

MICKLETON PRIMARY SCHOOL

'To become the person I need to be'



Reading Newsletter

Welcome to our first Reading Newsletter! As a school, we are passionate about reading and want children to enjoy and love books as much as we do. At Mickleton, we aim to create a whole school culture that fosters a love for reading, and develops independent readers who have a good understanding of texts - both fiction and non-fiction.

Reading at Mickleton Primary School

Mickleton places reading and books at the centre of the curriculum. We want to foster a love of reading, so children not only demonstrate an understanding of what they have read, but also show enthusiasm and excitement for it. We believe that reading is an integral part of a child's learning and development and that it underpins all other learning.

Children begin with reading books matched to their phonetic ability in Reception and Y1, before moving onto the Accelerated Reading scheme. As the children progress, they read increasingly complex books. The reading scheme comprises books from a range of text types and genres, including children's classics and children's versions of adolescent and adult classics. Reading books are taken home by the children so that they can be shared with family members.

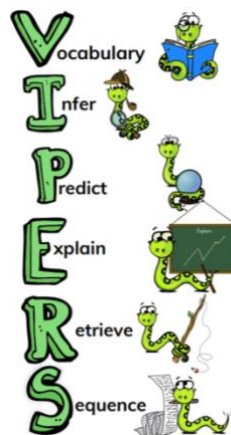
See our website for more information!
<https://www.mickletonschool.com/reading/>

VIPERS

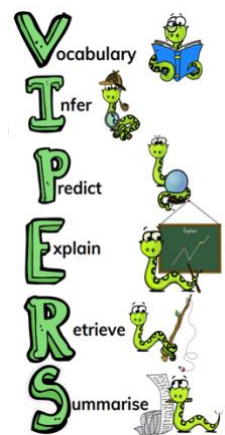
At Mickleton we use VIPERS to help us read. VIPERS is an acronym to aid the recall of the 6 reading domains as part of the UK's reading curriculum. They are the key areas which we feel children need to know and understand in order to improve their comprehension of texts.

VIPERS stands for:

EYFS/KS1



KS2



Find out more here!

<https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-us/browse/reading-vipers>

Let's celebrate

Reading for Pleasure

Women's Euro Reading Challenge

This July, England is hosting the UEFA Women's EURO 2022 Football Tournament. The National Literacy Trust has worked with the UEFA Tournament Team to encourage pupils to get involved in the tournament, whilst also boosting their reading skills. There are three ways to get involved:

- Follow a brand-new Rocky of the Rovers story that will be published in instalments every Wednesday and Friday morning, starting on July 6th.

- Online events, including quizzes and interviews with top women footballers.
- Take part in the Reading Challenge wallchart that will be run in the hall.

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/uefa-womens-euro-2022/>

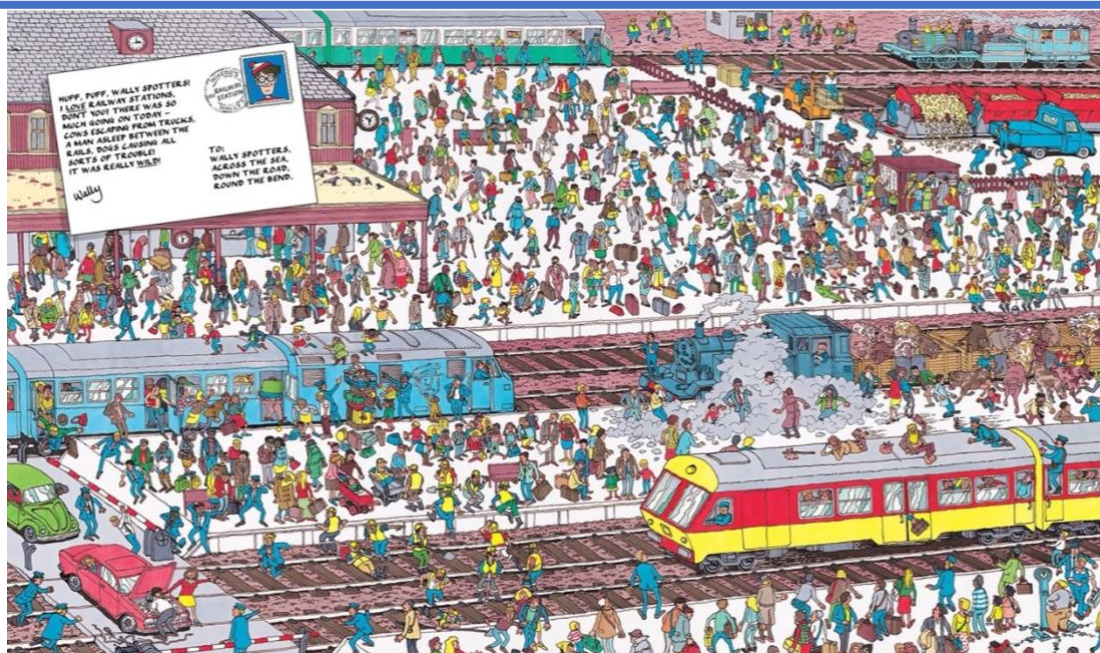
Teacher's Recommended Read:

Mrs Gibbons Recommends...

'The Creakers' by Tom Fletcher

I really enjoyed *The Creakers* and would definitely give it 5 stars! It is an adventurous, mysterious tale about a girl called Lucy who wakes up one day to find all the grown-ups in town have disappeared. While all the other kids are very excited about this, Lucy and her friends Norman and Ella set off on an amazing adventure into a topsy-turvy, back-to-front and inside-out new world to try and find them! If you enjoy exciting books with lots of cliff-hangers, then this is the book for you!

