

Reading Round Up

Well, what another busy term it has been here in Etone's Library, with so many events and celebrations of reading taking place: World Book Day, our Scholastic book fair and several competitions, to name a few. Pupils have now borrowed over 400 books during this academic year so far, still remaining as our most popular books are the 'Little People, Big Dreams' series.

Scholastic Book Fair



Etone Library recently held its second bookfair of this academic year. The fair ran from Thursday, 19th March until Thursday 26th March 2025. Parents/carers were invited into School to come along and browse, with refreshments provided. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed coming along to the fair and purchasing their chosen book(s). It was a great success with sales of almost £630 and almost £250 earned in rewards, which can now be spent on new books for the Library. Our next fair will be held next academic year in November.

World Book Day – 5th March 2025

We started our WBD with staff giveaways – books, and reading goodie bags were distributed from the spinning wheel in staff briefing. It was wonderful to see so many staff dressed up to celebrate the day!

Footy and Booky

We then dashed straight into 'Footy and Booky' - our teams breezed their way through the two rounds of the National Quiz. Pupils were asked football and book related questions by football stars including Neco Williams, Senne Lammens, Kyle Walker, Beto & Matt O'Riley. Their knowledge was fantastic and it was wonderful to see them so engaged, with many teams scoring 100%!

Well done to our winners Isaac & Blake (Year 8) and to our runners up Daniel E, Benjamin & Muhammed (Year 7) following a tie break with another team.





The Big Book Quiz

The Big Book Quiz saw a momentous amount of pupils taking part. Rounds included 'Match the Book to the Author', 'Complete the Little People Big Dreams tiles', 'Guess the Titles' based around symbols, 'Book Riddles' and 'Higher or Lower'.

Well done to our winners Jessie, Inaayah, Humaira & Emiliya (Year 7) and to our runners up Lily-Grace, Blake & Jahziah (Year 8)



Escape Room

At breaktime, Express block was buzzing, with our 'Literary Escape Rooms'. Pupils worked in pairs to work out the answers which led them cracking the code to open the escape room. Massive well done to our winners Jessica & Sophia (Year 7) and our runners up Humaira & Inaaya (Year 7). Well done to you all!





Lunch Café Quiz

Pupils had the opportunity to complete the World Book Day (WBD) Lunch Quiz, answering multiple choice questions about WBD statistics, finding as many words of 3 letters or more from one of the WBD Books, *Chaos At The Chocolate Factory* and answering some thought-provoking questions about reading. Almost 40 entries were received. Well done to our winner Destynee (Y10) and runners up Anna-Maria and Momina. Well done and thank you to all pupils who entered.



Staff Dress Up

Throughout the day, pupils took great delight in seeing school staff dressed up as a character. Some even citing this as their favourite part of World Book Day! Prizes included Overall Best Dressed – Mrs Price; Best Team effort – Music department; and Most Committed to character Mrs Kaye-Shepherd. A huge thank you to all staff who took part and joined in!





Mini Books

Also, at break in the Library we held a 'Create a Mini Book' competition in the library. Pupils recreated a mini front cover of their favourite book or design a cover for a new book idea. Amazing entries were received. A big well done to our winner Humaira in year 7, Her book was called I Wish and Humaira had also included inspirational quotes inside!



The Mini Book Hunt - Sixth Form

It was wonderful that our sixth form were involved too, undertaking 'The Big Mini Book Hunt'. The winning students (Keira and Sophie) found an amazing 189 miniature books in the building! Our runners up (Fatimah and Humaira) found 151 books! Well done to all who won prizes.



Trip to Nuneaton Library

World Book Day culminated with a wonderful trip down to our partners at Nuneaton Library. Engagement in local history activities, including exploring local maps from the early and mid 19th century and photographs of Nuneaton old and new was high. Pupils were also particularly fortunate to meet their local history specialist who brought out some rare books including, first edition George Eliot and a book published in 1653!! The opportunity to handle such precious objects was appreciated by all.



Throughout World Book Day **over 1200** reading points were awarded to pupils – what an achievement!

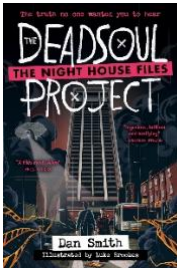
Design a National Book Token Competition

During World Book Day and the weeks following during March pupils have been invited to enter a competition sponsored by National Book Tokens to design a book token around this year's theme 'Read Your Way'. There are some amazing prizes on offer, 1st prize is £350 in book tokens for the winning pupil's School (2nd prize £200) and £100 for the winning pupil (2nd prize £50). Some of our Etone pupils have submitted wonderful entries. Good luck to them all. Winners will be announced in May 2026.



