

St Peter's



Church of England
Primary School

July 26

Summer Newsletter

from St Peter's
Primary School

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Head teacher's message

Dear Parents and Carers

The end of another school year has arrived, bringing with it a mixture of pride, celebration and heartfelt goodbyes. As we wish our amazing Year 6 pupils every success as they move on to the next stage of their journey and bid farewell to several valued colleagues embarking on new opportunities, we can look back with gratitude on a year filled with memorable moments, achievements and the many experiences that have made St Peter's such a special place to learn and grow.

One of the end-of-term highlights was our Year 6 production of *High School Musical*, a spectacular performance that brought the house down. The song "We're All in This Together" perfectly captured the spirit of St Peter's. As the children sang those familiar words with such enthusiasm and joy, it reminded us that togetherness is at the heart of everything we do. Whether in the classroom, on the playground, through worship or at the many events that bring our families together, we are reminded every day that we achieve so much more by supporting and encouraging one another with kindness.

This year has also seen the introduction of our refreshed school values of **Belonging, Kindness, Courage, Forgiveness, Responsibility and Hope**. These values are far more than words on a page—they underpin every aspect of school life and are woven into the relationships we build, the choices we make and the way we care for one another. They have helped to shape the happy, inclusive and nurturing community that makes St Peter's such a special place to learn and grow together. As we reflect on the year that has passed, we can see these values shining through in the achievements, resilience and compassion shown by our pupils each and every day.

We are extremely proud to share the news that St Peter's School has, in the last week, been accredited as a **Nurture UK** school. This is a wonderful validation of the work of our whole school community in ensuring that children's wellbeing and personal development are truly prioritised. Thank you to the children and parents who were involved in the final assessment process, but also to every single person in our school community who helps to ensure that this nurturing culture is felt daily through all that we do. We will look forward to sharing the full report with you at the start of the new school year.

Our community has been further strengthened this year by a thriving Carnival Committee and our renamed 'Friends of St Peter's'. To anyone who attended the Carnival and Summer Fair (or both), you will have a great appreciation for the people who worked so hard to make these events happen. Thank you to everyone who supported these – we hope you enjoyed them as much as we did!

We are also extremely grateful to the many families in our school community who are coming forward to support projects that are already in motion to improve our school environment, both indoors and outdoors, and to enhance our opportunities for play. We have been blown away by the offers of support and expertise, and we are really looking forward to building on this in the autumn with some big build days for our community.

As we bring the year to a close, we have taken time to celebrate achievements, reflect on special moments and traditions, and say some heartfelt goodbyes. To those who are moving on to new adventures, we send you our very best wishes for the journey ahead and thank you for being part of the St Peter's family. We hope your summer is filled with rest, happiness and plenty of opportunities for adventure and, to those of your returning in the autumn, we look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 7th September, ready for another exciting year together.

I am going to leave you with the words of a reflection, written by Gracie (worship leader) that was read in our leavers' service yesterday:

Thank you for guiding us on our journey through St Peter's school.

*As we **look in**, may hope lead us into the next chapter of our lives.*

*Let us all **look out** for one another and strive to be exceptional St Peter's citizens wherever we go and whoever we meet.*

We look forward to belonging to our new schools, just like we have belonged here.

Help us to thrive and to cherish every last moment.

*Help us to step out in faith; **look up** to something bigger and fight our fears with a positive mindset, always remembering that mistakes can be marvellous.*

Wishing you a wonderful summer,

Catrin Battista

Staff Leavers

As another wonderful school year comes to an end, it is time to say goodbye to some valued members of our school team as they begin exciting new adventures.

Firstly, we will be saying goodbye to several members of our Teaching Support Staff team who are moving on to new challenges and opportunities. We would like to thank **Miss Loughran, Mr Dawes, Miss Summer and Miss Dawes** for all they have done to support the children and staff at St Peter's. We are incredibly grateful for their dedication and care, and we wish them every success and happiness in the future.

This year, we also say an official farewell to **Mrs Nash** and **Miss Jones**, both of whom were much-loved teachers at St Peter's for many years. Over the past couple of years, they have both been seconded to other schools and to the English Hub and have now made the decision not to return to their teaching roles at St Peter's. We would like to sincerely thank them for the enormous contribution they have made over many years in helping to shape our school into the wonderful community it is today. They will both continue working with the **English Hub**, which is based here at St Peter's, so we hope they will still pop in to see us from time to time!

