



Marine Academy Primary and Nursery Newsletter December 2020

'Where Stars Shine Brighter.'

...providing an outstanding education that ensures all pupils reach their greatest potential and live by life's highest values.

Dear Parents/Carers of Marine Academy Primary and Nursery pupils, I wrote to you in the March Newsletter, to express the four words that I am sure would be the most used words of this year – Coronavirus, lockdown, isolation and unprecedented – these will be talked about in History lessons in years to come! What an extraordinary time the last nine months have been! It is difficult to say anything, in this last newsletter of 2020 that has not already been said about the past year. The staff team have worked tirelessly to try and make sure that all of the children have been protected and educated in the best ways possible, which has been no mean feat. As a community we will be stronger when this is over and I am proud to be the Headteacher of such a fabulous school in such an amazing community. To keep it simple though, we have been blown away by how fantastic everyone has been and we would all like to say a heart-felt thank you for the support that you have all given Marine Academy Primary and Nursery this calendar year.

This term has still been as magical as previous Autumn Terms, just in different ways; we introduced an Elf to the Academy in December, who took part in a range of naughty tricks and nice treats, including giving every class a book to read for their DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) session and drawing on photos of different staff members' faces! We also recorded a whole school version of 'Merry Christmas Everyone' by Shakin' Stevens and a staff flash mob of 'Santa Claus in Coming to Town' by The Jackson 5; this video can be watched by clicking [here](#). In addition to this classes put together their own songs, which you will find links for later on in this Newsletter. Finally, a huge thank you goes out to all of the families for their extremely generous donations to Plymouth Foodbank on Christmas Jumper Day!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Siobhan Meredith

FORTHCOMING EVENTS...

Term Dates



Term 3

First day of school: 5th January 2021

Last day of school: 12th February 2021

Term 4

First day of school: 22nd February 2021

Last day of school: 1st April 2021

Term 5

First day of school: 19th April 2021

Bank Holiday: 3rd May 2021

Last day of school: 28th May 2021

Term 6

First day of school: 9th June 2021

Last day of school: 21st July 2021





New *this* Month

Year 2 – This term the Year 2 children have been exploring the topic 'What a Wonderful World'. The children have just finished writing and editing their Geography essays, where they have been examining climates in different continents around the world as well as what they know about the United Kingdom. In English, the children have been using the book 'Could a Penguin Ride a Bike' as inspiration for their own fact files on their chosen Artic animals. In Maths, the children have been consolidating their learning about money by looking at different values of coins and notes. The children have been practising giving the correct change by running their own shops. In Science, the children have been looking at 'Mini Worlds' where they have been observing different environments closely, identifying and classify living organisms or objects either as alive, no longer alive or never been alive. In Design Technology, the children have been designing some fantastic moveable Christmas cards which we think the children are very proud of and we think are fabulous. Thank you so much for your continuous support throughout this term, the Year 2 Team.

Year 1 – The children in Year 1 have enjoyed a festive December in school. They made fantastic Christmas decorations and enjoyed hanging them on the school Christmas tree. Children from both classes enjoyed filming their class Christmas songs, displaying good focus, singing skills and Makaton whilst doing so. The children cannot wait for the adults to see what they have produced. In English, the children have been exploring letter writing. They wrote letters to the elves of the North Pole giving them tips on how to catch Santa in time for Christmas. The children have also displayed great Mathematical skills, exploring shapes and solving tricky number sentences. They completed Geography essay style questions all about their topic, 'Location! Location! Location!' At the end of term, the children had a great time in their class parties, a reward for all the hard work they have put in this term. The Year 1 staff would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and New Year. We look forward to seeing the children in January for another exciting term.

Year 3 – Year 3 have had a magical run up to Christmas with lots of exciting activities! The naughty elf has been making his presence known around the school and children have enjoyed sharing their experiences at home with their elves too! Two children from each class found golden tickets that the elf had hidden in the classroom and were invited to choose a treat from the beautiful Christmas tree! Wowzers!

