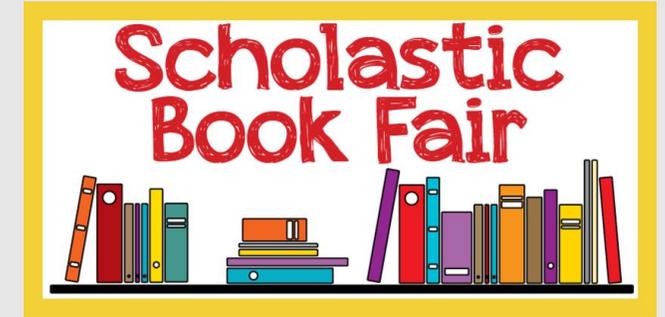
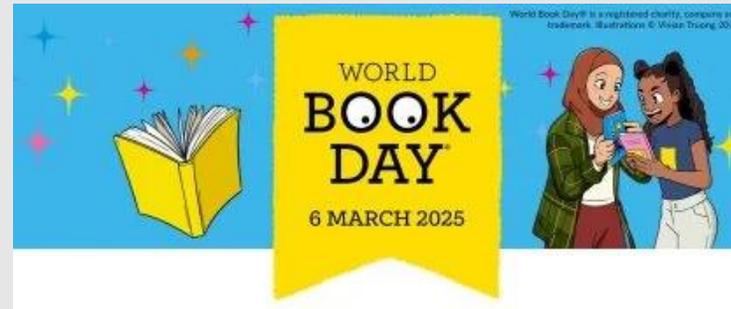




English Newsletter March 2025



Once again, the children and staff at Mawsley School threw themselves into World Book Day this year, with imagination, inspiration and enthusiasm! There was an array of costumes on display, and in this newsletter we will celebrate a selection of some of these.

Phase 1 and 2 focused on the adventure stories of Julia Donaldson, who recently celebrated the 25th anniversary of the first published copy of *The Gruffalo*. The theme of adventure stories continued to Phase 3 and 4 looking at authors such as David Walliams, Onjali Rauf and Katherine Rundell – recommended favourites of our Reading Champions.

We warmly welcomed parents and carers in for a Starbucks breakfast / afternoon bite to join in with our day of promoting reading for pleasure as they read with their children and others in our classrooms. Thank you to those who were able to join us. The day continued with activities that included an opportunity to take part in a 'Magic Library' national live lesson to inspire reading and writing, Mr McGrammar rapping to well-known Julia Donaldson books, quizzes, colouring, and book and a biscuit sessions with teachers. Our library had an adventure theme, featuring an adventurous setting of a tent, a fishing rod and camping gear, surrounded by lots of recommended books that brought adventures and exciting characters to life through reading.

The Book Fayre was a huge hit again, this year! Thank you to our Reading Champions and staff volunteers for running it. Many visiting children and parents / carers enjoyed browsing and choosing new books to buy, spending a total of: **£725!** We get **40%** of that back as a school to spend on Scholastic books, so **THANK YOU!** Our next fayre is booked for September 😊

Competition Time!



Thank you to all of the children who took part in our **Extreme Reading** competition this year! We hope you had fun.

The Reading Champions and Mrs Tedore had some very tricky decisions to make when judging the brilliant entries. They were looking for the WOW factor, particularly those that were funny and adventurous, and they had lots of wonderful entries to choose from.

All entries will be displayed in our school so that the children can continue to inspire others to enjoy reading and remind them that they can do this in all sorts of interesting places...

Congratulations go to the winners, who all received bookmarks and stationery:

- Yuvi
- Emilia
- Liam
- Katerina
- Evie



Competition Time!



