Mrs Townley