

“Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing.”

— Benjamin Franklin



Literacy Newsletter

BBC 500 Words 2023: Everything you need to know...

Children of all abilities are encouraged to use their creativity and imagination to **write a story they would love to read** without the pressure of having to worry about spelling, punctuation and grammar.

This year, the two age categories will be **5-7 year-olds** and **8-11 year-olds**.

Please visit: www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words for more information...



WORD SQUARE PUZZLES

@VocabularyNinja





'Words unlock the doors to a world of understanding...'

Check out these challenges from the Vocabulary Ninja website. Their resources are free and have the aim of developing vocabulary and spelling. These word squares are designed to give children the opportunity to generate as many different words as possible using the letters supplied. The ultimate challenge is to discover the single word that is made up from all of the letters within the square. (A is easier than B.)

Challenge A

1

P	B	Y
K		
A	C	A

Challenge B

9

L	I	K
R	B	B
A	C	D

Answers are at the bottom of the newsletter...

Little Wandle

At Elvington, we believe that all our children can become fluent readers and writers. This is why we teach reading through *Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised*, which is a systematic and synthetic phonics programme. We start teaching phonics in Reception and follow the [Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised progression](https://www.elvingtonprimary.org.uk/school-information/curriculum-information/reading-and-phonics), which ensures children build on their growing knowledge of the alphabetic code, mastering phonics to read and spell as they move through school.

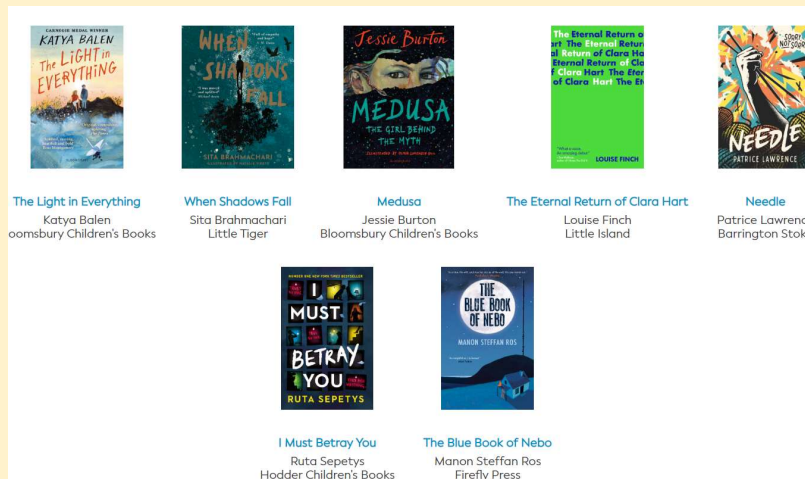


More information about approach to reading can be found at: <https://www.elvingtonprimary.org.uk/school-information/curriculum-information/reading-and-phonics>.

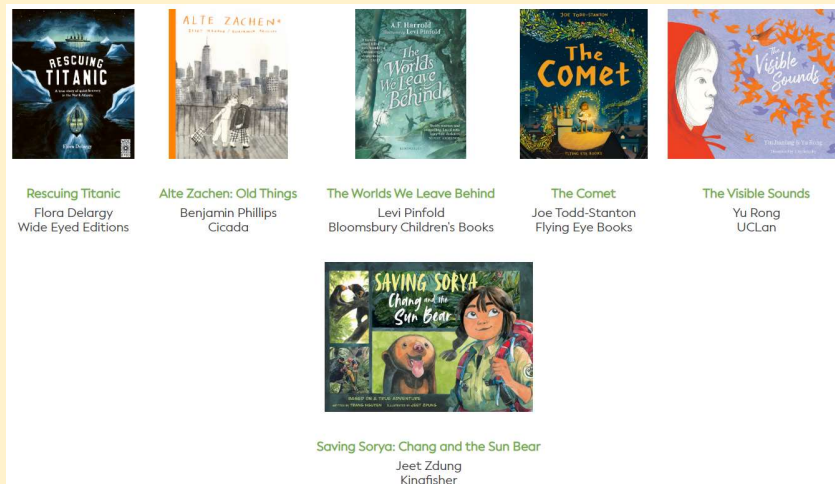
The Yoto Carnegie Medal 2023

The Yoto Carnegies are the UK's longest running and best-loved children's book awards, recognising outstanding reading experiences created through writing and illustration in books for children and young people.

The Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing is awarded by children's librarians for an outstanding book written in English for children and young people. Please visit the website: <https://yotocarnegies.co.uk/> for more information about the shortlisted books; author interviews and activities linked to the texts.



The Yoto Carnegie Medal for Illustration is awarded by children's librarians for an outstanding book in terms of illustration for children and young people.



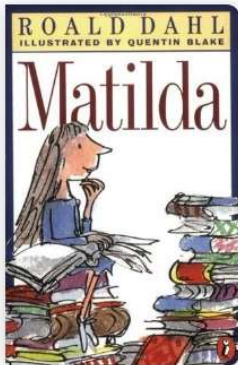
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Featured Author KS2: Roald Dahl

Roald Dahl was a British novelist, short story writer and screenwriter of Norwegian descent, who rose to prominence in the 1940's with works for both children and adults, and became one of the world's bestselling authors.



Matilda

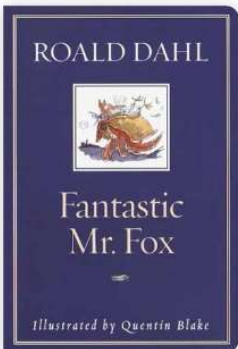
Roald Dahl, Quentin Blake (Illustrator)

★★★★☆ 4.33 895,083 ratings · 22,369 reviews

“The Trunchbull” is no match for Matilda!

Matilda is a little girl who is far too good to be true. At age five-and-a-half she's knocking off double-digit multiplication problems and blitz-reading Dickens. Even more remarkably, her classmates love her even though she's a super-nerd and the teacher's pet. But everything is not perfect in Matilda's world...

Show more ▾



Fantastic Mr. Fox

Roald Dahl, Quentin Blake (Illustrator)

★★★★☆ 4.07 129,098 ratings · 5,742 reviews

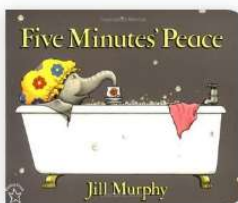
Fantastic Mr. Fox is on the run! The three meanest farmers around are out to get him. Fat Boggis, squat Bunce, and skinny Bean have joined forces, and they have Mr. Fox and his family surrounded. What they don't know is that they're not dealing with just any fox—Mr. Fox would never surrender. But only the most fantastic plan ever can save him now.

Genres [Childrens](#) [Fiction](#) [Fantasy](#) [Classics](#) [Middle Grade](#) [Animals](#) [Young Adult](#) [...more](#)

96 pages, Hardcover

Featured Author KS1: Jill Murphy

Jill Murphy was a London-born English children's author, best known for *The Worst Witch* series and the *Large Family* picture books. She has been described as "one of the most engaging writers and illustrators for children in the land."



The Large Family

Five Minutes' Peace

Jill Murphy

★★★★☆ 4.26 2,950 ratings · 231 reviews

All Mrs. Large wants is five minutes' peace from her energetic children, but chaos follows her all the way from the kitchen to the bath and back again.


Want to read ▾

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Here is our list of the some free homework websites and apps suitable for children and parents/carers:

- **A+ spelling test app**  A quick and easy way to upload your child’s spellings so that they can try them in an interactive way. We’ve trialled this with some of our children in school recently and think it’s a great resource!
- **Little Wandle.** The resources on this page will help you support your child with saying their sounds and writing their letters. There are also some useful videos so you can see how they are taught at school and feel confident about supporting their reading at home.
www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/
- **Oak Academy.** Click on *English Grammar* or *English Spelling* sections for free short video lessons filmed by teachers.
<https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage/key-stage-2>
- **Oxford Owl.** This has some great tips on how to help your child at home. It also has a free e-book library.
<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/>
- **The Literacy Shed.** A collection of film clips that provide a stimulus for writing. Each clip comes with suggestions of writing activities.
<https://www.literacyshed.com/>
- **BBC Bitesize.** Useful child-friendly information, particularly for spelling, grammar and punctuation aspects.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zv48q6f>
- **Hatman Reads.** Andy Seed, an author, recommends books for 7-11 year olds.
<https://www.andyseed.com/hatman-reads/>