

Reading Newsletter

SUMMER TERM 2025



Welcome to our Summer Term reading newsletter.

We have had a fantastic term filled with exciting developments in reading, and we are so pleased to be able to share some of the highlights with you.

One of the proudest moments this term was receiving glowing feedback from Ofsted, who described reading as **“the beating heart of the school.”** Inspectors praised the sharp analysis of phonics support, the expert teaching that helps our pupils become fluent and confident readers, and the rich variety of texts that celebrate multiculturalism and inspire thoughtful discussion.

On top of this, we’re thrilled to announce that we’ve been awarded the Silver Reading for Pleasure Quality Mark—a wonderful recognition of the whole school’s commitment to fostering a genuine love of reading. There’s so much to celebrate, and we can’t wait to tell you more!

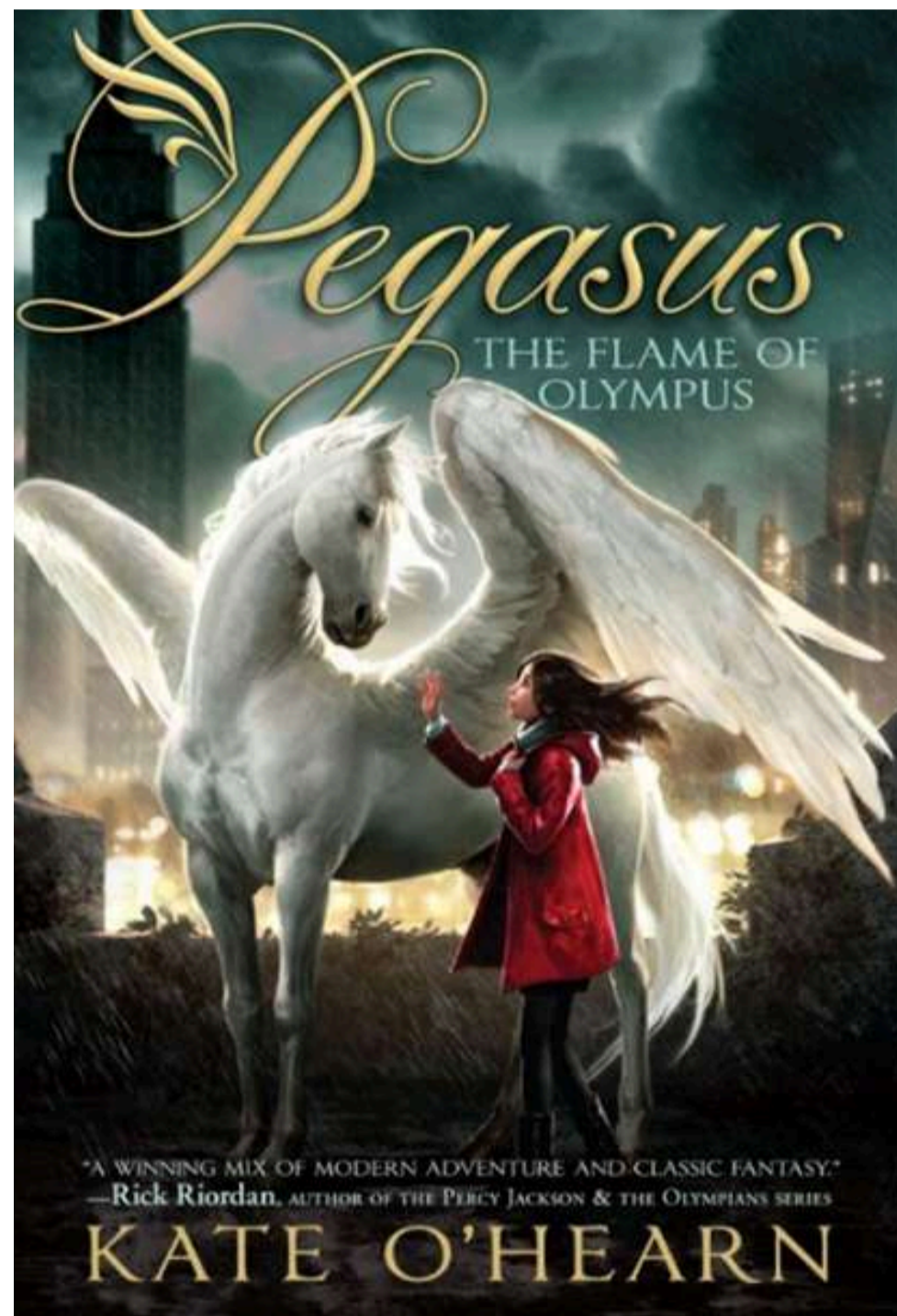


Our Reading Ambassadors' Assembly

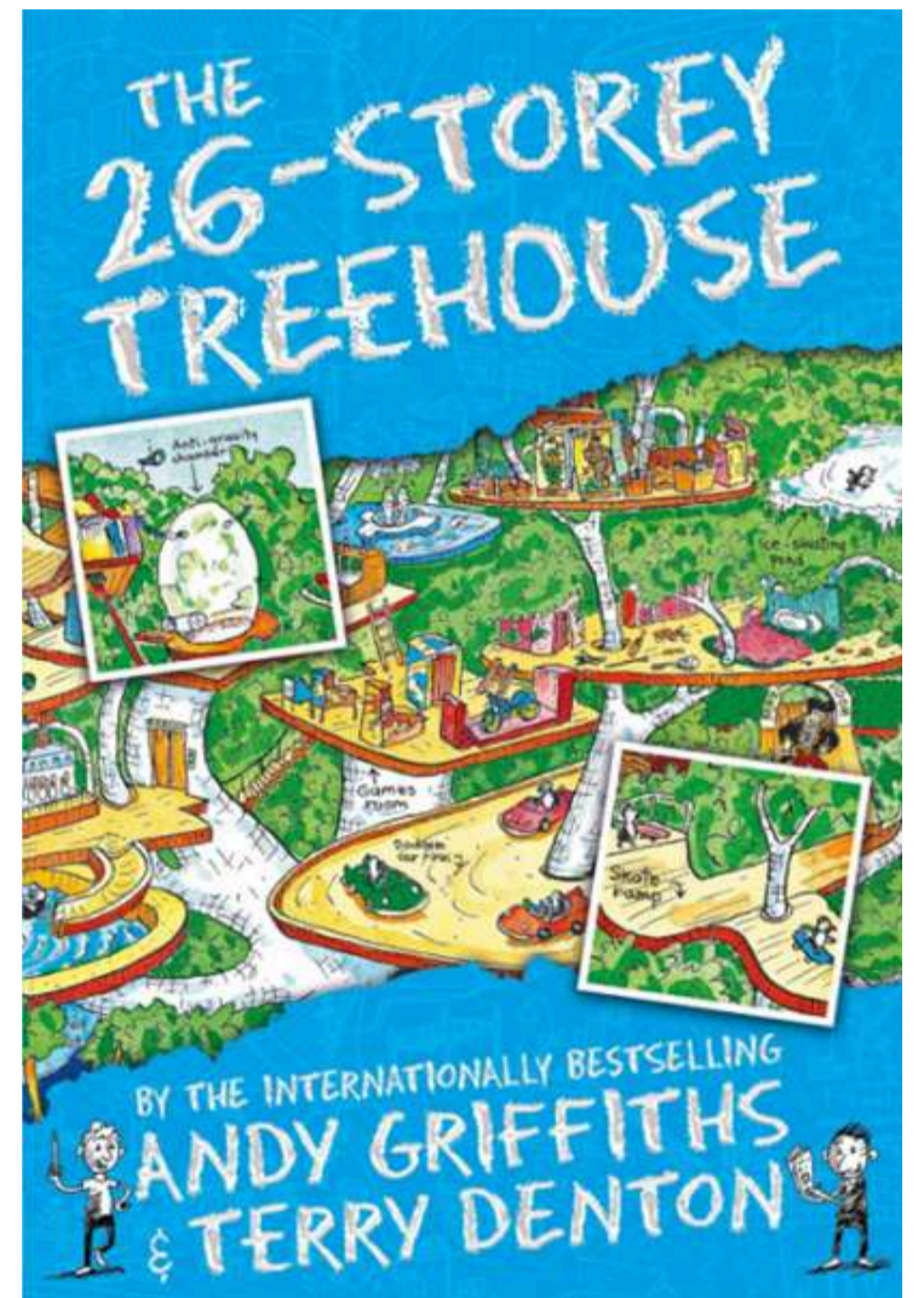
This term, to inspire reading over the summer holidays, our fantastic Reading Ambassadors led a whole-school assembly where they shared some of their favourite books. Their recommendations were thoughtful and varied—there was truly something for everyone! We also reminded children about the **SLS Summer Reading Challenge**, a brilliant and completely free way to keep reading fun and engaging over the holidays. To take part, simply visit your local library and sign up. Don't forget—any child who brings in a certificate for completing the challenge in September will be awarded **20 Buzz Points!**