Warwickshire Secondary Book Award

We are delighted to have taken part in the recent Warwickshire Secondary Book Awards. Pupils have been working hard during February and March reading and reviewing the 6 shortlist books, meeting each week to discuss the books and making our final vote. Our winner was Dan Smith with his book, *The Deadsoul Project The Night House Files*. Our team were keeping everything crossed that this book would be the overall winner.

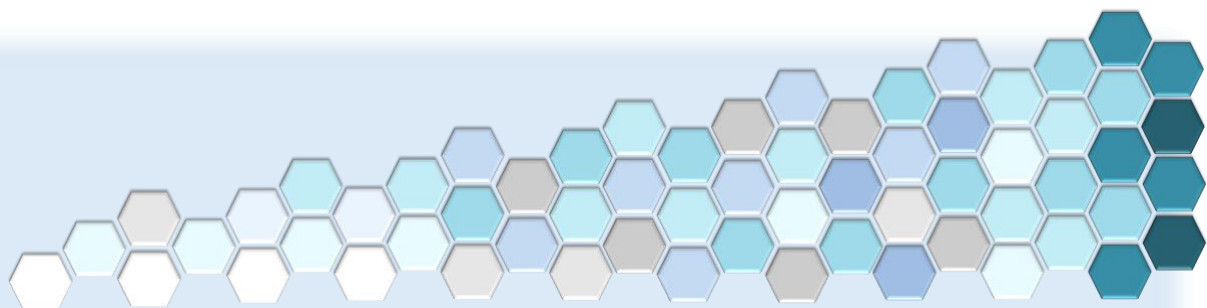


The Award Ceremony

On Thursday 26th March we had the privilege of attending the final award ceremony for the Warwickshire Secondary Book Award. Pupils who have been taking part travelled to Bridge House Theatre in Warwick to see the winning author announced.

The four authors who attended gave inspirational speeches to the pupils covering many topics, including the importance of reading and libraries, and how we are all good at something, we may just not yet know what this is. They also explored how we can overcome adversity and difficult times. Dan Smith also told us a scary story, which saw pupils literally jumping out of their seats. Etone pupils made us so proud with their engagement with each author and their impeccable behaviour.

The winning author was Jenny Pearson with her book 'Shrapnel Boys' and although our chosen author did not win, we still gave Jenny a huge round of applause. To complete the event, they were able to speak to the authors and get copies of their books signed as well as copies for Etone Library. What a wonderful way to come to the end of this award.





Celebration Meeting

During our final celebration meeting each pupil who has taken part received a certification of appreciation, along with a small gift as a big thank you for their efforts in taking part with this award. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed this celebratory event.

Pupils involved were asked to write what they had enjoyed about being involved with this book award and one word to describe taking part. Watch this space for their responses and photos of the celebration meeting in the next edition.



Mental Health Competition Winners

As part of this campaign we launched a competition asking pupils to design a bookmark with a mental health 'top tip'. All entries have been printed as bookmarks available for pupils to use, and were given out recently on the mental health 'pop-up stands' at breaktime.

First prize included a copy of 'The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse' by Charlie Mackesy, a £5 Amazon voucher and 15 reading points. Runners up received reading inspired prizes and every entry was awarded 10 reading points. Our winner was Molly and our runners up were Humaira and Sophie. Well done to all three!

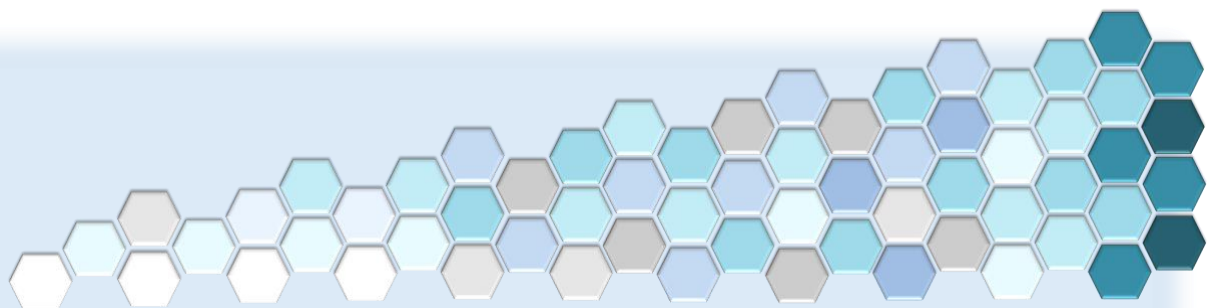


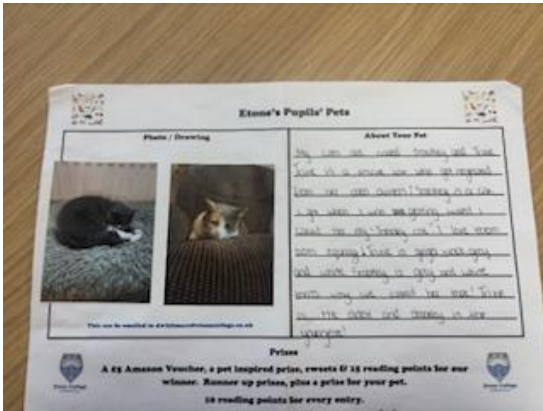
Etone's Pet Month Celebration

As we know, pets are so vital in helping with mental health, over the last few weeks we have been celebrating all things PETS! Pupils and staff have been invited to share a drawing or photo of their pet, along with a descriptive paragraph all about them.

