



Stafford Leys Primary English Newsletter

INSPIRING CONFIDENCE, COMPASSION, CHARACTER AND FUN.

Dec 2019

Welcome to the 1st English newsletter of 2019/20

We have had a brilliant Autumn term at Stafford Leys enjoying everything that English has to offer and developing our love of learning just like Denzel the Dolphin! You many have noticed that we think reading is really important at Stafford Leys and want to encourage children to become skilled readers and to enjoy reading!

Extreme Reading!!

We launched our love of reading with our Extreme Reading challenge! It has proved very popular across the school with photographs flooding in of reading happening absolutely everywhere! You may have spotted some of them on Twitter. Teachers and children alike have been reading on top of mountains and volcanoes; inside helicopters; at sporting events; at countless destinations abroad and whilst just having fun in the garden or park - the list is endless! We chose our winners from last term and they our displayed in the hall.



At the end of this half-term, we crown our ultimate winners of the challenge over all. It's not too late to send your photos in to extremereading@staffordleys.com. We set ourselves the ultimate extreme reading challenge and every child in school brought a book into assembly for our whole school extreme reading photo!



Vocabulary Day

Our second Vocabulary day was another great success! All the children and staff had a great time dressing up as their chosen words. This day helps to highlight the power vocabulary has in both reading and writing.

Reading Diaries

At Stafford Leys, we really value the importance of reading at home and know the difference it can make to children's learning. You may have noticed we have changed the reading diaries this year to give you more information on reading and how you can support this. It's also a way to communicate about reading to your child's class teacher.

Author Visit

EYFS and KS1 recently had a visit from author Grant Tovey. He read 'The Day Granny's Knickers Blew Away' which the children thoroughly enjoyed. They got the chance to buy a book and get it signed too.



Grant answered lots of children's questions about reading and created a real buzz about being an author and writing stories.

DEAR:

We aim to **D**rop **E**verything **A**nd **R**ead at least three times a week to promote stamina for reading, fluency and enjoyment of reading. When the teacher signals, we just get our books out and soak up the pages!

Reading Shed:

Andres, our premises officer, has been busy building the first of our outdoor reading sheds. We want to encourage children to enjoy reading out in the playground as well as in the classroom. We are hoping to have three more outside sheds very soon!



PFA whole class reading book contribution!

A huge thank you to the PFA for their contribution of £3,500 to buy books for our whole class reading teaching. The children love the way we teach reading but sometimes have to share an extract rather than having the delight of a real book! This will make an incredible difference to the class sets we have and the amount of books we have to teach reading in EYFS right up to year 6! Thank you PFA!!

Next Term:

Our whole school reading initiative next term is **Teacher's Story Time**. Every week a different teacher will video themselves reading a book or extract of their choice and be uploaded onto the website. Tune in to see Mr Kitchen reading at home and Miss Bignell reading her favourite Michael Morpurgo book!!

An author visit is planned for children in KS2 and phases will be promoting reading in their area in their own way. Look out for a **Share a book Friday** in EYFS and KS1 too!