Children have enjoyed decorating our enormous tree with their hand made decorations along with learning about pneumatic systems in Design and Technology! They have designed and made a donkey whose mouth opens and ears move! We have all thoroughly enjoyed getting into the Christmas spirit with Christmas jumper day and our delicious Christmas lunch. Despite the Corona pandemic we have been "business as usual" in Year 3 and even managed to enjoy a trip to the Box museum - aren't we lucky? Ms Bell and Miss Newell would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the children in Year 3 for being amazing and always trying their best and we very much look forward to more fun and learning in 2021.

Year 5 – Year 5 have relished the challenge of completing lots of excellent learning this term. Many subjects have centred upon their topic of 'Slums'. In Geography, they have learnt about the challenges faced in slums, the reasons for migration to them and the crime activity within the Brazilian favelas. To extend their learning, they have had the opportunity to share their knowledge virtually with another Year 5 group, complete many retrieval practice activities (thank you for your support with the home learning tasks) and have an inspiring social mobility lesson delivered by Lee Elliot-Major OBE, who emphasised the importance of working hard and reminded the children how everyone is capable of being successful.

In Design Technology, the children have designed and made their own water filter models and they have produced well-presented information texts in their English lessons. The children have completed several science experiments related to the properties of materials, which have included reversible and irreversible changes, as well as factors that affect the rate of dissolving. In Maths, Year 5 have been measuring and calculating the area and perimeter of composite shapes - it remains essential that they are regularly practising their Times Tables at home on Rock Stars or in other productive ways.

Finally, it has been lovely to see the children immerse themselves within the Christmas spirit at the end of a challenging year - we hope you enjoyed watching the videos released! The Year 5 team would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you for your support this year and continuing to ensure that your child attends school consistently with a resilient mind-set. We hope you have a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Reception – Reception really enjoyed their Space Day this month – to complement their learning about 'Out of this World!' – the children were engaged with Science experiments and all things out of this world! The children came to school wearing the most amazing costumes - thank you so much for this! The children have learnt all about the planets in our solar system and enjoyed creating wonderful Space stories with their friends.

We have been impressed with the children's Phonics learning, beginning to read and write words, using their best fancy handwriting.

It has been a very busy term, learning Christmas songs for you to enjoy and creating decorations and cards based on the Bear and the Hare Christmas advert.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Year 6 – Year 6 have had a brilliant term and have produced some incredible learning across all subjects. Year 6 had a visit from South West Animal Services, to complement their Science topic, which was 'Classifying Critters'. Both classes really enjoyed handling the animals and learnt lots of new facts too. In addition to their super learning in core subjects, Year 6 have created amazing work in DT; not only designing their wooden toy, but also making it by hand. The Geography based topic for this term was 'Local Fieldwork' and super essays were written, displaying their excellent understanding of how and why geographers do fieldwork. It has been a fabulous term and we can't wait to see all the children back and eager for their learning in the New Year!

Year 4 – What another fantastic month the Year 4 children have had! They have worked hard across the entire curriculum and have immersed themselves into their learning. The children have completed their Geography topic 'Rivers' and have written some incredible end of unit essays! The children are very knowledgeable on different parts of a river and how they impact out landforms. A very big well done for such incredible writing! In English, the children have completed their non-fiction text 'Rainforest Rough Guide' and have been able to create a guide about an animal of their choice. In maths, the children have developed their knowledge on multiplication and division and even tackled 3 digit numbers multiplied by another number, incredible! What a fantastic month of learning Year 4. We hope you have a wonderful Christmas and truly look forward to seeing you for the new year in January 2021. Merry Christmas!

