

# Porthleven Reading: In Class and Beyond Autumn Term 2025



Dear Readers,

Another action packed newsletter full of useful things that are happening in school and beyond.

If you have anything you would like to add to the next newsletter, or if you want to be a reader in focus, then just contact Mrs. Figgins.

## Author Visits Inspiring Our Readers

We've had started this year with an exciting half term, filled with storytelling and imagination!

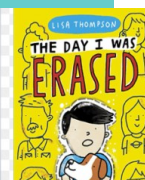
Our pupils were thrilled to welcome Cornish author Jennifer Davey to school for a special author visit. Jennifer spoke about her deep love of Cornish history and her faithful dog, Chloe, and how she combined these passions to create her book about Cornish mining and the discovery of the Davy Lamp. Her talk really captured the children's imaginations and showed them how inspiration can come from the world around us.

Alongside our live event, classes have also enjoyed a fantastic lineup of virtual author sessions.

- Reception listened to Vicky Woodgate,
- Year 1 spent time with Julia Donaldson and her illustrator Victoria Sandoy, and
- Year 3 had an inspiring session with Lisa Thompson, having read Owen and the Soldier as their class text.

Each class has been exploring the work of their author in focus, diving into new stories, characters, and creative writing ideas.

We're so proud of how much enthusiasm our children have shown — these experiences continue to spark a lifelong love of reading and storytelling across the school.



# Teacher Reader Recommends.



Mrs. Power is in the spotlight this term.

Mrs. Power finds that she really has to find time for reading in her busy life, even though she loves reading in class and talks about books with her own family—all of which have a passion for non-fiction, just like herself.

Mrs Power has a real love for history and has found it hard to find the perfect book to recommend. In fact, she will happily talk to anyone about history and what to read, should you ask her.

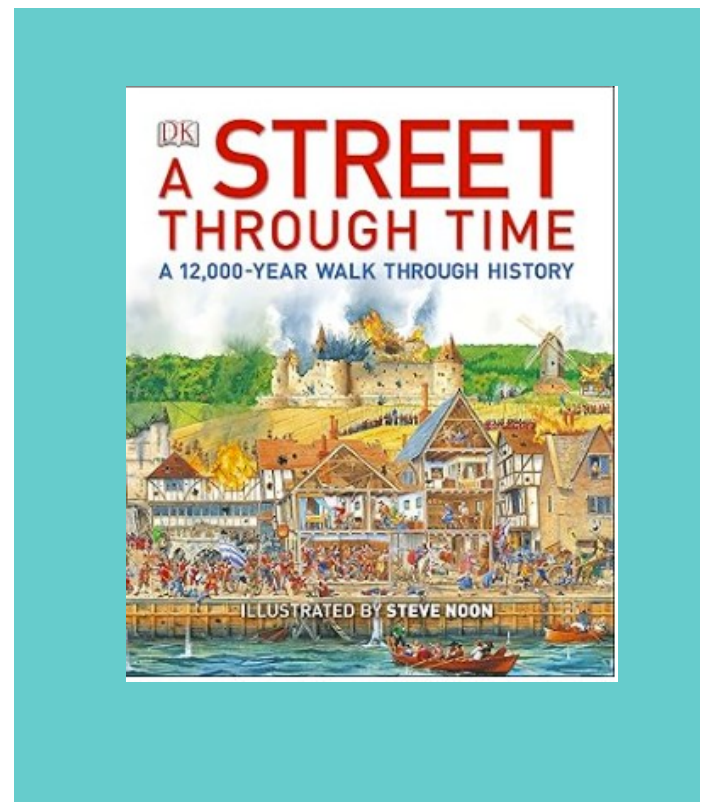
## Book Review: A Street Through Time by DK and Steve Noon

As a teacher, I love *A Street Through Time* because it brings history to life in such a fun and exciting way. The book shows the same street across thousands of years, from the Stone Age to today, and the detailed illustrations are packed with fascinating clues about how people lived, worked, and played.

