

Welcome to our first parents newsletter!

At Thornbury we love reading and hope you do too. Each term we will be sharing with you all things reading!

This week was National Poetry Day. The focus was choice. Our children read poems and shared some of their favourite poems in class. Ks2 had lots of fun learning a new poem with Mrs Beck. Make sure to ask them about it!



Mental Health Day: 10th October

Last year, we invited Author Ruth Drury to talk to the children about mental health. To raise awareness of the importance of mental health.

The children enjoyed it so much that we have invited her back to our school. Ruth Drury will be in school on Tuesday 19th October. Speak to your child's class teacher if you would like to order her new book or would like to meet her!



During the lockdown Ruth Drury hid 50 copies of her books for children to find.

Here is what she had to say to the children:

Hello children at Thornbury Academy. It has been a long time since I visited you, and so many exciting things have happened....

I have a new book series all about a village of rats! If I was a rat I think I would probably one who sleeps a lot, sniffs around looking for cake and then has a good idea now and again with a loud 'Eur-Squeak-A!'

It was really fun creating the new characters as they all have different jobs and personalities - and don't forget their colourful clothing! After researching I decided that rats would definitely be able to do any job in the world, so I've some great characters created.

Then I added in some silly - which I love to do. There's a Museum, a Mice cream Parlour and lots of rat- tractions such as fun fairs and other things to do in the village!

Writing is a very new skill for me. My mind is a very scattered one so all sorts of thoughts and ideas pop in - often mid way through talking about something else! But writing books helps me harness that chaos which is useful and so much fun!

I am reading a special tale (get it?) on Halloween with it's own spooky theme so come along and join in on my facebook page @writtenbyruth You can also get your own copy of The Rattos Of Cheeseington Village 'The night of the great storm' signed by myself at www.writtenbyruth.com

Reading Tips!

Here are some more tips to help you enjoy story time together with your child

- Ask your child to choose what they'd like to read. They'll feel more interested in the story if they've picked it out themselves. (Don't worry if they keep returning to the same story, either!)
- If you can, turn off the TV, radio and computer. It's easier for both of you to enjoy the story without any other distractions.
- Sit close together. You could encourage your child to hold the book themselves and turn the pages, too.
- Take a look at the pictures. You don't just have to read the words on the page. Maybe there's something funny in the pictures that you can giggle about together, or perhaps your child enjoys guessing what will happen next.
- Ask questions and talk about the book. Picture books can be a great way to talk through your child's fears and worries, or to help them deal with their emotions. Give them space to talk, and ask how they feel about the situations in the story.
- Have fun! There's no right or wrong way to share a story - as long as you and your child are having fun. Don't be afraid to act out situations or use funny voices... your little ones will love it

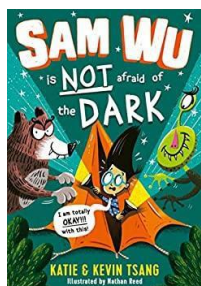


Books to share with your children.



Brightstorm by Vashti Hardy **Aimed at: Year 4, 5 and 6**

Twins Arthur and Maudie Brightstorm receive devastating news: their famous explorer father has died in a failed attempt to reach South Polaris. To make matters worse, the Lontown Geographical Society finds Ernest Brightstorm guilty of sabotaging the expedition of his competitor, Eudora Vane. But a mysterious clue leads the twins to question the story they've beentold—and to uncover the truth, they must undertake the journey of a lifetime with the crew of Brightstorm.



Sam Wu is NOT afraid of the dark by Katie and Kevin Tsang **Aimed at: Year 2, 3 & 4 readers**

Sam Wu is NOT afraid of anything. After (not quite) conquering his fears with ghosts and sharks, this time he is out to prove that he is not by any means afraid of the dark. Except when he has to go camping in the deep, dark woods with his friends and cousin Stanley... THEN it proves slightly tricky because all sorts of bears, wolves and even zombie werewolves and ALIENS could be hiding in the dark! But it is up to him to protect everyone against all types of attacks and survive the camping trip. All they have to do is keep the camp fire going (because monsters hate fire) and stay awake all night to make sure it works. That should be pretty simple to do...?



Introducing Sherman by Ruth Drury **Aimed at: 4 – 7 year olds.**

Sherman was a busy chap, with pants that were bright red
Each day he'd shower and dress real quick, then sit upon his bed
Sherman's job is to help create those funny feelings in your tummy which big people know as shame.
But poor Sherman, all he wants to do is retire and go fishing!
Find out more about Sherman and what he can help you with in this brilliant new picture book

Free websites

- David Walliams has free downloadable resources for all his books, including art tutorials with illustrator Tony Ross <https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/activities/>
- Lots of phizzwhizzingly good ideas from Roald Dahl at <https://www.roalddahl.com/things-to-do-indoors>
- An acrostic poem uses the letters in a word to begin each line of the poem. All lines of the poem relate to or describe the main topic word. As part of the online tool, children can brainstorm words to help write their poems and can save their work-in-progress to revise and edit, reinforcing elements of the writing process! Children can also print their finished acrostic poems © [ReadWriteThink Interactives](#)

Do you have some ideas for our reading Newsletter or would like some help with reading with your child?

Speak to your child's class teacher for help with reading.