Pre-School – December has been a fun month, full of fabulous learning and getting into the Christmas spirit. The Pre-School children have loved the topic 'Where's my Teddy' and excited to learn all about food in their next topic 'Yummy in my Tummy'. They can't wait to have a supermarket as the role-play and try lots of different healthy food. The children and staff are excited to meet the new children joining Penguins and Puffins in January. They are going to have so much fun and make lots of new friends. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Music at Marine Academy Primary!

Children at Marine Academy Primary have been using their music lessons to investigate a range of fantastic composers this term: perhaps you can investigate their works and find something new to listen? The classes investigated Vivaldi's Winter, Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker suite, Bach's Toccata, Stravinsky's Firebird finale, as well as Delia Derbyshire's Doctor Who theme: what a range of music to explore!

Not only that, but a small group of children in the school came together to sing for a very special event: the Lord Mayor's virtual Carol Concert! They gathered around the Christmas tree, following the DFE singing guidelines, signing Makaton and singing beautifully to create a special gift for the Mayor. You will be able to watch the Virtual Lord Mayor's Carol Concert on the [Plymouth City Council Facebook](#) page on Friday 18th December at 7:00pm. A very well done to all who took part!



The Virtual Lakeland Lapland Festive Challenge

Between the 10th and 18th December, children at Marine Academy Primary and Nursery took part in a virtual challenge. The children worked as year groups to walk 145 miles (the equivalent of running from Rovaniemi, the capital of Lapland, to Korvatunturi, the village where Santa lives)! A huge congratulations to the children for taking part!



The class who are Moving Mantarays of the Term is... Class 4LG for taking part in the most physical activity at home and at school combined! Well done 4LG!

POLITE REMINDER: Throughout the Christmas break, Marine Academy Primary and Nursery will be closed so voicemails and phones will not be picked up during this time. Emails sent to Marine Academy Primary and Nursery will also not be regularly monitored (unless COVID-19 related) but the team will endeavour to respond to you as soon as possible from 4th January when they return to work. Have a really lovely Christmas break!



Recommend A Recipe!

Here is another teacher recommending a yummy, healthy recipe for you from the Change 4 Life website to try at home. We would love it if you could try these recipes at home and send in a picture of you eating the recipe with your families or a food review to primary@marineacademy.org.uk

- 1** Preheat the oven to 200°C, fan 180°C, gas mark 6. Put 12 paper cases into a bun tray.
- 2** Sift the flour and baking powder into a mixing bowl, then stir in the sugar.
- 3** Put the milk, egg, vanilla extract and melted low-fat spread in a jug and beat together. Add to the dry ingredients with the apple and mashed banana. Stir until just combined. Do not overmix.
- 4** Spoon the mixture into the paper cases and bake for 20-25 minutes, until the muffins are risen and golden.
- 5** Carefully take the muffins in their paper cases out of the bun tray. Cool on a wire rack.

Tip If you like, add ½ teaspoon ground mixed spice or ground cinnamon to the flour and sugar mixture.

Mini apple & banana muffins

Overview Ingredients Method

Prep time	Cooking time	Serves	Calories
20 mins	25 mins	12 adults	99 kcals

suitable for freezing

Muffins are very easy to make, and they're perfect for breakfast on the go. You can freeze them too, so you don't have to eat them all at once!

Per adult portion (i.e. 1/12 recipe)

417kJ / 99kcal

2.2g protein

2.7g fat of which 0.7g saturates

16.2g carbohydrate of which 6.3g sugars

0.7g dietary fibre

80mg sodium

0.2g salt



PE Lessons in Term 3

A big thank you for ensuring that your children wear their PE kits to school on the days that they have their PE lessons. Please remember that they need to wear their Academy polo, Academy jumper, black shorts or tracksuit bottoms and trainers on the days when they have PE. Tracksuit bottoms are especially recommended at the moment, as the weather is colder and PE does happen outside as much as possible.