Children enjoy spotting the little changes, from houses and clothes to tools and inventions, and it's a great way to get them thinking about how the past connects to the world around them.

Children like to explore each page, ask questions, and imagine what life was like for the people who lived there.

It's perfect for sharing at home or using in class, and it's a book children can return to again and again, noticing something new each time. I love returning to this book whenever I can and it helps me share a real love of history.



# Inspired by Books Local Events.



**Wrecks, Wreckers,  
the Clergy and  
the Gentry**  
*An Illustrated Talk*

**JEAN CHARMAN**  
Wednesday 5th November at 7pm  
Hens Horne Court TR13 8YE  
Helston Old Cornwall Society

### Fal Stories

📅 Sat 30th Aug, 2025 — Sat 21st Feb, 2026  
📍 Jackson Foundation, Tin Coast

[Book Now](#)

### A COFFEE MORNING WITH PETROC TRELAWNY

Meet Petroc and chat about his books, including his latest, *Petroc Trelawny's Classical Music Puzzle Book*

**10am-12 noon, Thursday 27 November**  
The Bookshop in Helston  
77 Mensage Street, Helston  
info@thebookshopinhelston.co.uk  
07375 909813

RSVP - to make sure we have enough biscuits!  
Click the QR code or visit  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-bookshop-in-helston](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-bookshop-in-helston)

◇ Christmas, Family, Theatre

### The Mousehole Cat

📅 Sat 13th Dec, 2025 — Wed 31st Dec, 2025  
📍 Solomon Browne Memorial Hall, Penzance

[Book Now](#)

### Shaun the Sheep MOVIE

📅 Sat 6th Dec, 2025  
📍 Praa Sands Community Centre, Marazion

→

### Dick Whittington

📅 Tue 27th Jan, 2026 — Sun 1st Feb, 2026  
📍 Epworth Hall, Helston

[Book Now](#)

