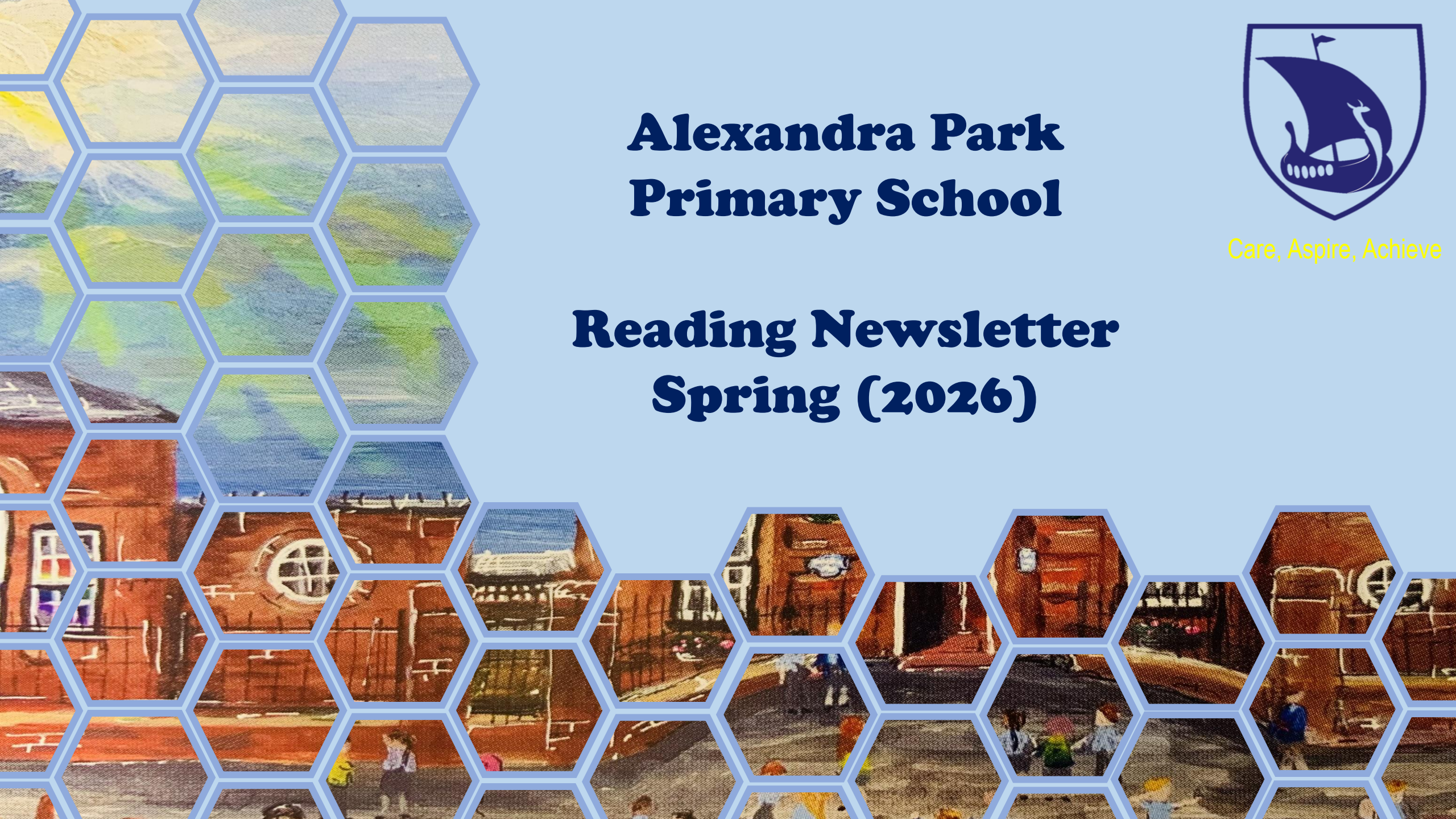


Alexandra Park Primary School



Care, Aspire, Achieve

Reading Newsletter Spring (2026)



Reading Ambassadors

This term, our reading ambassadors have been busy thinking of ideas about how to develop reading for pleasure across school. They helped organise ideas for World Book Week and National Storytelling week, which were a huge success. Furthermore, they have ideas on how to build more links with the local community. Next half term they will be organising class visits to the nearby library and also going to share stories at our local care home. We also have more ideas on how to recommend books to each other in a fun way. Watch this space!