Next term, PE for some classes has changed days, therefore please make sure that from when we return in January your child wears their PE kit on the relevant day for their class mentioned below:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Classes 2CW & 2TA	Classes 4AJ, 4LG, 1MM & 1SA	Classes 3EB & 3JN	Classes 5LI & 5AD	Classes RAF, RHR, 6DM & 6AW

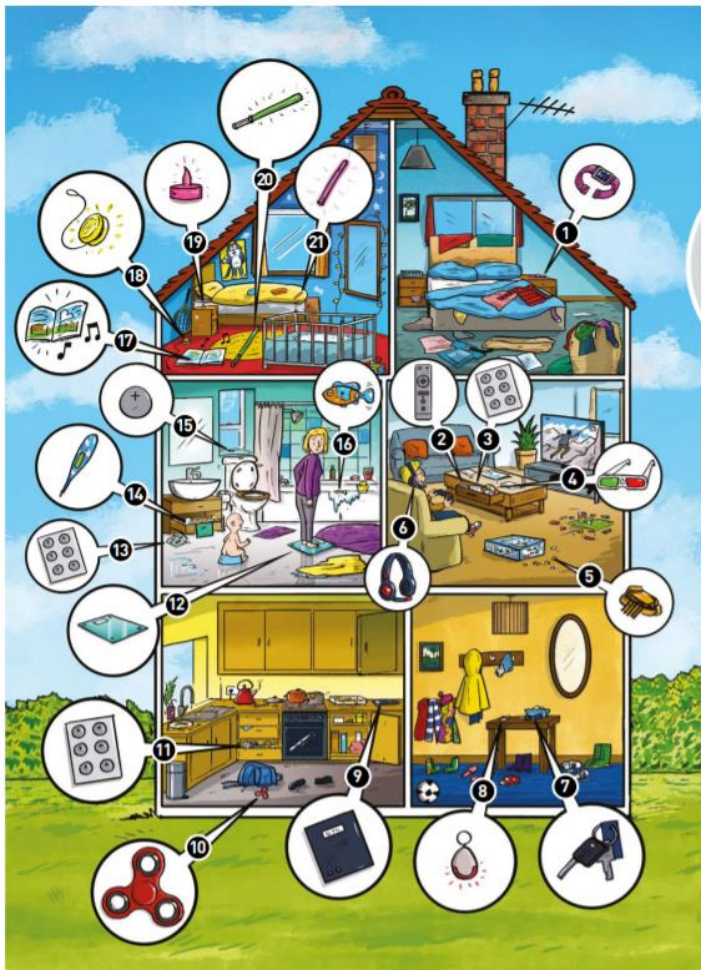
The various year groups in Key Stages 1 and 2 will be learning the following - Year 1: Gymnastics, Year 2: Dance, Year 3: Gymnastics, Year 4: Dance/Gymnastics, Year 5: Taekwondo and Year 6: Orienteering.



Operation Christmas Child

We wanted to say a huge thank you for such amazing donations, which allowed us to collect and put together shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. A small shoebox can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out of it is eternal as through the power of a simple gift with Operation Christmas Child, children living in poverty across the world will receive a gift at Christmas that they would not have done, if it were not for your support.

We donated a huge number of boxes to the cause and it filled the whole kitchen area in Saltash Baptist Church when they were delivered there!



Button batteries - where are yours?



Button batteries, particularly big, powerful lithium coin cell batteries, can badly hurt or kill a small child within two hours, if they get stuck in the food pipe. Know where yours are, so you can keep your children safe.