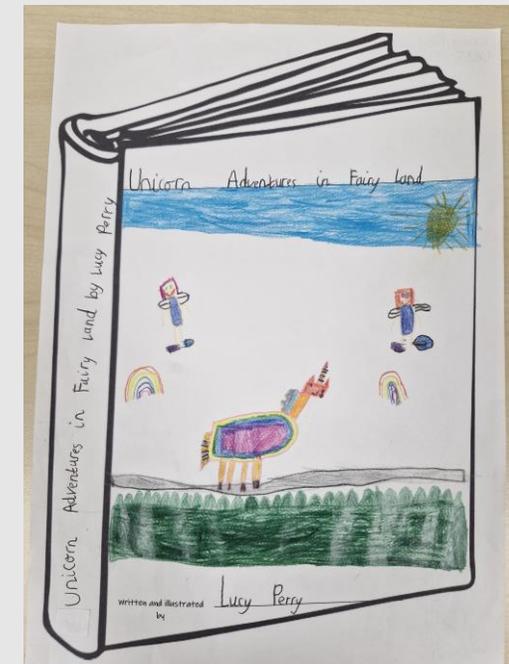
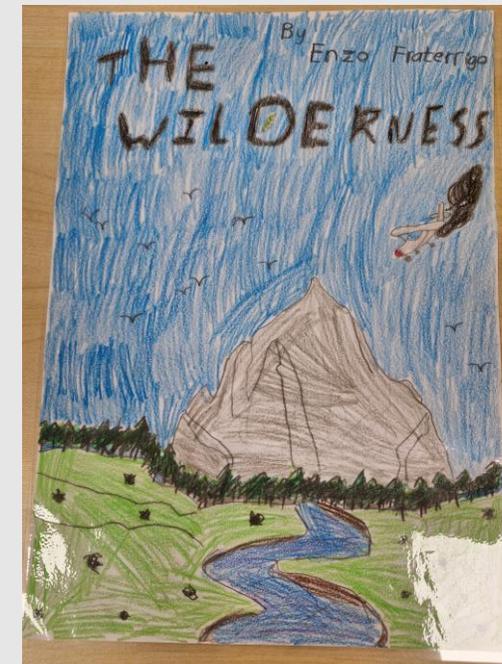
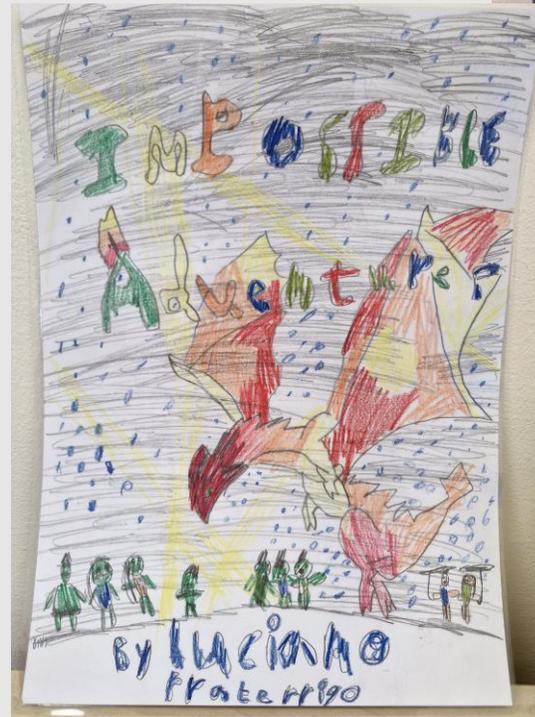
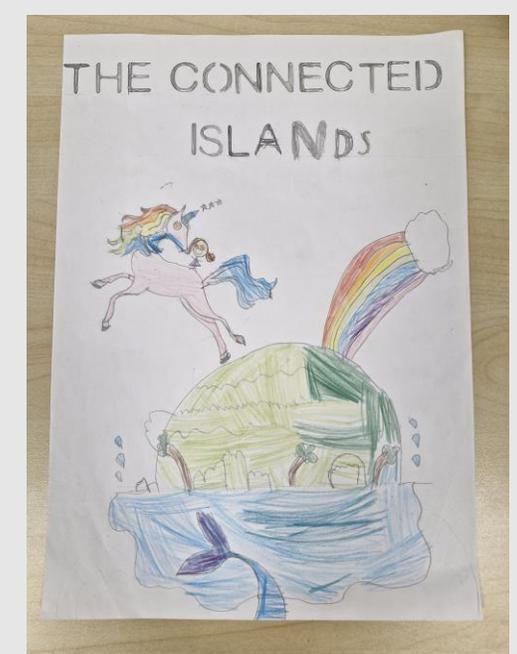
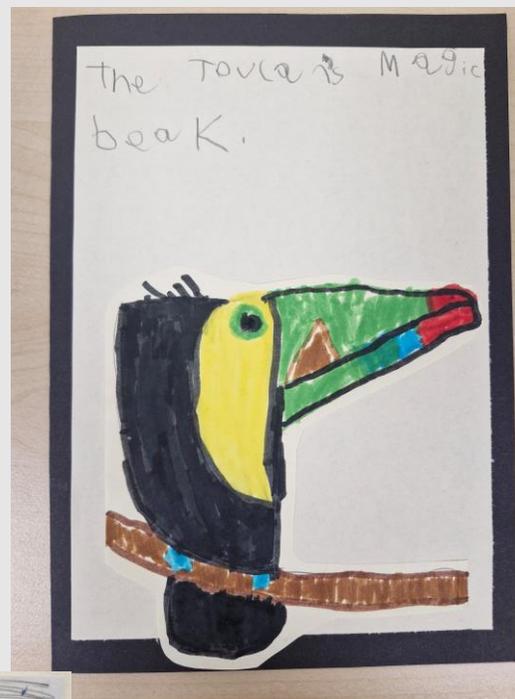
Our other competition this term was to design a book cover.