“It’s great because it has so many pictures and I love learning more about Top Gear as it’s one of my favourite books. Remember your favourite book doesn’t need to be a chapter book or a story book. I love learning facts.”



“A young girl, a winged horse and an Olympian war make for an adventurous start to an exciting trilogy.”



“Andy and Terry live in a 26-storey treehouse (It used to be 13 storeys but they’ve expanded. It has a bumper car rink, a skate ramp, an anti-gravity chamber, an ice cream parlour with 78 flavours, and the Maze of Doom - a maze so complicated that nobody who has gone in has ever come out again. Well, not yet, anyway.”

Story Garden



2025 Summer Reading Challenge - Story Garden

Hampshire Library service have created an online form to sign up to the 2025 Summer Reading Challenge, Story Garden which you can find [here](#). Children can also sign up in the their local library too: www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/library/libraryfinder.

The Summer Reading Challenge is about encouraging children to continue reading and enjoying books through the school holiday. Taking part in the Summer Reading Challenge and reading during the summer will help them when they return to school or start school for the first time.

Children who have signed up for the Summer Reading Challenge and visit a library will be given a collector pack and a sticker for each book they have read. When we say 'read' that includes listening to an eAudiobook, being read to, using a fact book to learn a new skill or reading a comic.

Children who read six books and log their reads at the library or online will be able to collect a sustainable medal from their local library. If you are not yet a member of Hampshire Library Service, you can sign up here: hampshire.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/MSGTRN/WPAC/JOIN. Each child needs to use their own library card number throughout the Summer Reading Challenge.

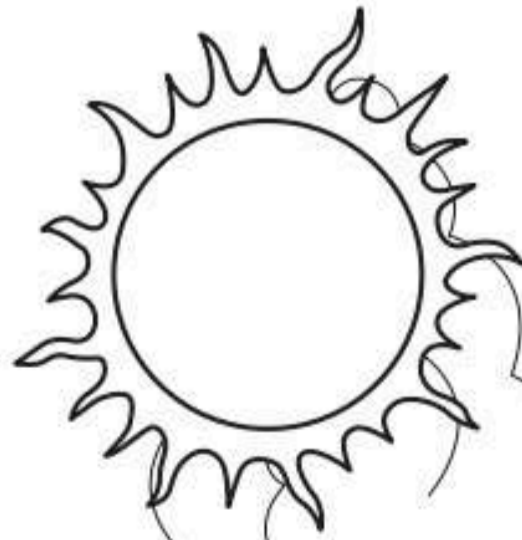
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/library/kids-zone>

Literacy Shed - Big Holiday Read

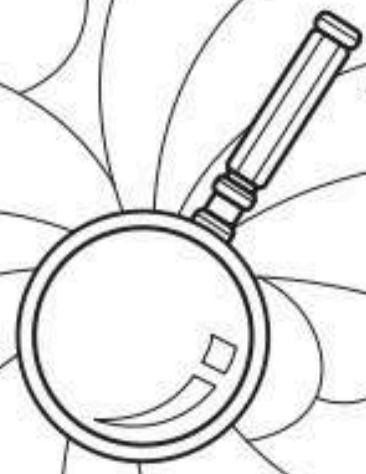
If you would like to try a different reading challenge this summer, why not have a go at the Literacy Shed Big Holiday Read? It's simple and fun—just complete the activities on the sheet and colour in each one as you go. Don't forget, bringing in your completed sheet in September will earn you **20 Buzz Points** as a reward for your hard work and enthusiasm!

The LITERACY SHED

BIG HOLIDAY READ!