Five top tips

- Look round your home for lithium coin cell batteries – in products as well as spare and 'flat' batteries.
- Keep products well out of children's reach if the battery compartment isn't secured.
- Store spare button batteries in sealed containers in a high cupboard.
- Remember that 'flat' or 'dead' batteries still hold enough power to badly hurt a child. So put them out of children's reach straight away and recycle them safely and as quickly as possible.
- If you think your child has swallowed a button battery, don't delay, take them to A&E straight away or call 999 for an ambulance. Don't let them eat or drink and don't make them sick.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Fitness tracker | 12. Bathroom scales |
| 2. Remote control | 13. Spare batteries |
| 3. Spare batteries | 14. Thermometer |
| 4. 3D glasses | 15. Flat battery |
| 5. Robot bug toy | 16. Robo fish |
| 6. Gaming headset | 17. Musical greeting card |
| 7. Car key | 18. Light-up yo-yo |
| 8. Key finder | 19. Tea light |
| 9. Kitchen scales | 20. Light saber |
| 10. Light up fidget spinner | 21. Flashing wand |
| 11. Spare batteries | |

For more advice
[CAPT.org.uk/button-batteries](https://www.capt.org.uk/button-batteries)
[buttonbatterysafety.com](https://www.buttonbatterysafety.com)

+BIPBA-
 British and Irish Portable Battery Association



Be Aware of Button Battery Risks this Christmas

[Doctors are warning](#) that a hidden danger could be lurking under your tree this Christmas: unsafe toys containing button batteries that, if swallowed, could burn through a child's food pipe. Shockingly, energy from powerful 5p-coin-sized [lithium coin cell batteries](#) reacts with saliva to create caustic soda, the chemical used to unblock drains. The chemical reaction can cause severe internal bleeding and even death. Children can be left with life-changing injuries, for example, they may never be able to eat or speak normally. This can happen in [as little as two hours](#), however it can take days or even weeks. In the UK, children's toys are covered by safety regulations which require batteries to be enclosed in a secure compartment that can't easily be opened by a child. However, the number of dangerous toys sold online to unsuspecting families is on the increase - so it's important to be extra cautious.

Tips to help keep your family safe this Christmas

- ★ Buy toys from a trusted brand
- ★ If you can, it's best to head to a reputable retailer or buy direct from the websites of well-known brand names.
- ★ If you're buying from an online marketplace, enter a reputable brand name when you search for the toy you want, to be sure it's safe.
- ★ Be aware 'flat' batteries can still be dangerous
- ★ Even if a battery no longer has enough energy to power a toy or gadget, it can still hold enough charge to burn a child's food pipe if they swallow one and it gets stuck.
- ★ Keep your used 'flat' batteries well out of children's reach, high up in a sealed container and recycle them as soon as you can.
- ★ Check Christmas novelties for button batteries
- ★ Novelty items like singing Santas and flashing Christmas wands - and also gadgets like battery-powered tea lights - can contain button batteries that are easily accessible by children.
- ★ They might look like toys, but because they're classed as novelties they don't have to meet the same safety standards.
- ★ If you're worried, keep them well out of reach of children
- ★ Supervise the big unwrap
- ★ Check packaging for spare button batteries that could be easily swallowed and store them - with any others you have in stock - in a sealed container in a high cupboard, well out of children's reach.



Watch Out for Dangerous Toys this Christmas

The number of dangerous toys sold online to unsuspecting families is on the increase - so it's important to be extra cautious when buying Christmas presents this year. Worryingly, if you buy from a third party seller via one of the well-known online marketplaces, toys might not meet UK safety standards. Online marketplaces are simply offering a shop window to sellers around the world and aren't legally required to check if a toy is safe before allowing it to be sold.

Dangers can include:

- ★ Magnets so strong they can burn through a child's gut if swallowed
- ★ Small parts that can choke or suffocate
- ★ Easy access to button batteries that can get stuck in a child's food pipe, cause internal bleeding and even death.
- ★ Lots of families will be looking for bargains online this year due to shop closures and financial pressures caused by Covid-19, so we're sharing tips to help you buy toys safely. If you are able to, then buy direct via the websites of well-known brand names. If you are buying from an online marketplace, enter a reputable brand name when you search for the toy you want, to be sure it's safe.
- ★ How to spot if a toy could be unsafe:
- ★ Remember, toys aren't checked for safety before they're sold by an online marketplace
- ★ If the price seems too good to be true, it probably is - it costs manufacturers money to make toys safe. Try to find something you can be more sure about
- ★ Babies and toddlers put nearly everything in their mouths, which is why toys not designed for this age group need to state 'not suitable for under 3s' or have a warning symbol. Under 3s may choke on small parts or loose hair, so be wary of toys which feature small or loose parts and have no age warning.
- ★ If the listing includes contradictory information about the toy - for example, it's described as a toddler's toy, but elsewhere it says it's not suitable for under 12s - think again
- ★ Look out for suspicious reviews. If they look like they're copied from a toy's leaflet, sound very similar or were written on the same day, they could be fake
- ★ Find out where the company is based. It's a legal requirement to have a UK or EU address to sell toys here. If they're based outside the UK or EU, the toys may not comply with UK safety standards
- ★ The CE mark or Lion Mark show toys have been made to approved standards. However, some unscrupulous companies can fake them - so if you already have concerns, don't rely on these alone.

For more information on buying safe toys at Christmas, Trading Standards have produced a video which can be watched at <https://www.capt.org.uk/News/safe-christmas-toys-online>





Online Safety

Each month, we will continue to share with you some advice to further support your child to be safe online. If you have any questions or queries then please do contact a member of the Primary Admin Team or email primary@marineacademy.org.uk to arrange a time to virtually meet with Mr Ferry our Computing and Online Safety Leader. He will always be more than happy to help you out!



Advice for Parents of Children who use Playstations

What can my child do on PlayStation™Network?

Once your child has an account for PlayStation Network (PSN), they can make friends online, play games with other people, chat (by text, voice and video), send content such as photos and screenshots using messages, join online communities dedicated to specific games or subjects and update their What's New feed with posts.

What safety tools can I use to manage my child's experience on PSN?

By setting up your account as a family manager and creating a separate child account for each child with their date of birth, you can tailor their online experience according to their age and maturity.

Each child account comes with parental controls that let you manage their experience. You can manage various settings, such as what features your child can access, whether they can exchange photos and videos with other users, whether they can shop on PlayStation™ Store and how much they can spend each month.

Set up child accounts

To create accounts for your children, you must have an account for PlayStation Network. Once you have your own account, you can create accounts for each child.

Each child under 18 years of age needs a separate child account for our online services.

Set parental controls

Parents can configure the settings of child accounts through parental controls.

As a family manager you can set the following parental controls on each child account:

- Restrict communication with other players
- Restrict viewing content created by other players
 - Set play time controls
 - Set spending limits
- Restrict access to web browser

Prevent your child from changing parental controls

To prevent your child from creating a new account, which doesn't have parental controls on it, disable new user creation and guest log in, set a login passcode on your account, and set a system restriction passcode.

To add an extra layer of security, you can activate a setting called 'Require Password at Checkout' on your account. This feature prevents anyone using your family manager account to make a PlayStation Store purchase without the account password.

Talk to your child about online safety

Make sure you understand the Code of Conduct and explain it to your children. It shows how they should behave and how others should behave towards them.

We created the PSN Rules for children to read. They summarise key points of the Code of Conduct for them.



Plymouth Dads Project



Who?

For children under 5 (including babies and toddlers) and their dads/ father figures (we have other events for older children)

Where?

Just Imagine, Christian Mill Business Park, PL6 5DS

What? We will spend the afternoon chatting with other dads over tea, coffee and cake whilst getting festive and creating some Christmassy crafts with our little ones. We will be joined by the wonderful Creation Station (experts in arts and crafts for little ones) to help us get creative for an hour before relaxing and socialising in the café whilst the children enjoy the adjoined play area.



**Saturday
19th Dec—
Christmas
Crafting
2-3.30pm**

Calling all dads and male carers (step dads, uncles, grandads...) come meet other dads, make new friends, enjoy fun FREE activities with your children on Saturdays and discuss the challenges and successes of being a dad at our Tuesday Conversation Cafes— a safe space to talk all things dad & eat pizza...

