

Reading Everywhere.....

As a way to encourage children to pick up a book throughout our school day and to show the importance of pleasure in reading books we have created a fantastic new reading corridor for children to quietly sit and read.

Over the last month we have been transforming the long, plain and boring corridor by our studio into small spaces. This was just the start of our fantastic reading journey.



The 'Before' picture.

Mr Parkinson created a few doorways and with a little paint and imagination, Miss Carr and her team of helpers painted amazing scenes from our favourite books; this has created a real buzz around school.

The 'After' pictures.....



A painted fire place and faux book shelf to transformed a boring window into a castle fireplace. Letters from Hogwarts, Marauder's Map, wands and with a few magic potions helped us create our own Common Room, with comfy seats and Quidditch boxes to sit on and read.

To celebrate 150 years of Alice in Wonderland we created a mushroom forest. The magic mushrooms are just the start of the design which will change and transform over the year so keep your eyes open.



The children were also inspired by a picture from the artist Kerry Darlington which hangs in the school reception area- why not pop along and look at what the school council purchased.

The children love our scene from The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe; Narnia seem quite apt at this time of the year and the children tell us it's very cold in this section. With a sledge for the queen, snow covered trees, icicles and even a lamppost the scene was set for reading whilst snuggled into a fur blanket.



For our younger readers we have created a small quiet reading room with magical trees and book characters to encourage them to read a book. Our reading tree often has different characters hidden in the branches and storybooks around the base. Look out for the Gruffalo and his friends!

The children were so excited with the first few rooms being completed that they wanted to celebrate and create something to mark the occasion. Year 6 pupils were asked to make a simple advertisement for the Reading Corridor and to help celebrate World Book Day. All the children created their own story boards for their video and dressed up as book characters,; they then elected a producer and editor, as well as assigning a director so that everyone was involved. A team wrote the words to our song to go with the tune from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Looks great Year 6, well done!

We now use the areas to sit and read in at play times and lunchtimes, they are rarely empty and we are already having enquiries from other schools about how they can use our idea to develop areas in their own school .

We have two areas left to decorate. What will they look like? Which books will they depict?

We are running our own World Book Day Competition to find the best ideas for the final two rooms and to find the most popular stories in school. The winning ideas will be transformed into a scene from the books ready for World Book Day on 3rd March 2016.

Ask your child to fill in an ideas sheet and post it to the School Council in the suggestion box.