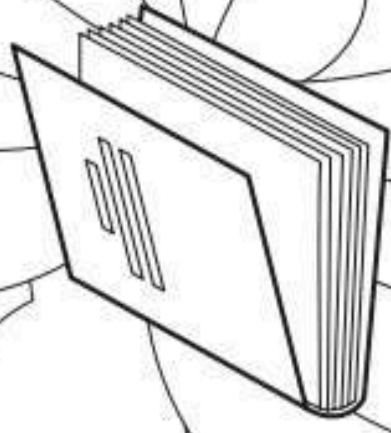
Sit in the shade on a sunny day and read a book.



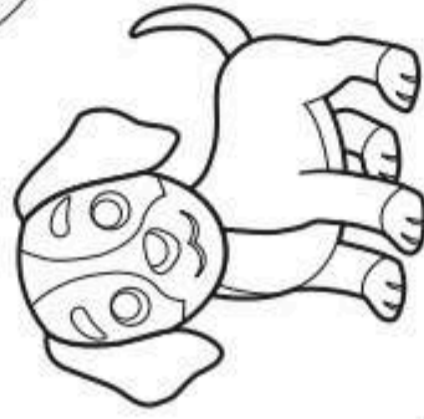
Read a book by an author you haven't read before.



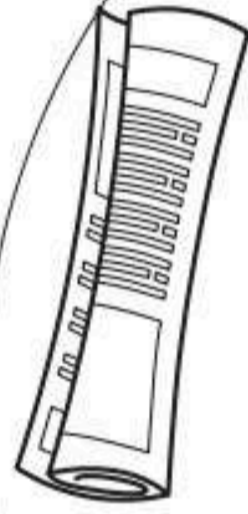
Read a book in your PJs.



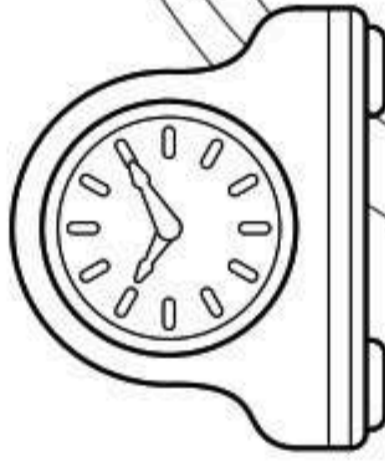
Visit the library and choose a book to read.



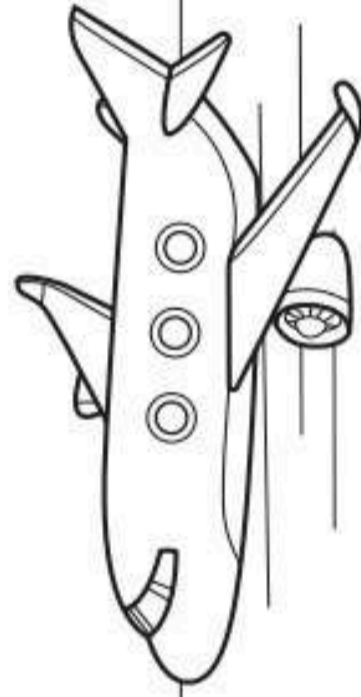
Read a page from a book to an animal.



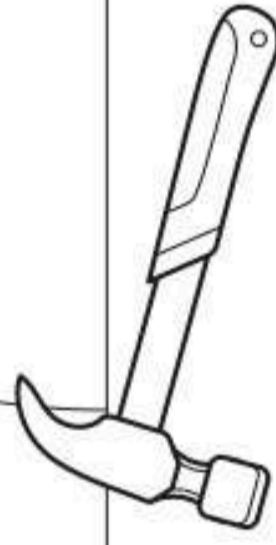
Read a book newly published this year.



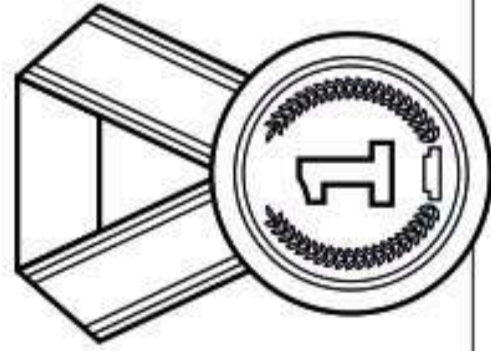
Read a book that is older than you.