# Helston Library.

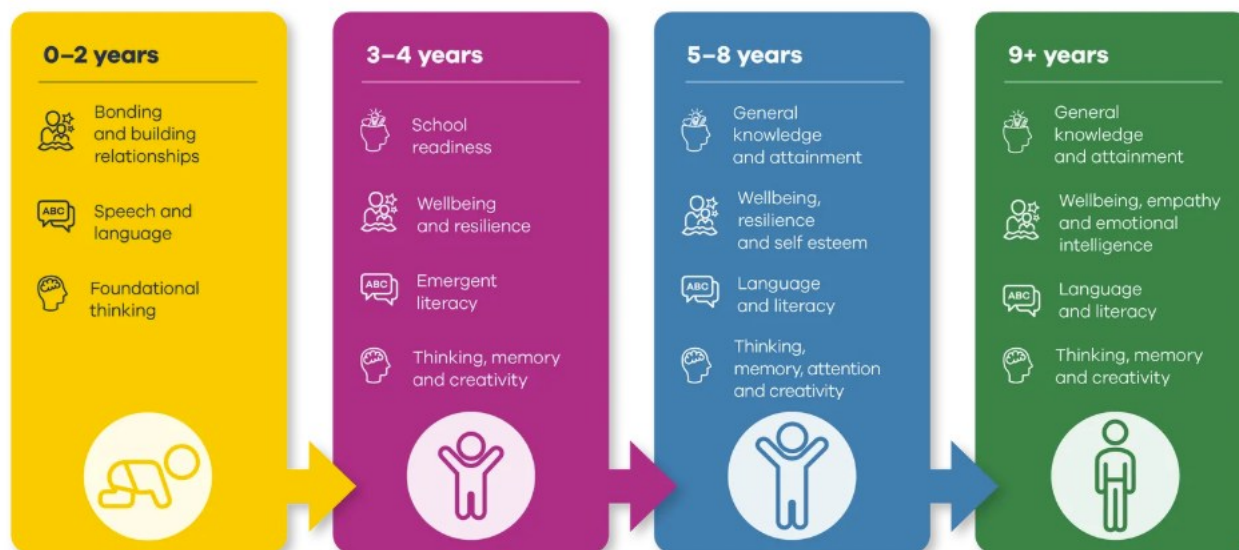


## Groups & Activities

**Storytime** Mondays @11:00am  
**Genealogy Group** Tuesdays @10:00am  
**Writing Group** Tuesdays @12:30pm  
**Lego Club** Wednesdays @3:45pm  
**Rhyme Time** Fridays @10:30am  
**Children's Jewellery Making** Fridays @3:45pm

# Why Read?

## Infographic: the benefits of reading as children grow



# Check out our School Padlet.



Found on your child's Google Classroom.

You can add books, comment or simply give them a thumbs up/down if you like the book.

Updated weekly.

November - Bonfire Night, Remembrance, Anti-Bullying

New to Fiction | New to Non-Fiction | New to Poetry | EYFS | Year 1 & 2 | Year 3 & 4 | Year 5 & 6 | Poetry | Non-Fiction

**WILLY THE WIMP**  
Anthony Browne

Willy wouldn't fly - he even apologises when someone calls him Willy the Wings. Then, one day, Willy achieves a bodybuilding advert... with hilarious results!

Author: Anthony Browne

**FANTASTIC CREATURES AND THE POISONED KING**  
Katherine Rundell

When Christopher Forester is unexpectedly woken by a miniature dragon cheering on his face, his heart leaps for joy. For months, he's dreamed of returning to the Archipelago - the secret islands where all the creatures of myth still live. But he did not know it would involve a rescue mission on the back of a sphinx, or a plan to enter a dragon's lair. Nor did he imagine it would involve a girl with a flock of birds at her side, a weaved chick in her pocket and a feverish hunger for justice...

Author: Katherine Rundell

**ALL ABOUT ANTARCTICA**  
Marc Martin

NEW 23RD OCTOBER - Antarctica is a place most of us will never visit - and it's disappearing. Learn all about it before it's too late. Put on your parka and snowboots and get ready to embark on a journey to the far, far south. You could hitch a ride on a Star-Cat, explore the majestic icefalls, hunt for megalobas and marvel at migrating whales - or just stay in for a mouse and pizza. From colossal squids and active volcanoes to research vessels and cricket matches, there's a lot more to the South Pole than just penguins and icebergs (though there are also a lot of penguins and icebergs). Learn how humans survive in the coldest place on Earth and discover what surprises await in this flagrant and surprising world.

Author: Marc Martin

**THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR**  
Eric Carle

A beloved picture book about a caterpillar's transformation, perfect for teaching days of the week, counting, and life cycles.

Author: Eric Carle

**CLEAN UP!**  
Nathan Bryon

Join Rocket as she sets sail on a brand new mission - to save a Caribbean beach from plastic pollution! When Rocket goes on holiday to visit her grandparents, she's shocked by the pollution that's spoiling their sand home and putting the local sea life at risk. Can she think of a way to see the day and bring the community together?

Author: Nathan Bryon

**CLAUDE**  
Alex T Smith

A walk in the park leads to a walk on a tightrope when Claude joins a circus, throws outlandish ideas, and becomes the star of the show.

Author: Alex T Smith

**OWEN AND THE SOLDIER**  
Lisa Thompson

A crumpling stone soldier sits on a bench in the park. City Owen understands how important he is. At home, Owen and his mum are struggling and there's nobody he can talk to. Tristen away in the park, Owen feels free to be himself. When the war-weary soldier is listening, his worries slip away. But nobody else cares about the soldier, and the town council want to tear him down. Owen is the only one who can save him but can he find the courage to speak up before it's too late?