We also wish **Mrs Baskerville** all the very best as she begins her maternity leave. We hope this is a wonderful and special time for her and her family, and we look forward to meeting the newest addition in the autumn.

Finally, we would like to say a very special thank you and good luck to **Mr Evans**. Over the past six years, Mr Evans has been an outstanding member of the St Peter's team in his role with PH Sports and as our Site Lead. He has coached, encouraged and inspired so many of our children, always bringing enthusiasm, positivity and kindness to everything he has done. Whether supporting children in lessons, leading sporting activities, accompanying us on residential visits such as Mill on the Brue, or simply being a trusted mentor to so many pupils, he has made a lasting impact on our school community.

We are delighted that Mr Evans is taking the next step in his career by training to become a teacher. We have no doubt that he will be a tremendous asset to the profession and to whichever school is fortunate enough to have him. Thank you, Mr Evans, for everything you have given to St Peter's. We wish you every success and happiness for the future.

Although it is always difficult to say goodbye to colleagues who have been such an important part of our school family, we know they leave with many happy memories and the gratitude of the entire St Peter's community. We wish each and every one of them the very best for the exciting chapters ahead.

A Visit from Our Local MP

Last week, we were delighted to welcome our local MP, **Sadik Al-Hassan**, to St Peter's.

As well as seeing some of the fantastic learning taking place across our school—including outdoor learning in Reception Discovery, getting a glimpse of our *High School Musical* rehearsals, and enjoying a tour of our school and grounds—Sadik also visited to discuss the ongoing travel and parking challenges we continue to face around our school site and on neighbouring roads.

We were incredibly proud of our pupil leaders, who spoke confidently with Sadik about all the work we have been doing to develop our Green Travel Plan and encourage more families to walk, scoot and cycle to school for the benefit of both our community and our wellbeing. They represented St Peter's brilliantly and should be extremely proud of themselves for raising these important issues and being such courageous advocates for positive change.

We have already heard back from Sadik following his visit, and he has committed to exploring how he can further support us in tackling some of the challenges that remain. We look forward to working with him and will keep you updated as this work progresses in the new school year.

A huge thank you to Sadik for taking the time to visit St Peter's, to our local resident and Health and Safety Governor for their valued support, and to our amazing pupil leaders for representing our school so wonderfully.



Reception

It has been a wonderful last term with lots of exciting learning in Reception. The term began with our very first sports day! We were so proud of all of the children for taking part and trying their best in a variety of competitions. We saw javelin throwing, relay racing, egg and spoon races, and many more – our parents and teachers even got involved too. We would like to take the time to say a massive thank you to our wonderful sports coaches and everyone who was involved who made sure our sports day was magical and ran smoothly. We also loved welcoming in parents and carers for our Share Session at the start of term – the children were incredibly proud to show off their fabulous work from this year!

We have learnt lots about Africa this term – understanding the difference between a country and a continent and learning about different African animals. The children wowed us with their retelling of the story Handa's Surprise and fact files about some of the animals. They also created their own animal masterpieces in Expressive Arts and Design in the style of Hannah Bullen-Ryan. The children used a variety of natural resources as materials for their artwork. We have really enjoyed the sunny weather outside in discovery too, catching bugs and making our own playdoh.



We also joined in with St. Peter's Day this term. The children thought about what it means to step out in faith and how we can show courage in what we do. The children had a chance to be courageous and show off their talents in their very own talent show which was hosted by our wonderful LSAs, and what a talented cohort we have! The children showed off their singing, dancing, juggling, gymnastics and joke telling.



This term the children have loved watching some caterpillars grow and change into butterflies. They watched the caterpillars as they ate and grew, observed the changing chrysalises and were overjoyed to release them into the conservation area! Thank you so much to the incredibly kind parent who donated the caterpillars and butterfly kit.



We have also been busy getting ready for year one over the last few weeks as well. The children visited all three of the new classrooms and even had a Mystery Reader story from our year one teachers. They wrote questions for their year one teachers and delivered them to their new classrooms. During move up morning, the children had the opportunity to get to know their new teachers and spend some time in their new classrooms.

Later on in the term, we also had the opportunity to visit our buddies in their classrooms in the Pier building. The children worked in teams to create structures using marshmallows and cocktail sticks. We would like to say a big thank you to our wonderful year 5 buddies. They have been incredible with helping the reception children to settle into school life here at St. Peter's. Thank you for patience and care you have shown throughout the year.