Prizes included a £5 Amazon voucher, a pet inspired prize and 15 reading points for our winner, along with our runner up receiving a pet inspired prize and reading points. All entries were awarded 10 reading points. Even the winning pets received a prize!

All entries are now on display in the library to showcase Etone's pets. Over 350 reading points were awarded. Well done to all pupils to entered, especially our winner Pippa, with her cats Smokey and Trixie and to our runner up Danny, with his dog Louis. Ten other entries were chosen to receive a pet squiddy. This competition was thoroughly enjoyed by our pupils, who proudly told us about their beloved pets.





Harriet Goodwin Competition

During Harriet's visit in January, we offered pupils' fantastic creative writing workshops with her. In these sessions, Harriet taught 'top tips' to make pupils' writing jump off of the page using examples from novels which inspired her. She said:

- At the heart of every great story is a **problem** which needs to be solved.
- The main character must **care** about solving the problem.
- The start of the story needs to be as close to the key point of **change** as possible.

She then gave another array of great tips for starting stories based on 'show not tell'.

We passed the baton over to our pupils with the launch of our story opening competition. Pupils were invited to use Harriet's tips to write their own opening of a story. First prize was a £5 Amazon voucher, a signed copy of one of Harriet's books and 15 reading points; our runner-up received a signed copy of one of Harriet's books. All entries received 10 reading points towards reading badges. Well done to our winner, Fatima and our runner-up, Aishvaryraj!



Etone Exceeding Excellence - Nuneaton Library

Etone Exceeding Excellent took their first local cultural capital trip during February to Nuneaton Library where pupils had to think creatively to complete 'The Big Challenge'. It was wonderful to see the range of answers they crafted from 'The history of Africa' being the biggest thing in the library to a tiny 3d printed robot being the smallest. Pupils were inspired by chess, fashion books, the grand piano and cookery during their trip. Well done to our winners Fatima and Layla!



Egg-citing Easter Competition

During the last 2 weeks of this half term pupils are being invited to come to the Library and have a go at our 'Egg-citing Easter' competition. All pupils need to do is answer some quiz questions about Easter, see how many 3 letter words they can make from a tasty Easter based phrase, and share some of their favourite things about reading. Our winner will receive a £5 Amazon voucher, 15 reading points, and an Easter egg. Our runners up will receive an Easter egg and some reading goodies. All entrants will receive 10 reading points. Winners and photographs to follow in the next edition.



Egg-cellent Reading Challenges

Pupils also have the opportunity to complete our Easter reading challenge over the Easter break.

Pupils need to complete 3 out of the 6 available reading activities. By Friday 17th April, email their evidence to Mrs Whitmore, or bring printed evidence into the library on their return to school. Our winner will receive a £5 Amazon voucher, 15 reading points and an Easter egg, runners up will receive an Easter egg and an Easter-based prize. Each activity completed will earn pupils 5 reading points. More details to follow in our next Reading Round Up.



New Books

We have recently had the privilege of purchasing books that have been requested by pupils. These include some more of the extremely popular Little People, Big Dreams series, The Dog Man series and the remaining books in The 100 series.

We were also able to issue World Book Day books to pupils, which saw almost 350 books being handed out!





Accelerated Reader Update

Here are the current house competition results:



2265



2126



2428



2130

Year 7 Most Quizzed Class – 7a/E1 – 604 quizzes & 7b/E3 – 940 quizzes

Year 8 Most Quizzed Class – 8a/E1 – 580 quizzes & 8B/E2 – 514 quizzes

Well done to our top quizzing house and classes!

Easter 'Whodunnit' – Reward Activity

During the last week of term, as a reward, our Accelerated Reader top quizzing classes had the chance to participate in our Easter 'Whodunnit'.

Our winning teams were 7a/E1, 7b/E3, 8a/E1 and 8b/E2. Well done to all 4 classes.

Here is the story behind the mystery:-

Disaster! When the library opened at breaktime, the sofa was covered in bright blue paint! It might be ruined! No-one can sit on it today! Who would do such a thing? When Mrs Whitmore left the room at 10:30am, everything was fine. Everyone loves to sit on the sofa during the shared reading part of our lessons, what on earth will they do now?