Children worked so hard to make their creations interesting, colourful and imaginative and we definitely have some budding illustrators and authors amongst the entries here at Mawsley School. These will be displayed in school for everybody to enjoy.

Congratulations go to the winners, who all received a £5 book voucher to spend at our book fayre:

- **George:** 'The Toucan's Magic Beak'
- **Luciano:** 'Impossible Adventures'
- **Ava:** 'The Connected Islands'
- **Enzo:** 'The Wilderness'
- **Lucy:** 'unicorn Adventures in Fairyland'

These sound like fantastic books!



We are very proud of **Ethan Mallinder's** achievement this term. His poem was published in 'The Space Beyond' magazine!

Ethan says that he really enjoys writing and hopes that his published work inspires other people to have a go at writing themselves. Ethan says, **"You just need to believe that you can do it, and you can."** Ethan is hoping to write a novel one day. Class 8 are so lucky to have Ethan as a writing superstar. We can not wait to know what he will publish next...

My Mind is Fire
by Ethan Mallender (Age 8)

My mind is orange, is fire.
Now it can be your style if you like.
The burns from the flames execute my mind ready, and fire blazes your way.
Silent burns creep up our neighbouring planet.



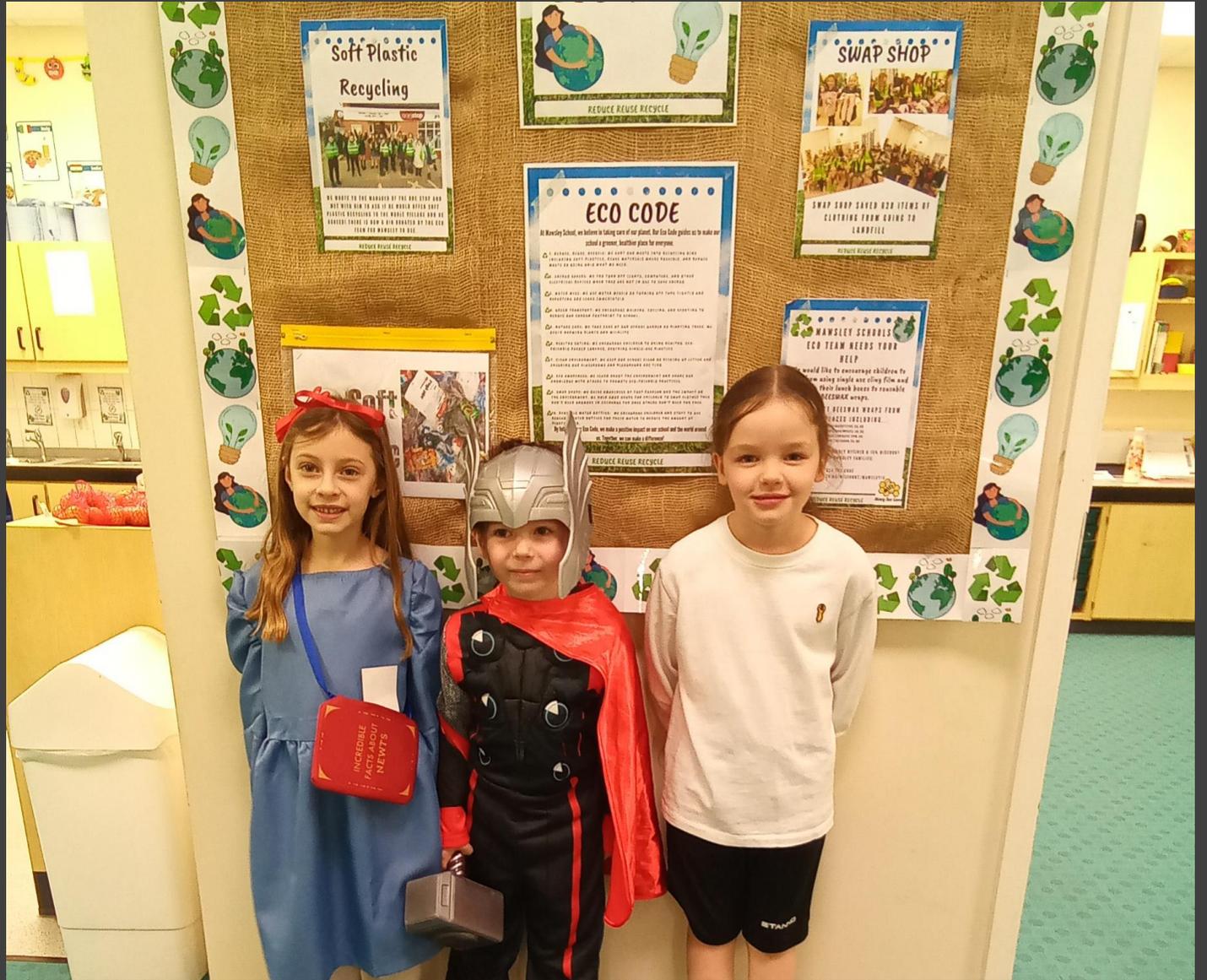
Ethan Mallender is 8 years old and lives in Northamptonshire. Ethan is a great defender in his local football team and plays at least one sport a day. His favourite are tennis, cricket and football. He likes to write seasonal stories and stories about monsters.



