

Weekly Bulletin

March 6th 2026



What a fabulous World Book Week was had this week. I hope that you have all located your book vouchers and are heading off to a bookshop to browse. If you are looking for some reading inspiration for your child, take a look at the suggestions from the [Books for Topics](#).

Sharing books with your child and reading aloud with them at bedtime until they are well into secondary school is a fun, warm and loving experience. Just by reading aloud, together for ten minutes a day will see them grow into eager, confident learners, acquiring listening skills and gaining new words that are far beyond their reading ability.

To mark World Book Day, **all children have received a £1 book voucher to use at participating bookshops.** This gift from booksellers, is a great opportunity for our young readers to pick out a new book and explore the wonderful world of literature. Remember, reading is a fantastic way to fuel the imagination and promote lifelong learning!

Staff Update



We would like to let families know that **Mr Chapman** will be leaving our school at the end of August. He has accepted a new position as Deputy Headteacher at another school, which he will begin at the start of the new academic year.

Mr Chapman has been part of our school community for the past 5 years and has worked with many pupils and families during that time. We would like to thank him for his contribution to the school and the support he has given to both pupils and colleagues.

While we will be sorry to see him leave, we wish Mr Chapman all the best as he moves on to this new stage in his career. We will share further updates with families in due course regarding arrangements for the next academic year.

Exciting News: “Ye-Ha!” – Our Upcoming School Play!

We are thrilled to announce that our Year 3 and 4 annual play, Ye Ha, is just around the corner!

Our talented children have been working incredibly hard, rehearsing every line, dance move and song, and they can't wait to share their performance with you on Wednesday 25th March and Thursday 26th March at 5:30pm.

Keep an eye out later this term for further information about costume ideas and ticket availability on MCAS.

Healthy School Award Celebration



We're delighted to share that Meldreth Primary School has achieved the Healthy Schools Ambassador Award through the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Healthy Schools programme.

This recognition celebrates the school's commitment to promoting healthy eating, physical activity and positive wellbeing across the whole school community. The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Healthy Schools

programme supports schools to improve pupil health and wellbeing and encourages sharing best practice across the region. Schools achieving this award demonstrate leadership in creating an environment where healthy behaviours are learned and lived every day. Congratulations to everyone involved in this fantastic achievement!

Warming Up & Cooling Down: Supporting Your Child to Transition to and From School - 45-minute parent workshop

Join us for a supportive and informative workshop for parents on **“Warming Up and Cooling Down from the School Day”** on Tuesday 10th March @ 2.15pm in school. This session will explore how the time pre and post-school day can be challenging times for many children, and how parents can best support them through these transitions. Jenny will be sharing lots of practical tips and simple strategies to help children, building understanding about why different behaviours might be seen at home. The workshop will also offer helpful approaches for creating calm, supportive routines before and after school, helping children feel more secure,

regulated, and ready for their day. All parents are welcome to come along, learn, and ask questions in a friendly, supportive space.

Please email the school office if you are able to join us, refreshments will be available.

If you are unable to join, but would either like the information or would like an evening workshop, please also let us know via the school office.

Your voice matters: Win £100 - tell us about your morning school run

Meldreth Primary School has a unique opportunity to help design how free breakfast clubs will look for families across the country.

We need your help. Ipsos researchers want to hear from our parents to understand what the morning school run looks like for you.

Designed by parents, for parents. We've worked closely with parents to make sure this survey asks the right questions and doesn't take up too much of your time.

- **The ask:** Complete a 10-minute survey [Click Here](#) .*
- **The thank you:** A chance to win a **£100 voucher**.
- **Who:** Everyone! We want to hear from you **whether you currently use the breakfast club or not**.

Help ensure the national Breakfast Club programme works for parents like you.



Preschool News

This week in preschool our spring topic continued, with activities adapted to support the children's interests and developmental progress. Both rooms made the most of the glorious weather, spending lots of time exploring and learning in our outside classrooms and garden.