Author: Lisa Thompson

**THE WIZARDS OF ONCE**  
Cressida Cowell

This is the story of a young boy Wizard and a young girl Warrior who have been taught to hate each other like poison and the thrilling tale of what happens when their two worlds collide.

Author: Cressida Cowell

**OUT OF THIS WORLD**  
Michael Rosen

Hard to take you high, with our book What would it be like to live in the future? Or under water? What would you do if you could go back in time? Or live a cat? Or a robot cat? What would happen if a monster ate every letter of the alphabet? In this extraordinary collection of brand new poems, beloved writer and former Children's Laureate Michael Rosen will make you laugh, make you smile, make you think, and take you out of this world.

Author: Michael Rosen

**SHACKLETON'S JOURNEY**  
William Gribble

Shackleton's Journey is a unique visual re-telling of Ernest Shackleton's landmark expedition crossing the Antarctic from one pole to the other. William Gribble's respectably researched and informative illustrations celebrate the 100th anniversary since the historic expedition by Shackleton and his crew on Endurance. Children will love exploring Gribble's exploded diagrams and the fascinating details of this landmark voyage.

Author: William Gribble

**ALIVE IN POPPIES**  
Tomos Roberts

Each autumn, a small red flower begins to appear. It flourishes at a time when others do not. But what does it mean? And why do people wear it?

A moving poem will help anyone hoping to better understand the meaning of the poppy.

Author: Tomos Roberts

**THE MUSEUM OF SHAPES**  
Owen Voller

Alma is curating an exhibition at the Museum of Shapes. Learn all about the shapes that make up our world and help her put the exhibition together!

Author: Owen Voller

**I HEAR THE TREES**  
Nathan Bryon

Join Rocket as she sets sail on a brand new mission - to save a Caribbean beach from plastic pollution! When Rocket goes on holiday to visit her grandparents, she's shocked by the pollution that's spoiling their sand home and putting the local sea life at risk. Can she think of a way to see the day and bring the community together?

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**COMING TO ENGLAND**  
Francesca Florenza Benjamin

When she was ten years old, Florenza Benjamin, along with her older sister and two younger brothers, set sail from Trinidad to London, to be reunited with the rest of their family. Alone on a huge ship for two weeks, then reunited in a cold and unfriendly London, coming to England wasn't at all what Florenza had expected.

Author: Francesca Florenza Benjamin

**THE JEWNEY**  
Gary Chew

Young Tristan, a curious boy who recycles all sorts of objects from the rubbish dump, finds an old Volkswagen in his wasteland box, complete with a set of disks. He finds that these represent the ages of humankind, seen as a cyclical structure in which patterns of growth and decay are repeated. Tristan becomes more and more drawn into the world of the disks, and eventually disappears.

Author: Gary Chew

**GREEN EGGS AND HAM**  
Dr. Seuss

A classic beginner book with simple vocabulary and repetitive text that builds reading confidence.

Author: Dr. Seuss

**THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ**  
Frank Baum

The Wizard of Oz is a treasure. L. Frank Baum tells the tale of a girl who is wonderful and optimistic, a scarecrow who wants a brain (although he already does), a tin

**POEMS OUT LOUD!**  
Anonymous Lyrics

A new collection of illustrated verses from a range of contemporary children's poets, performers and hip-hop artists. This is the poetry collection that EYFS and KS1 classrooms have been waiting for! The poems have been selected for their suitability to be read and cover topics like friendship, kindness, animals and right/wrong. Highly recommended.

Author: Anonymous Lyrics

**A DAY IN THE LIFE**  
Mike Barfield

From the treasures found in Tutankhamun's tomb and flood Arunah's ground-breaking expedition to the South Pole to the engineering of the first dinosaur, the accidental discovery of penicillin and the launch of the James Webb telescope, this is a high-out-loud guide to the world's most incredible and wonderful discoveries.

Author: Mike Barfield

**BLACK POWDER**  
David Rossiter

A hip-roaring historical adventure set at the time of Guy Fawkes' Gunpowder Plot - winner of the Historical Association Young Quills Award!