Chris Bonello is an autistic advocate and author. He runs the autism advocacy platform Autistic Not Weird, and has won multiple awards, delivering speeches as far away as India and Sydney. He has published six books, including the neurodiverse YA dystopia series *Underdogs*. He has been a Beyond The Spectrum Lead Writer since 2021.





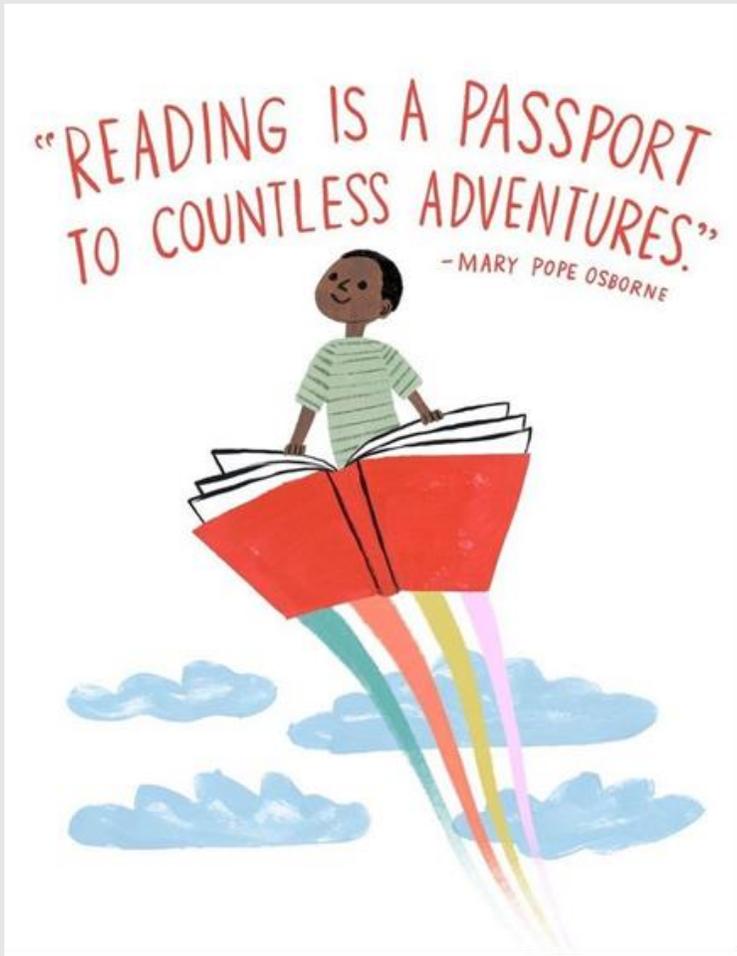












If you can just do one thing today, **hear your child read.**

Key statistics in reading (2024) from the National Literacy Trust (NLT):

- Just **1 in 3 (34.6%)** children and young people aged 8 to 18 said they enjoyed reading in 2024. This is the lowest level since the NLT first asked the question in 2005.
- **Only 1 in 5 (20.5%)** children and young people aged 8 to 18 said that they read daily, again, the lowest levels since 2005.
- Children and young people who enjoyed reading (109.13) had higher average (mean) standardised reading scores than children and young people who didn't enjoy reading (102.65).

Research tells us that reading boosts children's socio-economic life chances more than anything else. Reading is the key.

It just takes the right book or author to find enjoyment in reading.
Don't forget the libraries – they hold the key to reading enjoyment!