There were eight suspects who were in the area at the time: Miss Taylor, Miss Bryant, Mrs Price, Mrs Barlow, Mr Lowe, Miss Geddes, Mrs Beasley & Mrs Bnouhanna. Pupils had to work as a team to detect who spilt the paint so that they could be asked to clean up!

Pupils had a series of clues to try and solve, including code breakers, riddles, find the clue and a puzzle. The team who found the suspect in the quickest were our winners. Our teams worked extremely well together and there was a real buzz of excitement in the Library as they worked fast and hard to solve the clues.





Word Millionaires

Etone are proud to announce we have four more Accelerated Reader Word Millionaires, Mustafa and Thomas (Year 7) and Kristy and Fatima (Year 8). Three of our 'Word Millionaire's went to Waterstones, Nuneaton to select a book as a prize. They spent some happy time browsing before making their selections. As an additional bonus, they were also able to buy an additional World Book Day 2026 book with their vouchers. A huge well done to Fatima, Year 8 and Mustafa and Thomas in Year 7.



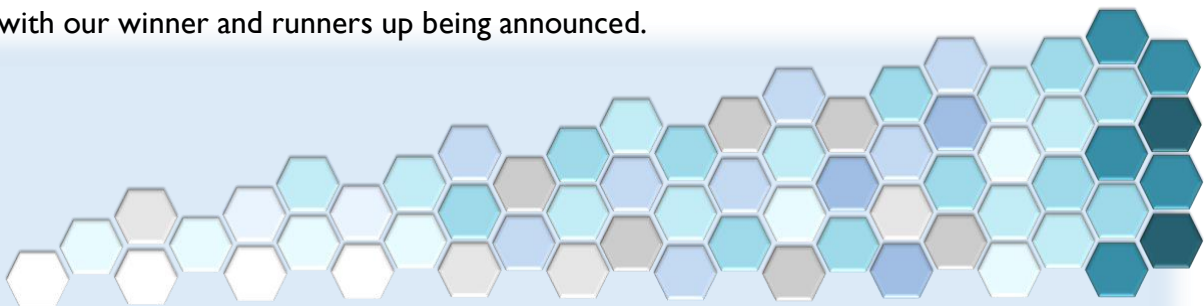
Sneak – Peek



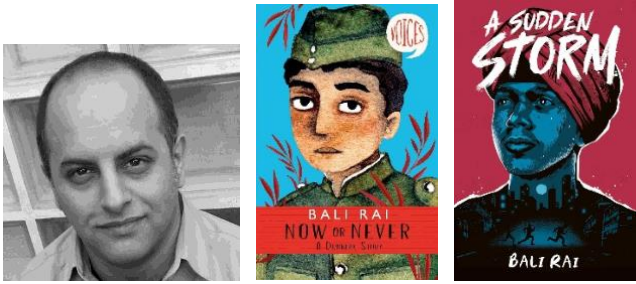
If you have enjoyed this reading round-up, here is a small teaser of what is coming up next term.

Easter Competitions/Reading Challenges

Find out the results of our “Egg-citing Easter Quiz” competition, along with our Egg-cellent Easter reading challenge, with our winner and runners up being announced.



Bali Rai – Author Visit



During May, Etone College are fortunate to be inviting Bali Rai in Etone College to run an author talk and some creative writing workshops with our Year 7 pupils.

Bali Rai was born in Leicester where he grew up in a multicultural community dreaming of playing football for Liverpool FC, being Bob Marley or becoming a writer. He writes the books he would have enjoyed as a teenager and Rani and Sukh is a set-text for GCSE English. His novel *Killing Honour* won the North East Teenage Book Award and was described as “utterly compelling” by The Bookseller; *Now or Never* was shortlisted for the Little Rebels Prize in 2020.

We are very much look forward to Bali visit. Watch this space for an update and photos.

Blue Peter Badges

Applications can still be accepted. Pupils can obtain an application form from Mrs Whitmore in the Library or during their weekly Library lesson.



Partnership with Nuneaton Library

As part of our commitment to engaging Etone pupils in reading for pleasure, we would like to make you aware of the excellent library facilities available at Nuneaton Library. These facilities are available beyond the school day, at weekends, and throughout the school holidays:



Day	Opening hours
Monday	10am to 6pm
Tuesday	9am to 6pm
Wednesday	9am to 6pm
Thursday	9am to 6pm
Friday	9am to 5pm
Saturday	9am to 4pm
Sunday	10am to 2pm

We would strongly advise Etone pupils join Nuneaton Library to make full use of facilities, which includes books, computers and iPads. The library also has study areas where pupils could complete study and homework. Membership is **free of charge** and can be completed online:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/jointhelibrary>

Membership of the library also brings free use of the app. 'Borrow Box' which enables the loan of eBooks and audiobooks **free of charge**. The app can be downloaded onto phones and tablets.