Please book your FREE place through info@dangerousdads.org.uk or call/text 07934739098.

Limited places to ensure we can provide safe, socially distanced events and the right amount of refreshments so booking is essential...

FREE Events for Dads-Autumn Series 2020



ARGYLE TRUST
COMMUNITY

DISABILITY SOCCER ROADSHOWS

Football activity session for children
ages 7-15 with a disability.



Monday 21 & Wednesday 30 December



10:00 - 13:00



Manadon Sport Hub



8 per day

<https://argylecommunitytrust.co.uk/soccer-roadshows/at-manadon/>



Just Married

*A huge congratulations to Ms Bell and
her new husband who got married last
weekend! We wish them all the luck
and love for a wonderful future
together!*

Merry Christmas

AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Marine Academy Primary and Nursery had a brilliant time putting together a whole school version of 'Merry Christmas Everyone' by Shakin' Stevens that you can watch here: [Merry Christmas Everyone](#)

The staff team also performed their own flash mob of 'Santa Claus is Comin' to Town' by The Jackson 5, which you can watch here: [Staff Christmas Video](#)

Classes all performed their own mini Christmas Production and you can watch them by clicking on the class names below. We hope you enjoy watching them! The full compilation can be watched by clicking [here](#):

[Nursery](#)

[Pre-School](#)

[Class RAF](#)

[Class RHR](#)

[Class 1SA](#)

[Class 1MM](#)

[Class 2TA](#)

[Class 2CW](#)

[Class 3EB](#)

[Class 3JN](#)

[Class 4AJ](#)

[Class 4LG](#)

[Class 5AD](#)

[Class 5LI](#)

[Class 6AW](#)

[Class 6DM](#)

The more that you read,
The more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
The more places you'll go.
-Dr. Seuss

We Are Readers



TOP
10

Number of Words Read This Month:

1	Aidan (5AD) 190,858
2	Grace (6DM) 131,305
3	Ebony (6DM) 128,347
4	Daisy (6DM) 116,428
5	Chloe (4AJ) 106,143
6	Gabriel (6DM) 105,368
7	Jacob (5AD) 102,387
8	Hayden (6DM) 101,413
9	Victor (5LI) 97,163
10	Miley (6AD) 84,596

The total number of books and words read by children on Accelerated Reader so far this year currently stands at...

**4,493 books and
21,483,037 words!**



Thank You!

A great big THANK YOU to everyone who purchased books through our Scholastic Book Club. We raised **£71.45** in rewards to spend on new books for the Academy's Library!



SHOUT OUTS!

WE ❤️
READING

A big pat on the back for these quizzers who have all been reading and quizzing lots on Bug Club and Accelerated Reader! Super effort!

Junior and Isla (RAF), Noah and Sofian (RHR), Ava-Rose and Jaxon (1MM), Henry and Lana (1SA), Oscar (2CW), Layla (2TA), Amelia (3EB), Troy (3JN), Mya-Louise (4AJ), Caitlyn (4LG), Jasmine (5AD), Henry (5LI), Miley (6AW) and Daisy G (6DM).

Well done everyone!



Delighting Writing!

This month, we have some amazing pieces from some of our Reception children. This term, they have been learning all about space in their topic, 'Blast Off!'. Bella, in Class RAF, drew and labelled this amazing diagram of the Solar System during her Independent Learning



By Bella, RAF

Piper, in Class RAF, took inspiration from the book 'How to Catch a Star' by Oliver Jeffers, to write this amazing story during her Independent Learning Time!

The boy, got hit a rocket,
he got hit by this jet
dog then show
the moon



Piper

By Piper, RAF

The children in Reception have also been writing letters to Santa. Here's Murphy's amazing independently written letter!



To Santa
Please Cook
br Andrew
most Chuck
Love Murphy