

The Reading Corner

March / April
2025

BLOWERS GREEN
PRIMARY
Dudley



The Reading Newsletter of Blowers Green Primary School

Author Visit

As part of our celebrations for World Book Day, we had a truly exciting treat – a visit from the brilliant children’s author and illustrator **Steve Smallman!**

Steve spent the day working with pupils across all classes, delivering fun, inspiring workshops that brought the world of books to life. He read some of his wonderfully funny and imaginative stories aloud (with lots of giggles along the way!) and gave us a peek into what it's really like to be an author. The children were fascinated to learn how a book goes from an idea to the finished product we read in our classrooms. Steve also wowed everyone with his amazing drawing skills, sketching characters right in front of us and showing how illustrations help bring stories to life.

It was a day full of creativity, laughter, and inspiration. Steve’s visit reminded us all just how magical reading can be – and who knows? We may now have a few future authors and illustrators in our midst! A big thank you to Steve Smallman for such a memorable visit!

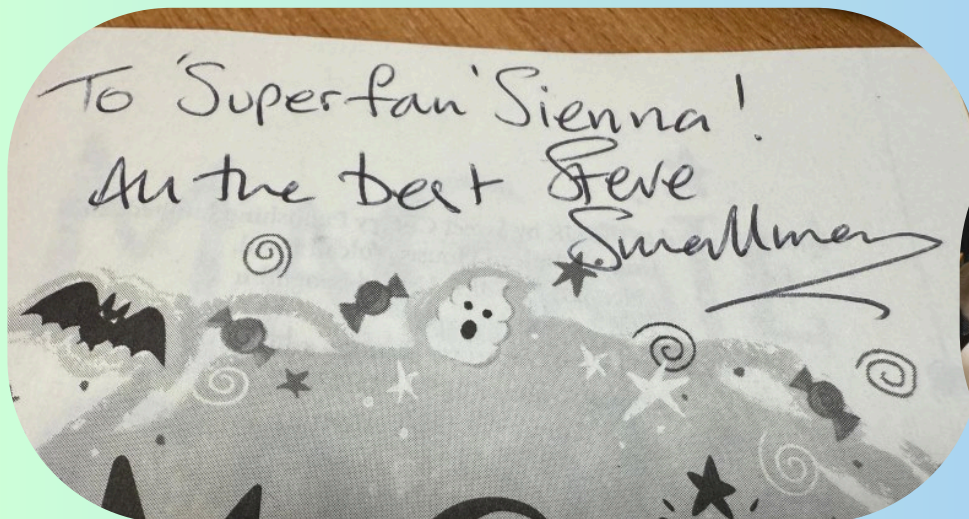


Author Visit

Take a look at all the fun we had when Steve Smallman visited us in school! He even signed our books - Maggie Sparks 'Superfan' Sienna got a special message in her favourite book!



**NEVER
STOP
READING**



Reading Nook Competition



Welcome to the Great Reading Nook Challenge!

We're thrilled to announce a super fun competition just for you: the **Great Reading Nook Challenge!** This is your chance to design and decorate your very own cosy reading spot right at home—a perfect little den where you can curl up with your favorite book and let your imagination soar.

How It Works:

Create Your Nook: Transform any space in your home into a reading paradise. Use pillows, blankets, fairy lights, or even craft supplies to make it unique.

Snap a Photo: Once your reading nook is ready, ask an adult to help you take a picture.

Share With Us: Send your photo to the school via school email: info@blowersgreenprimary.org.uk

Why Join In?

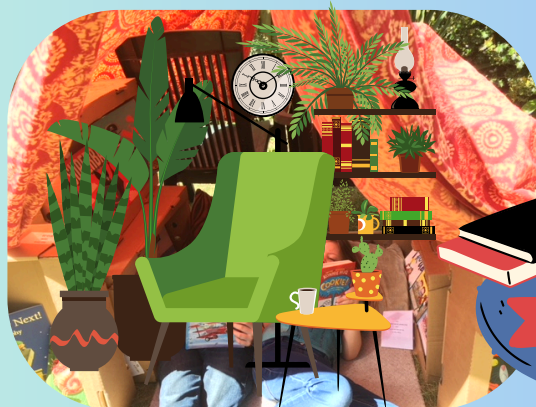
We know that the magic of reading is extra special when you're in a comfortable, fun environment. This challenge is here to show that reading can be fun and exciting and creating a quiet space to enjoy a good book is all part of the fun!

Amazing Prizes Await:

To make things even more exciting, we have super prizes for taking part and for the den that bursts with imagination and originality. Maybe you could win a new book to read in your nook! So, whether you're a fan of fairy tales, adventures, mysteries, or space journeys, this challenge is the perfect opportunity to dive into a book in style.

