



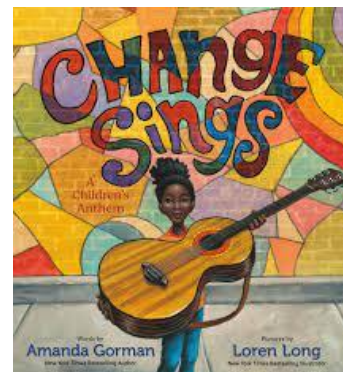
Higher Bebington Junior School Reading Update February 2023

World Book Day – Thursday, 2nd March.

School activities

In school, children will be working on a range of activities to celebrate and encourage a love of reading for pleasure. Our whole school focus text will be *Change Sings* by Amanda Gorman. This is an artistic book all about uplifting young minds. It encourages children to persevere, to work together and to respect one another.

Children will also be looking at illustrators and the role they play in bringing books to life.



Costumes

This year we are again inviting the children to come dressed as their favourite book character and asking the children to bring in the accompanying book if this is available to them. Please remember that there is **no expectation for children to buy expensive outfits** – children are encouraged to be creative and make their own costumes or props or come in an outfit as simple as they are comfortable with. Teachers will discuss ideas with their classes.

Book character competition

Last year we had some wonderful entries for our Book in a Box competition. Children are invited to be creative take part in our toilet roll book challenge over half term, making a book character or book cover using a toilet roll!

A winning entry from each year group will receive a voucher to be spent at the book fair on World Book Day or at Bear Hunt Books at a later date!

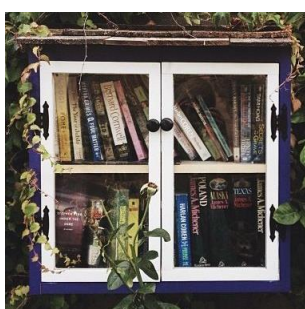


Book Fair



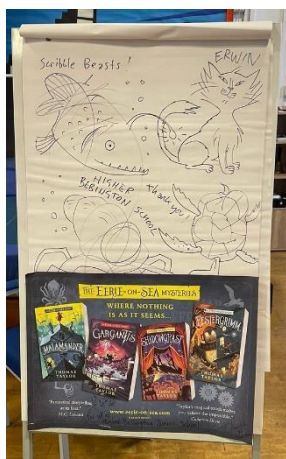
On World Book Day itself, we are hosting local business Bear Hunt Books for the afternoon for a Book Fair in the hall. All children will be issued with a World Book Day £1 voucher that they can put towards a book of their choice or a book from the World Book Day £1 selected texts (or even save for use later!). For information on these texts, please visit <https://www.worldbookday.com/books/>. Further details regarding the book fair will be sent out soon.

OPAL Reading Shed



With the launch of OPAL next half term, we are looking to develop our ability to encourage children to read a book in a quiet nook outside at lunch and breaktimes at school. It would be wonderful to set up a book share library for parents too! We would be grateful for any donations to enable this to happen.

Author visits – Thomas Taylor and Helen Rutter



We have been very fortunate to be able to welcome two authors to Higher Bebington Junior School so far this year. In Autumn, Thomas Taylor, author of the Malamander series of books (and illustrator of the first Harry Potter book cover – Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone!) was welcomed to our school and the children were fascinated by his scribble beasts.

Recently, Helen Rutter (The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh) had us in fits of giggles as she entertained us with amusing stories of how she gathers her ideas for writing. A thinking chair is a must! We were blown away by how many children wanted to read her books after her visit.

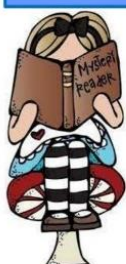


Welcoming authors into our school has such a big impact on reading for pleasure as they really do bring the books to life. We are very fortunate to have your support at such events.

Mystery readers

Mystery Readers

We would love to have some mystery readers to share their favorite children’s stories or books with our children. Would you be willing to visit school as a ‘surprise’ to your child’s class and read to them? Alternatively, if you can’t visit school, would you be willing to record yourself or read live over a class zoom?



Sharing books and promoting a love of reading is a key part of our school life and we would love you to be involved. You could choose an old favourite or a new book - the choice is yours! But be prepared to be asked questions by the children about why you chose it!

ARE YOU UP FOR THE CHALLENGE?

It was such a joy to see so many parents, grandparents and children get involved in our Mystery Reader sessions in Autumn term! You even inspired some of our children to volunteer to read to other classes.

We would love to welcome more of you again into school as a surprise for your child’s class. The invitation extends to the wider family and community so please do contact your child’s teacher if this is something you would like to do.

We would also like to welcome volunteers to read with our children on a 1:1 regular, basis. Reading aloud is a key part of developing reading fluency. Please contact the school if this is something you would like to be involved in.

HBJS Weekly Book Recommendations

We publish a weekly book recommendation on our Twitter page @HBJSCH63 every Friday during term times so please do give us a follow if you don’t already.