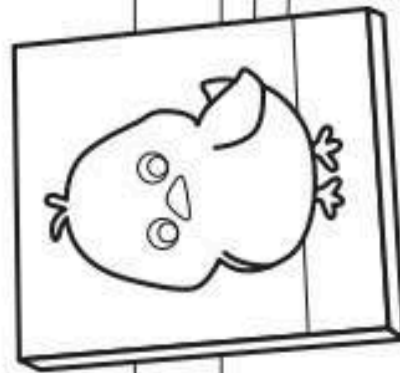
Read a book which features a mode of transport.



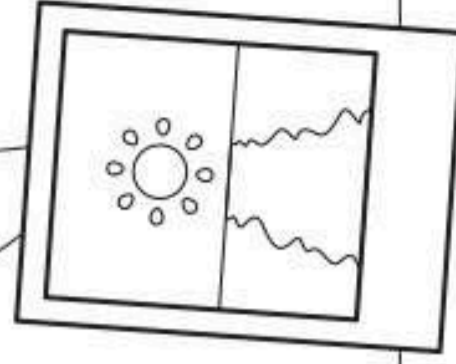
Build a den and read a book inside.



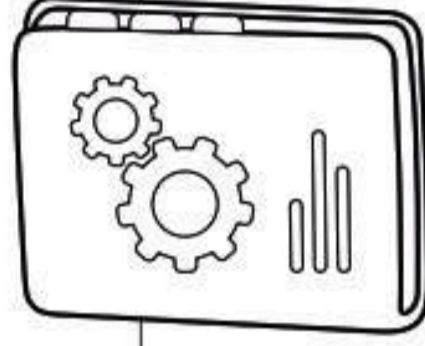
Re-read your favourite book.



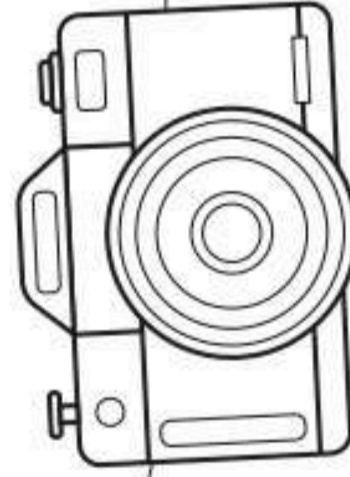
Read a book with an animal in it.



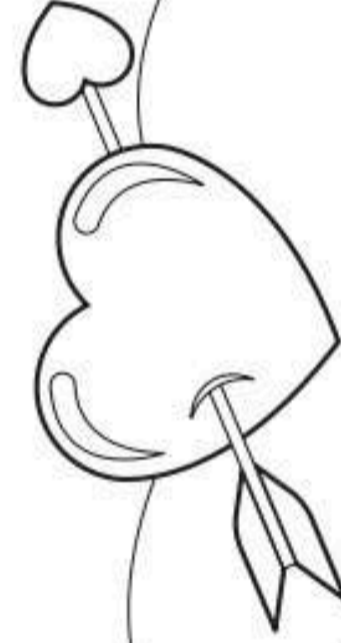
Read a picture book.



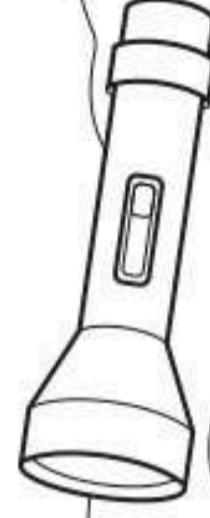
Read a book which will teach you something new.



Read a book which has been turned into a film.



Ask someone you love to recommend a book.



Read a book by torchlight in the dark.