For ages 7+



WHERE'S WALLY?

Can you find Wally?
Let your teacher know when you have found him!





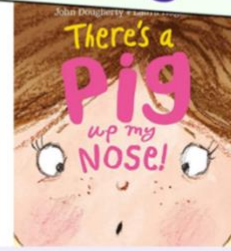
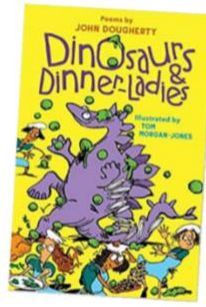
We are delighted to announce the opening of our Book Swap Shed

It is in the school carpark, next to the bicycle shelter. There is a box for each year group.

To make it work for everyone, there are some guidelines:

- Please bring only 1 book and swap it for another your child would like to read.
 - Multiple book donations for the school are welcome, but please bring to the reception, so the Reading Team can sort them appropriately.
 - Please ensure that you close the doors securely to protect the books.
- Our aim is to promote a love of reading for all children, so please help us by encouraging your child to make use of this fantastic resource.





AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT

John Dougherty

Why bother to read?

There are lots of reasons for reading. It helps you to understand yourself and the world better; it develops empathy; it widens your world-view. So much of the knowledge I have, I've picked up from books and stories. It provides distraction; entertainment; focus.

More importantly for me, though: throughout my childhood, reading was my lifeline. I was, though I didn't fully realise it at the time, a terribly unhappy boy, and reading made me promises. It promised me that life could be better. It promised me that I could make a difference in a world where I felt utterly insignificant. It promised me – to quote a famous paraphrase of Chesterton – that the dragons can be killed. Those promises still hold.

What was your favourite childhood book?

It's difficult to pick one, but if I have to, it's probably *The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe*. The Narnian chronicles were the first novels I remember reading which involved ordinary children having extraordinary adventures; the magic of their going through an ordinary wardrobe into another world, meeting talking animals, and helping to defeat a truly villainous and dangerous witch, utterly captivated me, and Lewis's build-up of the expectation around the appearance of Aslan had me gripped. And then there's the astonishing Stone Table sequence; there are few passages in literature, I think, with quite the same power: from the humiliation of Aslan, through the torture and death, and then the reappearance to the desolate Susan and Lucy, I don't think Lewis mis-steps on so much as a single word. I was already a lover of reading when I entered Narnia, but I don't think any book had ever connected with me so forcefully, on such an emotional level, before.

Which of your own books is your favourite?

When I'm doing school visits, I always say that I'm proud of all my books and I can't pick a favourite; and that's absolutely true. But it's a bit of a boring answer, so I'm going to mention two of my books which make me feel particularly proud. The first is my award-winning picture-book *There's a Pig Up My Nose*, which I'm proud of at least partly because while I always had faith in it and believed that children would love it, it took me almost 2 decades to find a publisher for it. The second is *Stinkbomb & Ketchup-Face and the Great Big Story Nickers*. This series revels in meta-fictional absurdity, but in this one I took it to another level; the villainous badgers find a copy of the book and start messing about with it, rewriting the story as it's happening and even sticking bits of other books in, so that our heroes suddenly find themselves in the middle of *Treasure Island* or *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* or a story about zombie teachers. Chapters go missing or turn up in the wrong places. Meanwhile, there's a little boy called Alfred Kendon-Furtado who's won a competition to be in the story and wants to be given something to do (we really did run a competition, and Alfred was the actual winner). It's all very complicated and a bit mad; it took quite a bit of work to make it make sense, and I'm pretty proud of how – with my editor's help, of course – I pulled it all together and made a coherent, entertaining and really quite funny story out of it.

John Dougherty is a well-loved and hilarious children's author, poet and songwriter, best known for the *Stinkbomb and Ketchup-Face* series of books, the *Zeus* stories and many more. A former primary school teacher, John now lives in Stroud, Gloucestershire, with his two wonderful teenagers.

He gave up teaching to concentrate on writing when he moved to Stroud, but he really enjoys visiting schools as an author and would like to do even more.



Top tips for reading at home

1. Make books a part of family life - Always have books around at home. That way, your children are ready to get reading, even if it's only for ten minutes.
2. Join your local library - get your child a library card. They'll be able to get their hands on hundreds of fantastic books. Let them choose what they want to read to help them develop their own interests. All for free!
3. Read about something they're interested in - Help your child find the right book for them.

It doesn't matter if it's fiction, poetry, comic books or non-fiction.
4. All reading is good - Don't rule out non-fiction, comics, graphic novels, magazines or leaflets. Reading is reading and it's all worthwhile.
5. Get comfortable! - Snuggle up together somewhere warm and cosy, whether it's in bed, on a beanbag or on the sofa. And make sure your child has somewhere comfy to read on their own too.
6. Ask questions - To keep them interested in the story, ask your child questions as you read. Start with 'Where did we get to last time?', 'Can you remember what's happened so far?' and 'What do you think will happen next?'. Use the reading question bookmarks we send home if you aren't sure about the questions to ask.
7. Read whenever you get the chance - Have a book or magazine with you for any time your child has to wait, like at the doctor's or the dentist.
8. Read favourites again and again - Encourage your child to re-read the books and poems they love. Re-reading helps to build fluency and confidence.
9. Enjoy bedtime stories - Read with your kids at bedtime as often as you can. It's a great way to end the day and to spend valuable time with them.
10. Make the most of rhyme and repetition - Books and poems with rhymes and repeated words or phrases are great for getting your kids to join in and remember the words.
11. Don't forget there is a wide range of support resources available on the reading page of our website: <https://www.mickletonschool.com/english/>