Lastly, we would like to thank all of the Reception children and parents. It has been an absolute joy to see the children thrive and make such amazing progress throughout the year. We can't wait to hear about their continued successes in year 1.

Have a lovely and restful summer,

Reception team

Year 1

What a busy final term it has been in Year One!

The children thoroughly enjoyed our 'Under the Sea' WOW Day at the end of last term that helped to launch our final term of learning. The children all enjoyed a visit from Turn the Tide and looked fabulous in their costumes.



Year 1 were incredibly lucky to visit Bristol Aquarium as part of their learning this term. The children had a wonderful time exploring the fascinating exhibits and discovering a wide variety of sea creatures up close. During an engaging workshop, they had the opportunity to handle a range of marine artefacts, learning about different ocean animals through hands-on experiences. One of the highlights of the day was feeding the fish and watching them swim up close. The visit was a fantastic way to bring our learning to life, inspiring curiosity and helping the children deepen their understanding of marine life.

In English, Year 1 have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the book *Leo and the Octopus* by Isabelle Marinov. Inspired by the story and our exciting trip to the aquarium, the children became marine experts as they researched fascinating facts about octopuses. They used their learning to write informative fact files, carefully organising their ideas and including interesting facts about octopus habitats, diets, and unique features. We were so impressed with the children's enthusiasm, growing vocabulary, and ability to write clear, informative sentences. Their wonderful fact files showcased both their creativity and the fantastic progress they have made in their writing this term.

We are incredibly proud of all our Year 1 children for the fantastic effort they put into their Phonics Screening Check. Every child approached the challenge with a positive attitude, confidence, and determination, and they all tried their very best. Well done, Year 1—you should all be extremely proud of yourselves!

Year 2

What an excellent year we have had in year 2! We have had a wonderful final term and are extremely proud of all that we have achieved.

Legacy Learning - The Kanamai Trust



As part of our Legacy Learning project, we had a visit from a Portishead lady called Pearl who spoke to us about her charity, the Kanamai Trust that supports a community in Kenya, East Africa. She told us all about a school in the village of Mabambani called Little Angel's School. When they first saw the school, there were 3 classes in one tiny building with a tin roof separated by a curtain of fishing nets! It was hot, noisy and very difficult to learn. They even had to cook all their meals on a fire outside. We found out about the amazing work that the charity has done to improve conditions for the children in the school and the facilities in the village. Pearl told us that last year they bought 5 new computers for the staff at Little Angels School to use. She also let us know that this year the Kanamai Trust needed to provide more books for the children at Little Angels School and change some windows and doors to improve security. Therefore, we decided to fundraise by selling some of our African printed cards and some cakes to raise money for the charity.

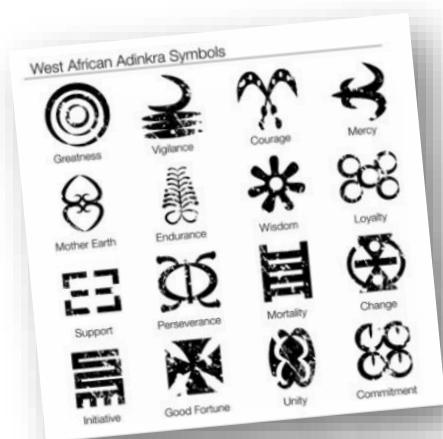
Africa Wow Day

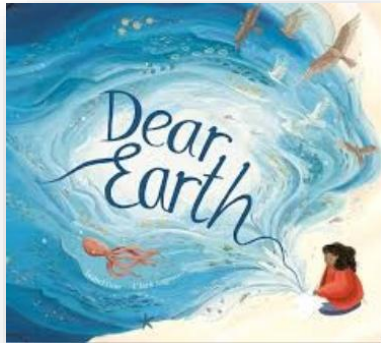
As well as an amazing visit from Pearl we were very busy on our Africa Wow Day. We spent the day exploring the continent of Africa through Art. We made African wristbands, African drums and an African sunset picture. We even got to have a go at playing an African drum. What a brilliant time we had!



We are artists!

We have been exploring African textiles linked to our learning about Africa in Geography and our Legacy Learning project. We created our own fabric prints based on the Adinkra cloth from Ghana in West Africa. We each designed a relief print of our own symbol that represented something about ourselves, then we put all our print designs together to make a class Adinkra cloth. We have used these beautiful Adinkra cloths to make cards personal to each of our classes. We have been able to sell these in aid of Pearl's charity 'The Kanamai Trust'.