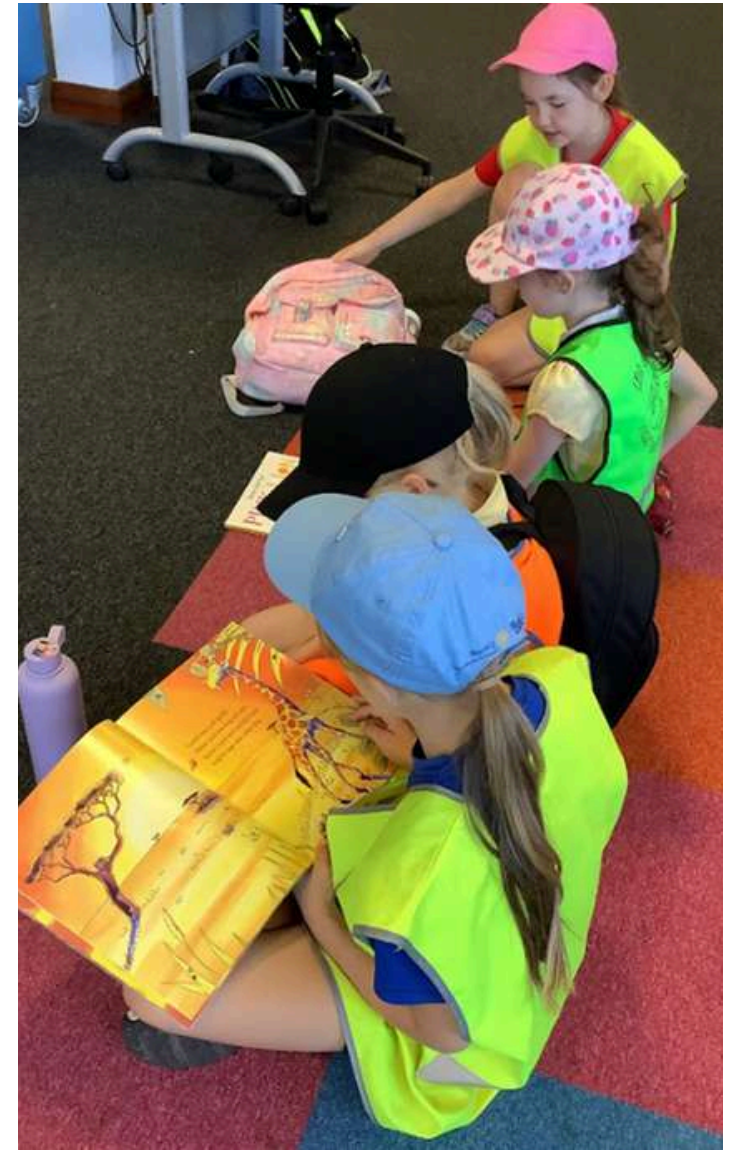
Read a book with a different setting to where you live.

HOW MANY CHALLENGES CAN YOU DO?

Read a book by an author from another country.