Get Started:

Ask your parents or guardians to help you set up your nook and send in your photo. We can't wait to see all the imaginative spaces you create. Grab a book, get those ideas flowing, and let the adventure begin in your very own reading haven!



The Grand
High Witch is
a scary villain!

Michelle's Reading River

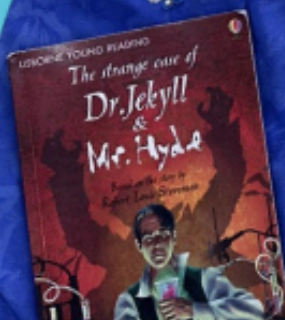


Children in school have created their own 'Reading Rivers'. Books they have read and enjoyed over the last year. Here are the books that Michelle has enjoyed. How many have you read?

And here is Kashfiya's Reading River. Some exciting titles!

I loved the
description of
the monster from
'A Monster Calls'.

Kashfiya's
Reading River



Meet a Reading Ambassador... Daniela

Diary of a Wimpy Kid.
Funny and comical with
laughter guaranteed.
The illustrations are also
great - so funny, they'll bring
you to tears.

The best thing about reading is
that if you're sitting on a couch
you can grab a book and in a
couple of seconds you're in a
magical wonderland in your mind!



A City of Stolen Magic by
Nazneen Ahmed Pathak.
This book is packed with
drama and magic. Chompa
was born with magic powers
but she learns having these
powers comes at a price.

My favourite book
I have read this year has been
'A Mummy Ate My Homework'.
It is about a boy who teleported
back in time to Ancient Egypt
and met a childhood
Pharaoh. An
amazing book.

Online Libraries



We all know there is nothing better than turning the pages of a brand new book, but did you know there are loads of books online. Whether the story is read aloud in a YouTube video or as part of an web-based book then we can all lose ourselves in a good story. The Open University has lots of links to online book resources. Some of these links are found on the following pages. The Open University also has monthly book recommendations that can be found at:

[Open University Recommendations](#)



The Open
University

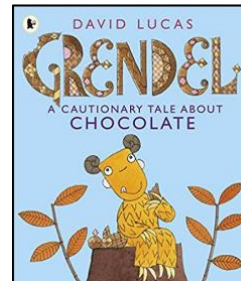
Top Ten Storytimes to Enjoy!

Do check out our favourite storytime read alouds for 3-7-year olds!
Let your children choose...

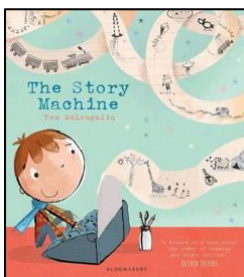
Snuggle up together and enjoy...



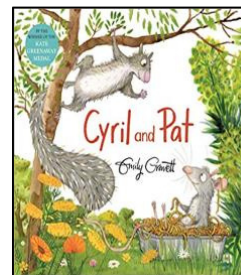
Viviane Schwarz reading her book, [*Is There a Dog in This Book?*](#)



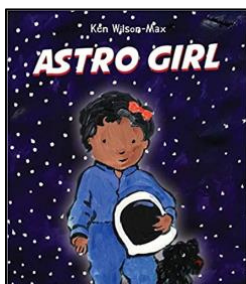
David Lucas reading his book, [*Grendel A Cautionary Tale About Chocolate*](#)



Tom McLaughlin reading his book, [*The Story Machine*](#)



Emily Gravett reading her story, [*Cyril and Pat*](#)



Dame Kirsten Scott Thomas reading [*Astro Girl*](#) by Ken Wilson-Max



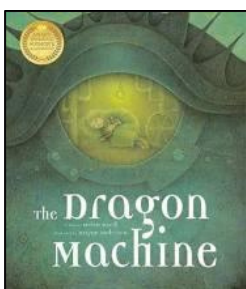
Mini Grey reading her book, [*Traction Man Meets Turbo Dog*](#)



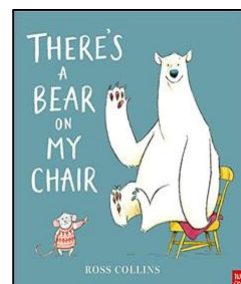
Romesh Ranganathan reading [*Mrs Mole, I'm Home*](#) by Jarvis



Benji Davies reading his story, [*Grandad's Island*](#)



A reading of [*The Dragon Machine*](#) by Helen Ward



Tom Hardy reading [*There's a Bear on My Chair*](#) by Ross Collins

There are many more stories shared on the [Book Trust Story Time](#) website.