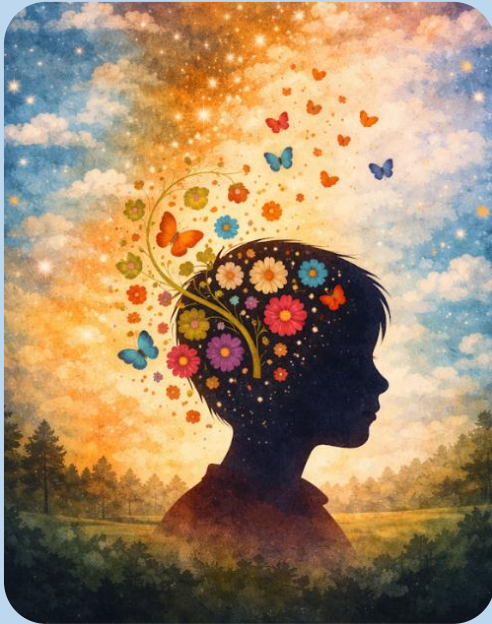
Working as a team!



National Poetry Competition

This half term, children in KS2 have taken part in learning a poem off by heart. They have enjoyed performing in class, in assembly together and some have even gone on to audition for entry into the Poetry By Heart national competition. We have been truly blown away by their dedication, creativity, enthusiasm and passion for learning and performing their poems. Thank you to all the children for your hard work! We are keeping our fingers crossed to see if we make it to the finals at the Shakespeare Globe in London!

*'How to Grow Poetry'
by Tony Mitton*



**POETRY BY
HEART**

Choose a poem

Learn it by heart

Perform it out loud



National Storytelling Week!

The theme for National Storytelling Week 2026 was **Soundtrack your story**. Everyone has their own musical story - whether it's in the songs we love and the music we dance to. Music connects us to words. It helps us express who we are and how we see the world.

Research highlights that exploring stories through lyrics can be an effective way to read for enjoyment.



Lyrics Quiz



Lyrics (1)

KPOP Demon Hunters – What it Sounds Like

I broke into a million pieces, and I can't go back
But now I'm seeing all the beauty in the broken glass
The scars are part of me, darkness and harmony
My voice without the lies, this is what it sounds like
Why did I cover up the colors stuck inside my head?
I should've let the jagged edges meet the light instead
Show me what's underneath, I'll find your harmony
The song we couldn't write, this is what it sounds like

We worked in pairs to read lyrics and try to identify which film/TV show they were from. The children loved reading for fun!

National Storytelling Week!

Buddy Storytimes!



Throughout National Storytelling Week, children from different year groups enjoyed meeting up and sharing a story together. Peer reading is really useful for developing confidence, improving fluency and encouraging a love of reading in a fun, social way. We loved seeing our school community share stories together and build positive relationships across year groups.

Go All In!

Reading for Fun!

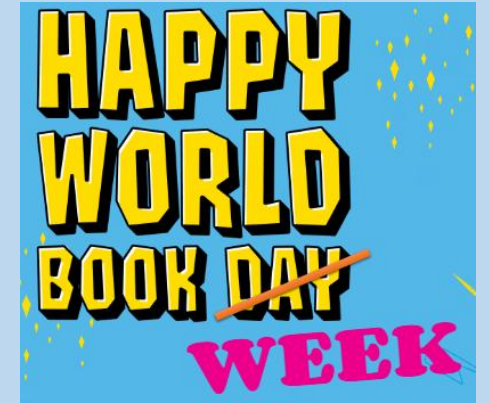


This term, we have purchased lots of copies of 'Storytime Magazine', which children have regular opportunities to read during reading for pleasure sessions. They contain traditional stories like fairy tales, fables and myths, plus tales from a range of cultures to help children gain an understanding of the world around them.

World Book Week!

This term, we enjoyed celebrating our love of reading through World Book Week. Throughout the week, we took part in a variety of activities and events to help develop reading for pleasure. This year, alongside the 'National Year of Reading' we're championing children's reading choices, encouraging all children to **'GO ALL IN'** and Read for Fun!

Assembly Launch!



Author Quiz

Find ways to make reading FUN...

Barrier	Solution
I can't find a book I like	
The words are tricky	
I get bored	
I forget to make time to read	

Book Titles

Authors

World Book Week!

Author Visits!