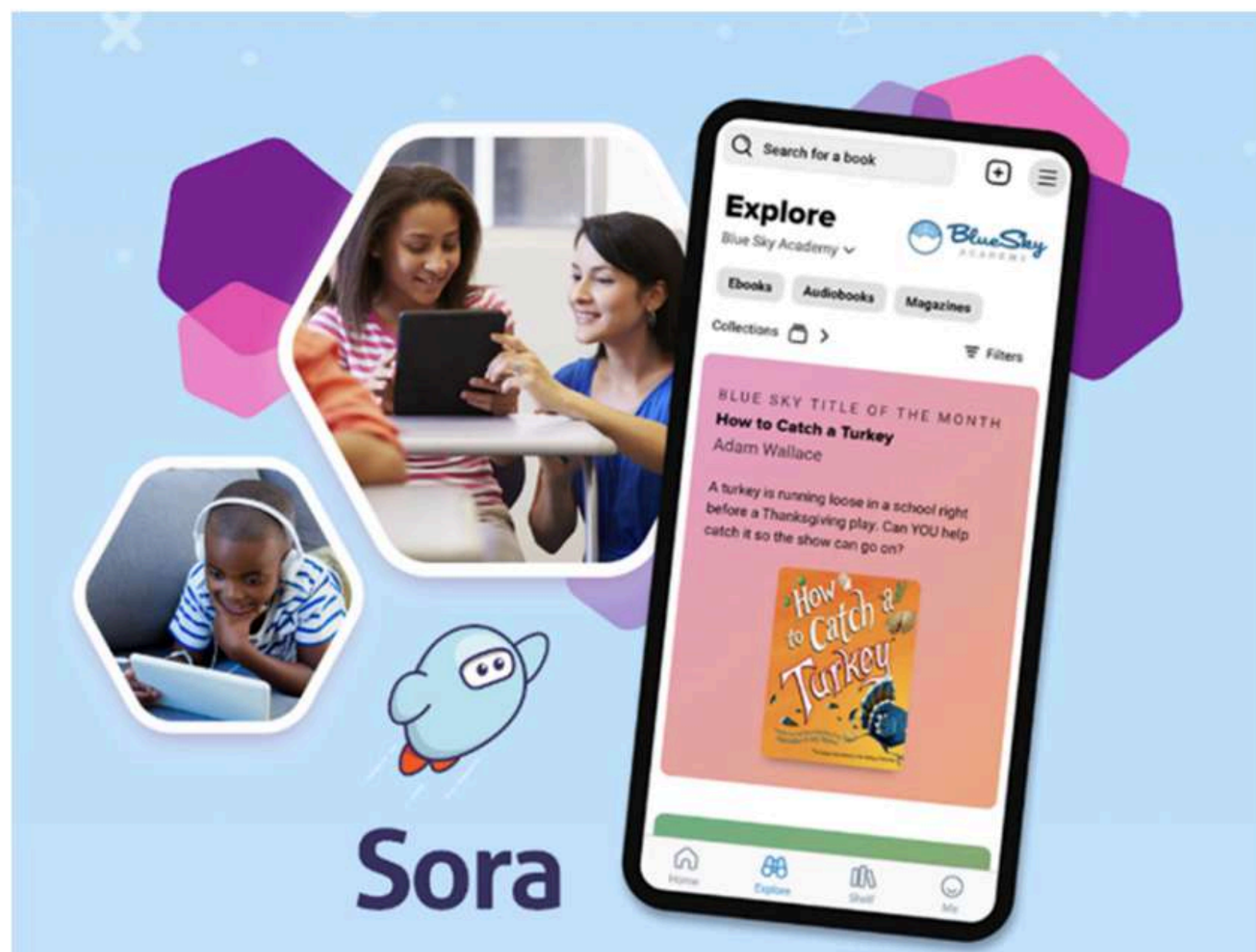
Year 3's Trip To The Library

This term, Year 3 enjoyed a wonderful visit to Farnborough Library, and it was a fantastic experience for everyone involved. The children loved exploring the library alongside their classmates, discovering new books and finding cosy corners to browse. They were all extremely well-behaved and showed great enthusiasm as they searched for books that sparked their interest. Many children left excitedly chatting about the stories they'd found and were keen to borrow books to continue reading at home. Visits like this help foster a lifelong love of reading, and we're so proud of how engaged and curious the children were throughout the trip.



Just a reminder about the excellent online app - Sora

The right books for every student Sora is an award-winning digital reading app that every child in our school can access in order to choose age appropriate ebooks, audiobooks and more from School Library Service. Backed by the largest, most diverse catalog of digital books available to schools, Sora is an excellent reading resource. Children need to know their school Gmail address and password to log on.



The Proven Power of Reading

We couldn't end this newsletter without sharing some powerful facts about just how important reading is in children's lives. The benefits of reading for pleasure go far beyond the classroom, shaping not only academic outcomes but long-term wellbeing and future success.

Early reading matters - Reading for pleasure in early childhood is linked to better cognitive performance and improved mental wellbeing in adolescence.

A greater impact than background – Reading for pleasure has a stronger influence on children's cognitive development than even their parents' level of education. It's also a more powerful factor in future achievement than socio-economic background.

Long-term success – 16-year-olds who read books for pleasure are significantly more likely to go on to secure managerial or professional roles in adult life.

Books at home make a difference – Children who have more books at home are not only more confident in their reading but are also more likely to enjoy it. Among those with over 200 books at home, 66% describe themselves as 'very confident' readers—compared to just 25% among those with fewer than 10 books.

Regular reading leads to stronger results – Children who read books often at age 10 and more than once a week at age 16 perform better in maths, vocabulary, and spelling tests than those who read less frequently. These interesting facts come from **The Reading Agency**, whose research continues to highlight the life-changing impact of reading for pleasure. Encouraging reading at home—even just a few minutes a day—can make a lasting difference.

Let's keep working together to nurture a love of reading in every child.

Have a wonderful well-deserved Summer Break and Happy Reading!

Mrs Nelson