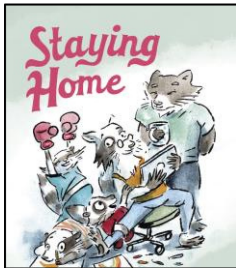
Visit the [CBeebies Bedtime Stories](#) site to watch many more brilliant stories being read aloud.



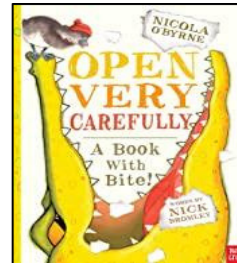
Top Ten Digital Books to Enjoy!

Do check out these ace E-books, Comics and Magazines.

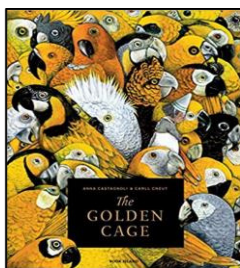
Let your children choose...



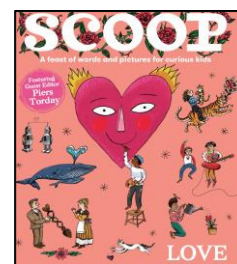
[Staying Home](#) by Sally Nicholls, a story about a racoon family in lockdown



[Open Very Carefully](#) by Nick Bromley and Nicola O'Bryne



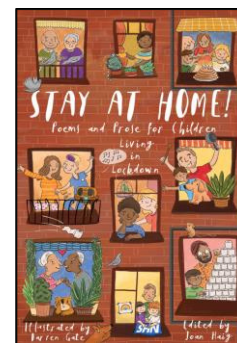
[The Golden Cage](#) by Anna Castagnoli and Carll Cneut read by Laura Watkinson



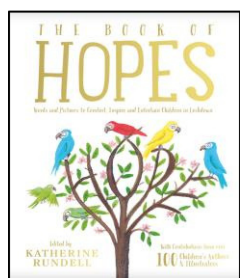
A free digital issue of *[Scoop](#)* magazine. Fun for all!



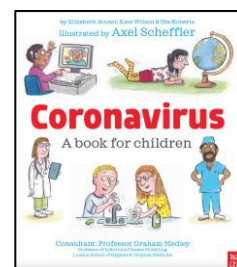
A free digital issue of *[Aquila](#)* magazine. Worth a read!



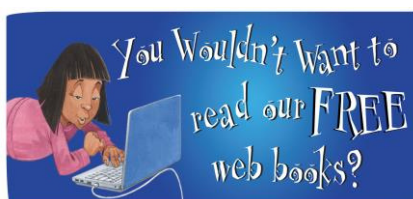
[Stay at Home! Poems and Prose for Children and Prose for Children in Lockdown](#), a collection by writers based in Scotland. Illustrated by Darren Gate



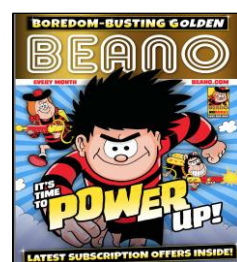
[The Book of Hopes: Words and Pictures to Comfort, Inspire and Entertain Children](#), edited by Katherine Rundell with 100+ children's writers and illustrators



A child-friendly information book explaining the *[Coronavirus](#)* in simple terms written by Axel Scheffler



[You Wouldn't Want to Be...](#) non-fiction web books to explore



A free digital issue of the *[Beano](#)* comic book! Always a winner!

OU Supporting Reading at Home <https://bit.ly/RfPHome>



Teacher Reads

It's amazing how a good book can stay with us. Mr Thompson shares two of his favourite books from when he was little that he still enjoys reading to children today!

George's Marvellous Medicine by Roald Dahl



"I have always loved this book and remember it being read aloud by one of my primary school teachers. I love the anticipation of when Granny will get her medicine. The results are truly hilarious. Although this book is now over 40 years old, it is still making children laugh today! A book you can read over and over again."

Stig of the Dump by Clive King

"Another children's classic of a book. This book starts with excitement and intrigue when the main character Barney falls into the dump. Here he meets the mysterious Stig, a strange stone age boy. They go on many adventures together and even stop some thieves and hand them into the police. I have read this book to my own children and still have the copy of the book from when I was 8! I've made sure copies of this book are in our school library, so make sure you pick it up soon."



Poetry Corner



Spring Song
by



William Blake

Spring is coming, spring is coming,
Birdies, build your nest;
Weave together straw and feather,
doing each your best.

Spring is coming, spring is coming,
Flowers are coming to;
Pansies, Lilies, daffodillies
Now are coming through.

Spring is coming, spring is coming,
All around is fair;
Shimmer and quiver on the river,
joy is everywhere.