We had the privilege of welcoming author, [Reese Jaxon](#), to support our work around reading for pleasure. Reese is an inspirational local author who is passionate about creativity, imagination and adventures! Reese discussed her journey to becoming an author and shared with us details of her latest books. She also led some arts and crafts workshops in Key Stage one and EYFS to help bring her texts to life.

Reese Jaxon

Author online workshops!



**The Great Big World Book Day
Footy and Booky Quiz 2026**

Vocabulary Day

Children took part in our vocabulary day by coming dressed as one of their favourite words. This may have come from a favourite book or a word they wanted to recommend to others! It was great to see so many children explaining the meaning of their words and sharing which book it had come from.



We have also welcomed the engaging and inspirational author, Ash Bond, during this term. Ash has written a variety of stories with as much myth, magic and mayhem in them as she can possibly get away with.

Ash delivered a truly wonderful assembly and Q&A session. The children were immersed in her fantasy storylines. We loved hearing about the process Ash goes through from initial drafting of writing to publication. She demonstrated the importance of the editing process as well as letting your imagination run free when being creative writers.

Ash Bond



KS2 Author Visit!

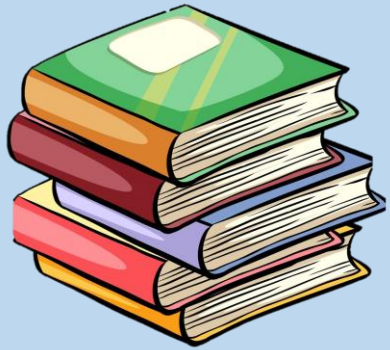


Book signing!



Parents

Stay and Read...



As always, thank you for your continued engagement with our stay and read sessions. The children really do love you joining them and returned to class with a huge smile. This makes a huge difference to their reading for pleasure. Thank you!

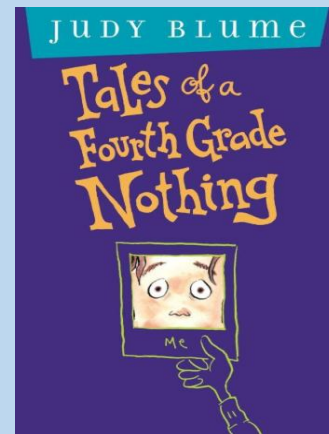
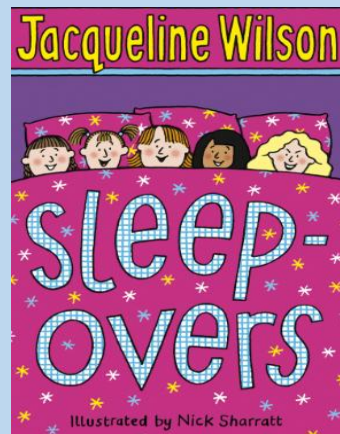
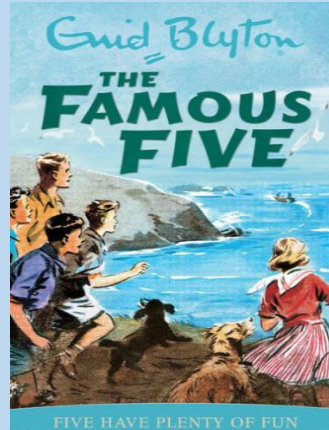
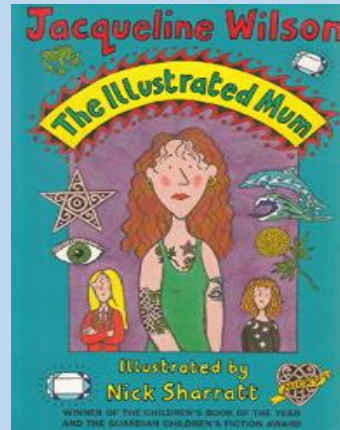
Key Stage Two...



Mrs Evans

Growing up, I loved reading. I particularly enjoyed the Jacqueline Wilson series. I remember all of the characters - even now! Currently, I am really interested in mythical, fantasy stories. I love the way you can get lost in a book and how an author can take you into another world.

Guest readers



Office team...



Mrs Sorsby

When I was at school, I loved reading the Enid Blyton books. Me and my friends would all talk about the Famous Five collection. Now, my favourite things to read involve detective series and crimes. They have so many twists and turns when trying to solve mysteries.