We are writers.

In English we have been reading 'Dear Earth' by Isabel Otter. We have enjoyed learning facts about oceans, rainforests and deserts as well as writing some varied sentences, using question marks and exclamation marks to make our writing more exciting!



Year 3

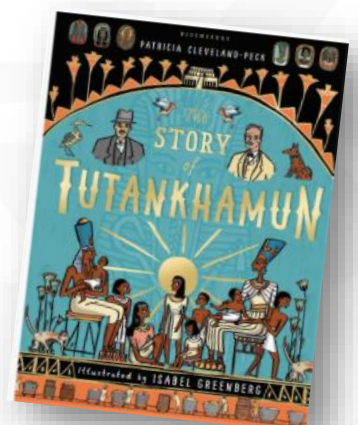
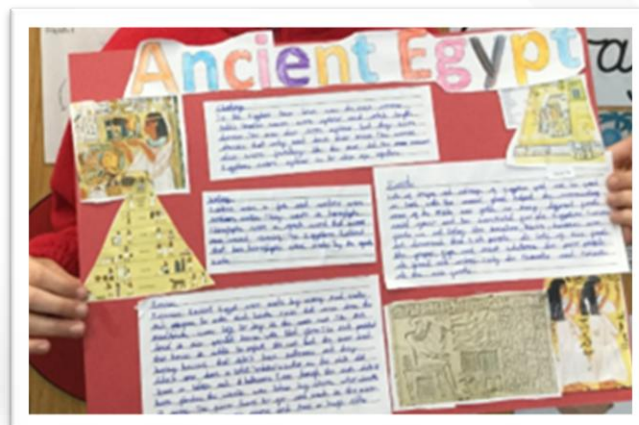
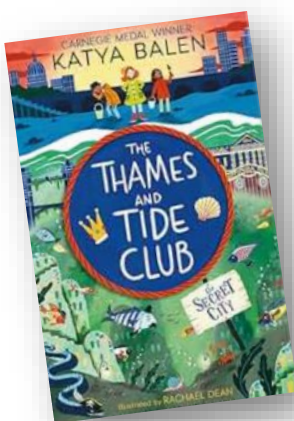
Cheddar Caves

On Thursday 18th June, we went to Cheddar Caves on our trip. We had such a great time visiting the caves and the museum. We had a Stone Age workshop where we learned about how people used to live in shelters, how they hunted and what they wore. The guide demonstrated how they made fires and managed to set fire to the grass and blow flames. When we visited Gough's Cave, we looked at the cave features like stalagmites, stalactites and cave bacon. Our teachers showed us the different parts of the cave including a part named after St Paul's Cathedral. In Cox's Cave, we followed the trail and the story about water and how important water is in our world. The cave was all lit up and each area told a different part of the story.



English – Thames Tide Club and Howard Carter

This term our work has focused on two books: The Thames Tide Club by Katya Balen and The Story of Tutankhamun by Patricia Cleveland-Peck. The Thames Tide Club lessons gave us the opportunity to innovate our own story with a special object for the characters to find. We enjoyed adding our own ideas to the story. We enjoyed learning about how Tutankhamun's tomb was found and we wrote a biography about Howard Carter. We then created a non-chronological report poster all about Ancient Egyptian life.



Ancient Egypt

Year 3 have been enjoying an exciting history topic on Ancient Egypt, exploring what the Ancient Egyptians believed about gods, pharaohs and the afterlife. The children have learned that Ancient Egyptians worshipped many gods and goddesses and discovered how these beliefs influenced everyday life. They have investigated the role of the pharaoh, the Book of the Dead and the journey to the afterlife.



LET'S LEARN

What is a shell structure?



- It is a hollow structure with a thin outer covering
- It holds itself up
- It is usually made from one material
- It protects something inside
- It contains something inside

DT – Structures

In DT, we have been learning about shell structures and we have investigated nets. We learned how to cut out, score, fold and secure a net to make our own structure. We made a certificate holder for our RNLI sponsored run certificates.

Legacy Learning – RNLI

As part of our legacy learning, we had a visit from Geoff from the RNLI who taught us how to stay safe near water. He showed us film clips, the flags they use and some of their equipment. We enjoyed doing our sponsored run to raise money for the RNLI and we presented Geoff with **£2267.04** This is an amazing achievement so thank you very much to everyone!