The Caterpillars enjoyed a variety of sensory and messy play experiences including wet sand, water, gloop, mud, and petals, supporting learning through exploration, communication, and physical development.

The Butterflies also explored a range of messy play experiences and particularly enjoyed learning about the butterfly life cycle. Great fine motor skills were demonstrated whilst the children created some beautiful lanterns to celebrate Ramadan, giving the children the opportunity to learn about different cultures and celebrations.



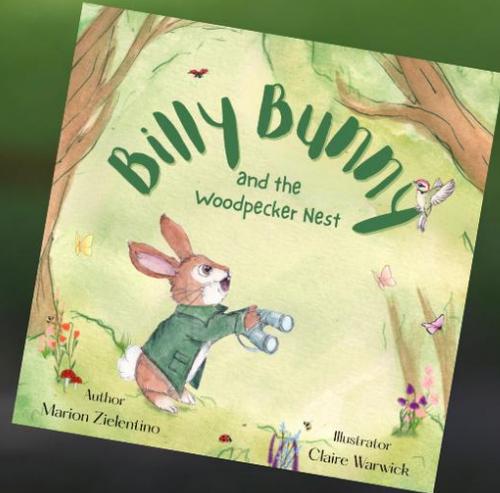
Max R	Belle E	India N	Lilly D	Tom M	Ava R
Manning W	Isla E	Miley H	Dexter P	Rupert E-O	Verity F
Max W	Skylar W	Wren Class	Lily F	Zoe F	Finn W
	Arthur S		Abby N		Ella H



Author Visit

13th March 2026

Meldreth Primary School



We're excited to share that local children's author, Marion, is sharing 'Billy Bunny and the Woodpecker Nest' with the children of Meldreth Primary School.

During this free visit the story will be shared in an afternoon assembly using natural arts and crafts, teddies and audience participation to bring it to life!

Marion will also be available on the playground at the end of the day with copies of her book.

Order your signed book:

To preorder your copy with a personalised message please head to storymeadow.co.uk

Podcast:

Children can also listen to the readalong on the Story Meadow podcast along with plenty of other adventures.

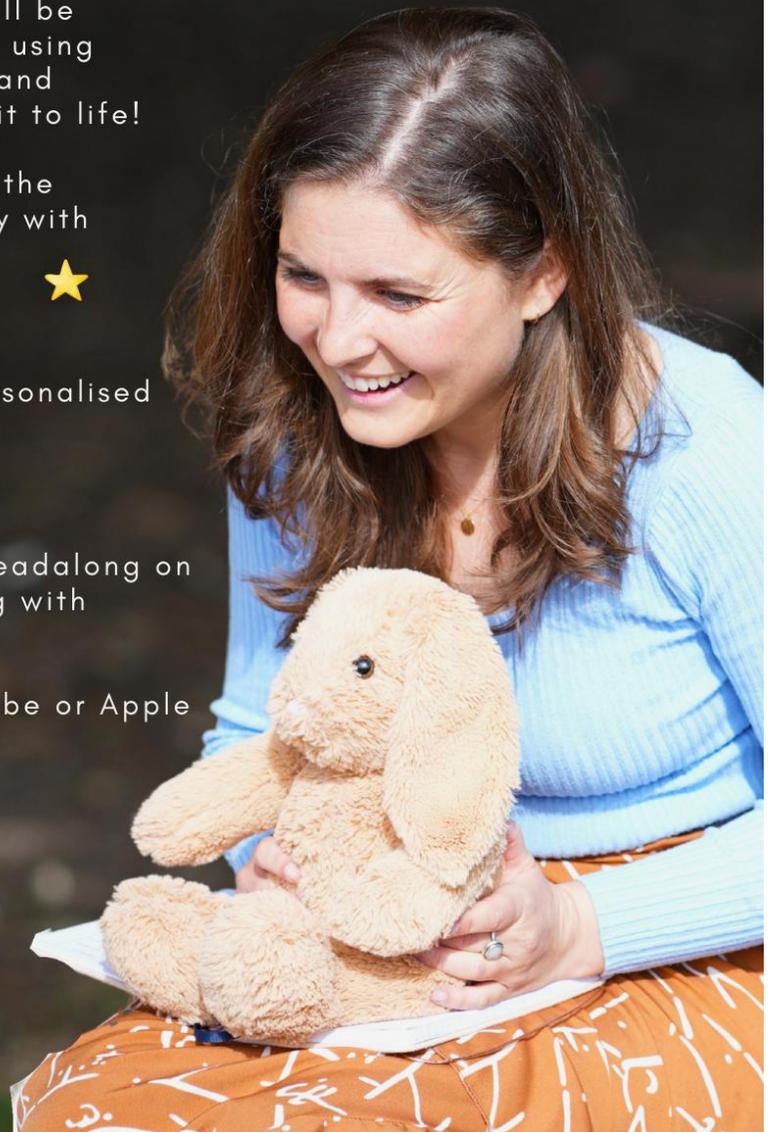
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BOOK



