

### Term 1: Fiction

- We linked our topics to English through the driver texts, which also support our three school drivers: **Community, Diversity and Growth**. These books have taught our children about people and communities across the world, helping them to write stories in KS1 and a warning tale, wishing tale or tale of fear in KS2, through their enriched knowledge as young citizens.

## English Newsletter

26.11.21

*We have been SOOO busy!*

### Term 2: Nonfiction

- The children learned to explore and write nonfiction genres, through driver texts that support the school drivers: **Community, Diversity and Growth**. Children have learnt about explanation, persuasive, discussion and information texts, through their growing awareness of the world and societies around us.

What We  
Learn  
BECOMES A PART OF  
WHO WE  
ARE



To help educate our children to become positive and well-informed citizens of a diverse global community, we needed to update our library. It was important that we could provide children with diverse authors and characters that they could both explore, or identify themselves within, in literature. We also needed to ensure that we had more contemporary texts for children and FOMS very kindly funded a massive collection of fiction and nonfiction books to enrich our school reading. Teachers and FOMS were invited to a 'Book and a Biscuit' evening, where they could explore these books and teachers could select these for their classrooms – to then inspire their children to read this wonderful literature!

**The children LOVE them.** Thank you FOMS!

## Whole Class Reading

Our stories and books that are shared with a class not only enables the teachers to model effective intonation and expression for reading, but also builds positive relationships and encourages discussion and wider awareness of people, societies and the world around us. Children have also brought their own copies into class to follow along as it is read to them. This is what some of our children have said about their books this term:

**Year Rec:** *"The apple got squashed!!! We like this book!"*

**Year 1 / 2:** *"The stories are exciting – they make me feel relaxed."*

**3 / 4:** *"We loved Narnia! It was about WWII and the children were evacuees and they found Narnia through the back of a wardrobe!"*

*"Our story is about a boy who lives in Ethiopia - his life is totally different from ours. It's exciting and I like to follow it with my own book"*

**Year 5:** *"I like the cliff-hangers – 'Ghost' tells us about the boy's life. The Wolves of Willoughby Chase was about orphanages – it was really interesting."*

**Year 6:** *"I enjoy listening to how the plot develops, the stories are great."  
"We learn new words and phrases from our class stories and write them in our Magpie books, to use in our own writing."*



Across the school, children and teachers have been taking part in the annual November celebration of nonfiction texts, by encouraging each other to select from the wonderful new array of books in school. Children have earned a certificate and Gold Award for their efforts, and children have been inspired to recommend and swap these between themselves. Well done children!

This month, some of our older children enjoyed the opportunity to learn about English through a webinar from an expert author. Onjali Q. Rauf, who the children also voted as one of our Learning Points Heroes for this year, told the children about how she researched and wrote 'The Lion Above the Door'. Children said:

*"I have read one of her other books! I loved hearing about the real life heroes from the past that inspired her to write her new book."*

*"I could see all of our school values when she was talking about this book!"*

*"It has helped me look at the past in a different way – it's important to recognise the women and people from all cultures within our history."*