England, 1605: 12-year-old Tom must save his father from hanging. He falls in with a mysterious stranger - the Falcon - who promises to help him in exchange for his service. But on the eve

**TIME LIONS**  
Owen Voller

Two-year-old tota Pearl and Patrick are definitely not ordinary children. Pearl, the engineering whizz, has invented a time machine, and Patrick, who has encyclopaedic knowledge of all human history, is the perfect person to test it out with. They can't wait to find out what life was really like in Ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome! But when their time-travelling escapades threaten to break the world as we know it, it's the legends that dad has always told them about their ancestors that save the day.

Author: Owen Voller

**ILY THE POND MERMAID**  
Lucy Fleming

It's wonderful, it shows courage, and a flicker of magic! pink poise

Author: Lucy Fleming

**THE FULL STOP THAT GOT AWAY**  
Zaro Weil

This is Frank. Frank is a full stop. He's round and small and things quietly stop when he wanders. Frank is a full stop, and he acts exactly like a full stop should. He splits up sentences that get too long - "It's true, I do!" He never shouts... "Dach, Dach, Heh!" And he never asks questions. "That's right." But what if Frank decides to stop acting like a full stop? What would happen then?

Author: Zaro Weil

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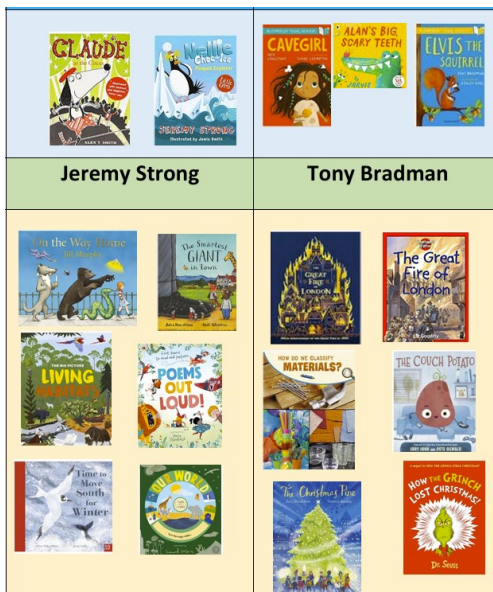
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# What are our Class Readers?

Chat to your child about them.



# KS1



# Year 1



# Year 2

# LKS2

What are our Class Readers?

Chat to your child about them.



## Year 3

<p>Owen and the soldier By Lisa Thompson</p>	<p>James and the Giant Peach By Roald Dahl</p>
<b>Lisa Thompson</b>	<b>Roald Dahl</b>

## Year 4

<p>Varjak Paw by SF Siad</p>	<p>Anglo-Saxon Boy by Tony Bradman</p>
<b>SF Siad</b>	<b>Tony Bradman</b>



# UKS2



## Year 5

<p>Holes By Louis Sachar</p>	<p>Sky Song By Abi Elphinstone</p>
<b>Louis Sachar</b>	<b>Abi Elphinstone</b>

## Year 6

<p>Wizards of Once By Cressida Cowell</p>	<p>When the Sky Falls By Phil Earle</p>
<b>Cressida Cowell</b>	<b>Phil Earle</b>

# Poetry Corner



## Children's Laureate Joseph Coelho



### Bug poem

Hanging from a silken web,  
landing on my sister's head!  
*A hairy bug.*



Living under the toilet seat,  
smelling like my brother's feet!  
*A stinky bug.*



Wearing lipstick and make-up,  
landing on my mum's teacup.  
*A lady bug.*



Drawing pictures without a care,  
sitting in my grandad's chair.  
*A doodle bug.*



Always asleep and in a doze,  
curled up in my grandma's clothes.  
*A snug bug.*



On my head and under my hat  
I pulled on too hard and it went splat!  
*A dead bug.*