PODCAST



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 8- to 18-year-olds, with just 32.7% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

1 VALUE ALL READING

When we think about reading, it's very easy to picture a young person reading a fictional novel; however, reading is so much more than this. To help them understand, why not show them how to create a 24-hour reading diary? Jot down all reading and then discuss this with them. By doing this, you can demonstrate the many ways we turn to reading.

2 WIDEN THE SELECTION

Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading material they can access. Visit a shop selling magazines, the library and a bookshop, and consider the range of material that is available within them. Then consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.

3 GIFT A BOOK

One simple way to encourage reading is to make books feel special. Gifting a book adds value and shows it's something to be treasured. Whether it's as a reward or for a celebration like a birthday, let the young person choose a title or pick one you know they will enjoy. You could also include a personal note inside.

4 CONNECT WITH AUTHORS

Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event in a school/bookshop or by using the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to look at ways to connect with authors using free resources such as Authorly and Just Imagine's Children's Authors Live.

5 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Access training about reading for pleasure to widen your understanding of this topic and, more importantly, how to develop it. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better placed you are to inspire a love of reading in others.

6 TALK BOOKS

There are times when we need silence to read and focus on our book; however, we know that reading is a social experience, so we must also factor in discussion time. Reading the same book gives two people a connection and the opportunity to voice their thoughts and questions about it. Why not buy two copies of a book and read it together? Start the connection.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we are reading or have read recently. This can often act as a trigger for someone else to explore it. How often have you watched a film or series because someone else has recommended it? It's the same with books. If you know the young person well, you can tailor your recommendations and share why you think they'll enjoy it.

8 GO DIGITAL

With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negatives; however, it also brings a wealth of opportunities. Resources can aid and enhance the reading experience for young people. They can read along with audiobooks, translate, and track their reading goals with resources like Polylino and apps like Goodreads for older children. Augmented reality books also bring books to life and offer a great way for engagement.

9 RECONNECT

There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It does not mean it's gone forever; it generally means they have lost the connection. How do we get it back? Find the next piece of reading material that sparks their current interests. The National Year of Reading focus of 'Go All In' captures this well as it is their key theme. As children grow and change, so do their interests. A visit to the local library is a great way to support the reconnection.

10 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a strong message to children: reading matters. Share why you enjoy it. Is it to relax, escape the world, learn something new or to be entertained? When children see reading as a normal and valued part of everyday life, they are more likely to adopt it themselves.

Meet Our Expert

Carl Pattison is a literacy advisor and early reading expert at The National College. Through his programmes, he supports schools to enhance reading and writing. In addition to his independent work, he also works for a large academy trust in the East Midlands as the strategic lead for their English Hub and Literacy Excellence Centre.



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