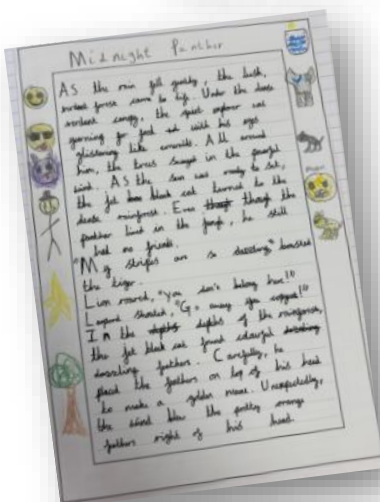
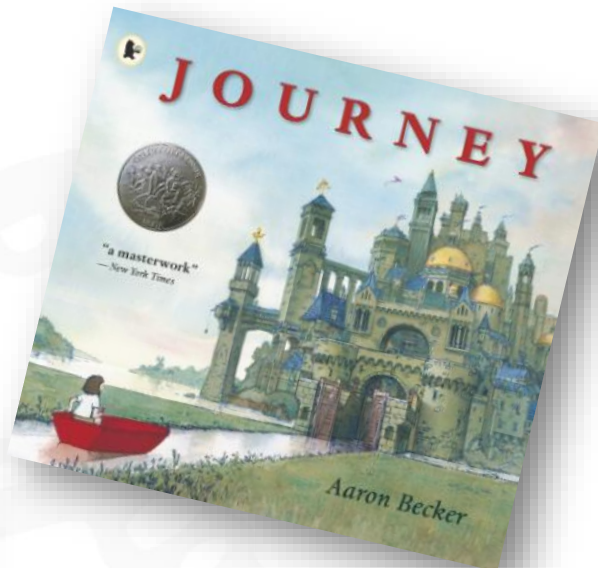


Year 4

English

This term we have been focusing on two narratives: Journey and The Midnight Panther.

We have thoroughly enjoyed these texts with their intriguing storylines and incredible illustrations. The children then produced some excellent, innovative versions of these stories, bringing their characters to life through dialogue and expanded noun phrases. The children's writing was a pleasure to read with such vivid language choices and descriptions!



