

Sandwick Junior High School

Reading Newsletter

Term 1

September 2024



Welcome to the first edition of Sandwick Junior High School's Reading Newsletter. In these newsletters you will discover what our staff and pupils at Sandwick are doing to help promote a love for reading. We will be sharing new releases and recommended reads from pupils and staff, plus keeping you updated on events, both in and outside of school, relating to all things books!

In this edition we share some of the fantastic reading for pleasure initiatives going on across the school (including those that parents can get involved with)! We hope you find this information useful.

Please visit our new library blog at—[Sandwick JHS Library](#)



Bookflix Display

The library has a new display, which is updated regularly and will include recommended reads from pupils.

Author Events @ Home

Scottish Book Trust—Authors Live on Demand

BBC - Authors Live

Book Trust - Fun at Home with Authors

Could you be a Mystery Reader in school?

At Sandwick JH School we want to show our pupils that everyone is a reader and demonstrate the pleasure of reading aloud.

What better way to show this than appearing in your child's class as a surprise to share a story with the children!

Email Claire if interested
claire.smith3@shetland.gov.uk



August's Remarkable Readers

James Jamieson- “James put in super effort into his reading. He reads fluently, with great expression and with different voices for characters. James has fun with his reading.”

Sinclair Jamieson - “Sinclair’s love for reading had become infectious in our classroom. It is great hearing about the books he enjoys at home. He has developed skills like fluency and expression when reading out loud and I have loved watching him grow into a confident and enthusiastic reader!”

Tove Wild - “Tove is always keen and happy to read daily. Tries really hard and seems to enjoy reading much more”

Michael O’Hara - “Michael always concentrates in class, reads well, volunteers to read and models good reading habits. He also came back from holiday and performed in our class assembly reading from a script after only looking at it a few hours before.”



Reading Buddies

We host a weekly paired reading group for P6/7 and P1/2 in the school library, called Reading Buddies.

About 6 pupils from each class come together on rotation and share books together, taking turns choosing the books, discussing the stories and illustrations and what they liked or didn't like about the books.

It was wonderful to watch the confidence in both age groups grow and their friendships transfer into the playground last year, so we are hoping for the same again this school year.



We are working towards being a **Reading School**



Reading Schools

Our school is now working towards becoming an accredited Reading School. We have lots planned for throughout the school year, to help with this we have put together a Reading Schools Leadership Team.

Including Mr Hunter, Ms Tulloch, Mrs Bray, Miss Lawson, Mrs McClelland, Mrs Adamson, Mr Hayes, Ms Fidler, Claire Smith and the following pupils Halle, Hunter, Sinclair, Maisie, Sanna, Cath, Catriona, Nikodem, Luke and Emily I.

These pupils will help create reading displays, reading corners in classrooms, future copies of the reading newsletter, recommended reads for pupils and staff and organise the playground library in term 4.

#Take10ToRead

Reading for pleasure is known to help relax, unwind and boost mood, reduce stress levels, improve concentration and memory. That's why, on **Thursday 10th October at 10am**, the National Literacy Trust were calling on the nation to **#Take10ToRead** in support of **World Mental Health Day**.

At Sandwick Junior High School, we asked that all staff and classes from the early years department to secondary 4 all stop what they were doing at 10am on Thursday 10th October and take just 10 minutes to read for their own enjoyment. It didn't need to be a book, it could be a game match report, newspaper, magazine, recipes, anything that interests the pupils and staff.



ERIC TIME - Everyone Reading In Class

All of our primary classes include some ERIC time into their day, this lasts 10-15 minutes. This has prompted more book talk within the classroom. The focus is on reading for pleasure, so the books are chosen by the pupils. The teachers have regular check ins with the pupils to see how they're getting on with their choice of books, if they have any predictions for the story and what they might go on to next.



Staff being seen as readers

Staff members have been tasked with displaying signs on their doors to show what they are currently reading and wearing “Ask me what I’m reading” badges on their lanyards. We have had a good uptake on this so far, here are some examples. We look forward to seeing how conversations develop from this.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Book Week Scotland 18th - 24th November - Library activities with classes

P1-3 Bookbug Bag & Read Write Count Bag Gifting with families - Friday 22nd November 1:30pm

Community Bookbug Session - 29th November & 13th December (more details to follow)

Online Book Fair - Deadline for orders 18th November (Click image below to visit the website.)