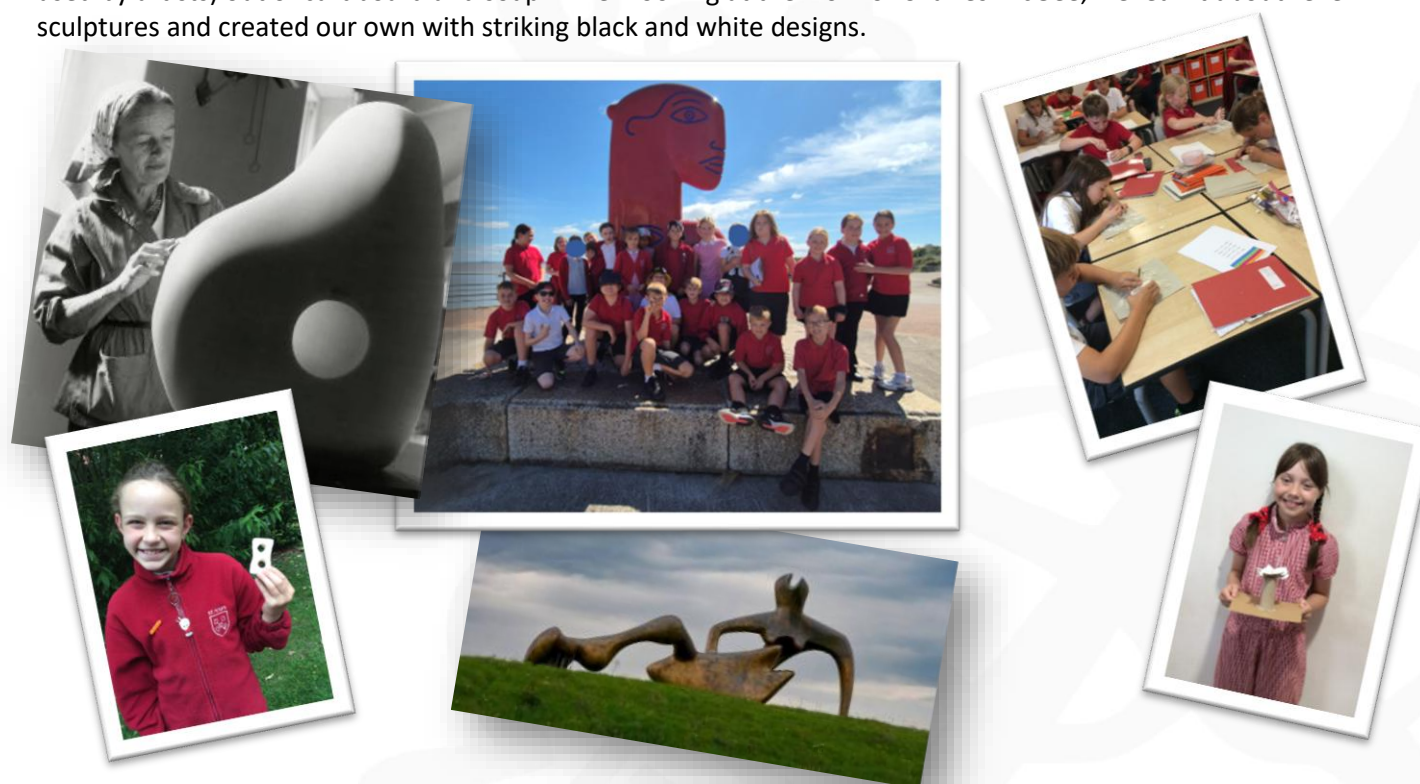
Viking wow day

Year 4 thoroughly enjoyed stepping back in time for our Viking Wow Day! We were fortunate to welcome a Viking visitor, Eric Ericson. We discovered what our own Viking names were, learnt about Viking weapons, clothing, and punishments, and had the exciting opportunity to handle genuine Viking artefacts. We loved trying on Viking clothing and even got to create our own class Viking battle chant.



Art

In art, year 4 have been learning about sculpture through studying the work of artists Barbara Hepworth, Henry Moore and Charles McGee. We have learnt about the importance of both negative and positive space. Inspired by Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth, we made our own Maquettes (a small, preliminary scale model used by artists) out of cardboard and soap. When looking at the work of Charles McGee, we learnt about relief sculptures and created our own with striking black and white designs.



Year 5

Art

This term in Art, Year 5 have been exploring the fascinating world of architecture! We learned about the important role of an architect and practiced drawing from observation using one-point perspective to bring depth to our sketches. Inspired by the incredible work of Dame Zaha Hadid – the visionary Iraqi-born British architect, artist, and designer – we studied her bold, futuristic buildings and used her style to spark ideas for our own creative architectural designs. We also learned how to make and use a viewfinder to select interesting parts of our drawings, which we then developed into monoprints, experimenting with line and texture.



RE

As part of our RE learning about the religion of Islam, we were fortunate to visit the Jamai Mosque in Totterdown this term. The children were very respectful and asked lots of insightful questions. They were able to consolidate their learning by hearing from the Imam about the 5 pillars of Islam as well as hearing a call to prayer and observing prayers.



Trumpet performance

In June, our Year 5 pupils had the exciting opportunity to perform at the Bristol Beacon in front of a packed audience. They showcased their trumpet skills, performing a selection of pieces both alongside a full orchestra and as a Year 5 cohort. The children were absolutely fantastic, demonstrating not only their musical talent but also their professionalism, confidence, and excellent behaviour throughout the event. We are incredibly proud of their achievement and the way they represented our school.



(Both books are followed by sequels – *The Elsewhere Emporium* and *Farm Boy* – so children can continue reading at home if they've enjoyed them!)

St Peter's



Church of England
Primary School

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The Reading Corner



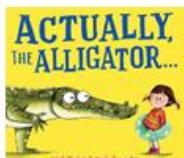
Summer 2026

Top Children's Reads

Ages 3-7



Ages 3-5



Ages 5-7





For more booklists themed by age
or topic, visit booksfortopics.com





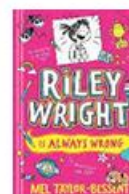
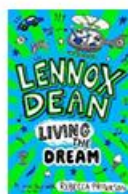
Books
forTopics

Summer 2026

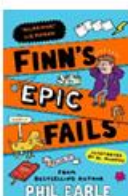
Top Children's Reads

Ages 7-11

Ages
7-9



Ages
9-11



Books
forTopics

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