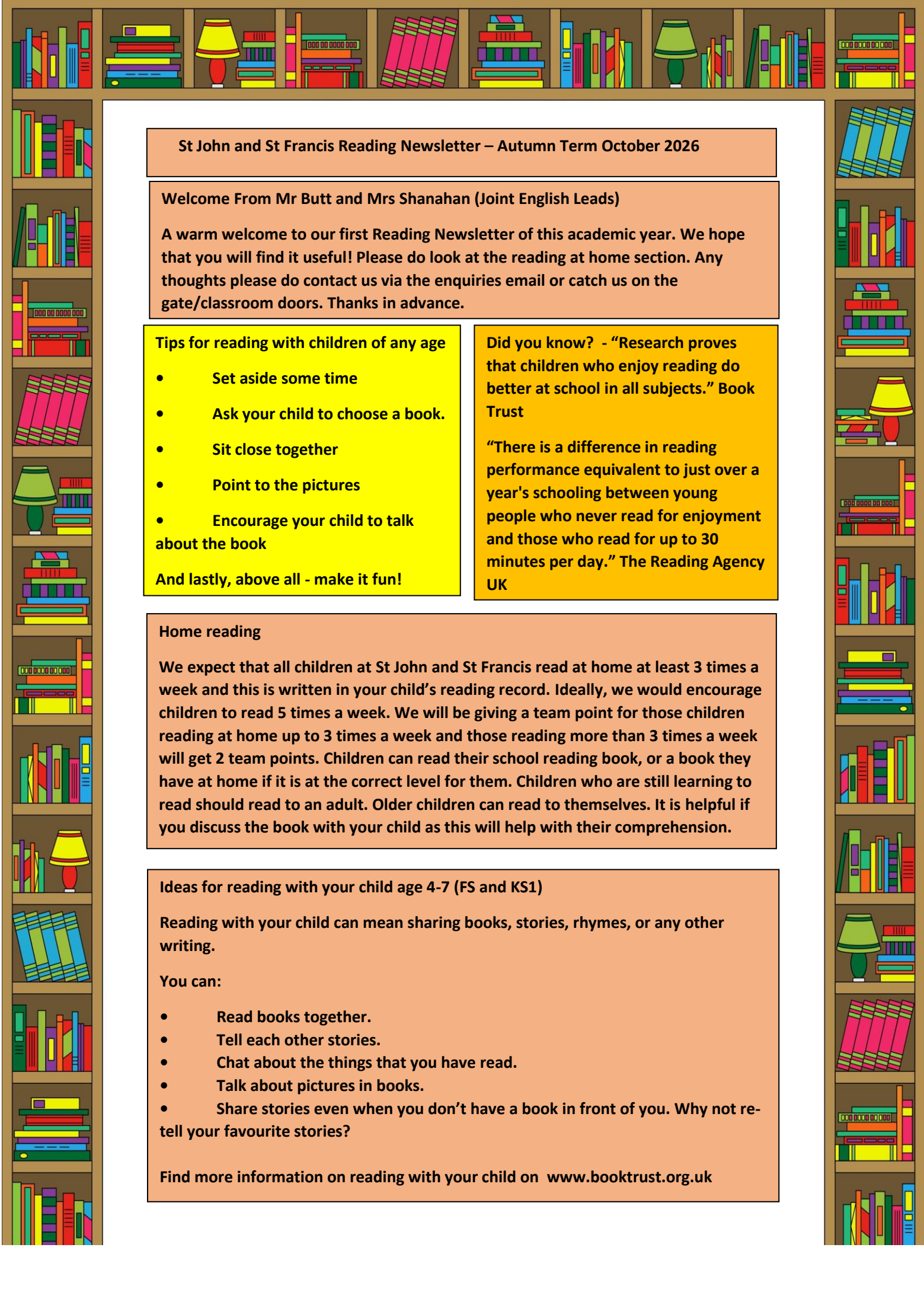




St John and St Francis Reading Newsletter – Autumn Term October 2026

Welcome From Mr Butt and Mrs Shanahan (Joint English Leads)

A warm welcome to our first Reading Newsletter of this academic year. We hope that you will find it useful! Please do look at the reading at home section. Any thoughts please do contact us via the enquiries email or catch us on the gate/classroom doors. Thanks in advance.

Tips for reading with children of any age

- Set aside some time
- Ask your child to choose a book.
- Sit close together
- Point to the pictures
- Encourage your child to talk about the book

And lastly, above all - make it fun!

Did you know? - “Research proves that children who enjoy reading do better at school in all subjects.” Book Trust

“There is a difference in reading performance equivalent to just over a year's schooling between young people who never read for enjoyment and those who read for up to 30 minutes per day.” The Reading Agency UK

Home reading

We expect that all children at St John and St Francis read at home at least 3 times a week and this is written in your child's reading record. Ideally, we would encourage children to read 5 times a week. We will be giving a team point for those children reading at home up to 3 times a week and those reading more than 3 times a week will get 2 team points. Children can read their school reading book, or a book they have at home if it is at the correct level for them. Children who are still learning to read should read to an adult. Older children can read to themselves. It is helpful if you discuss the book with your child as this will help with their comprehension.

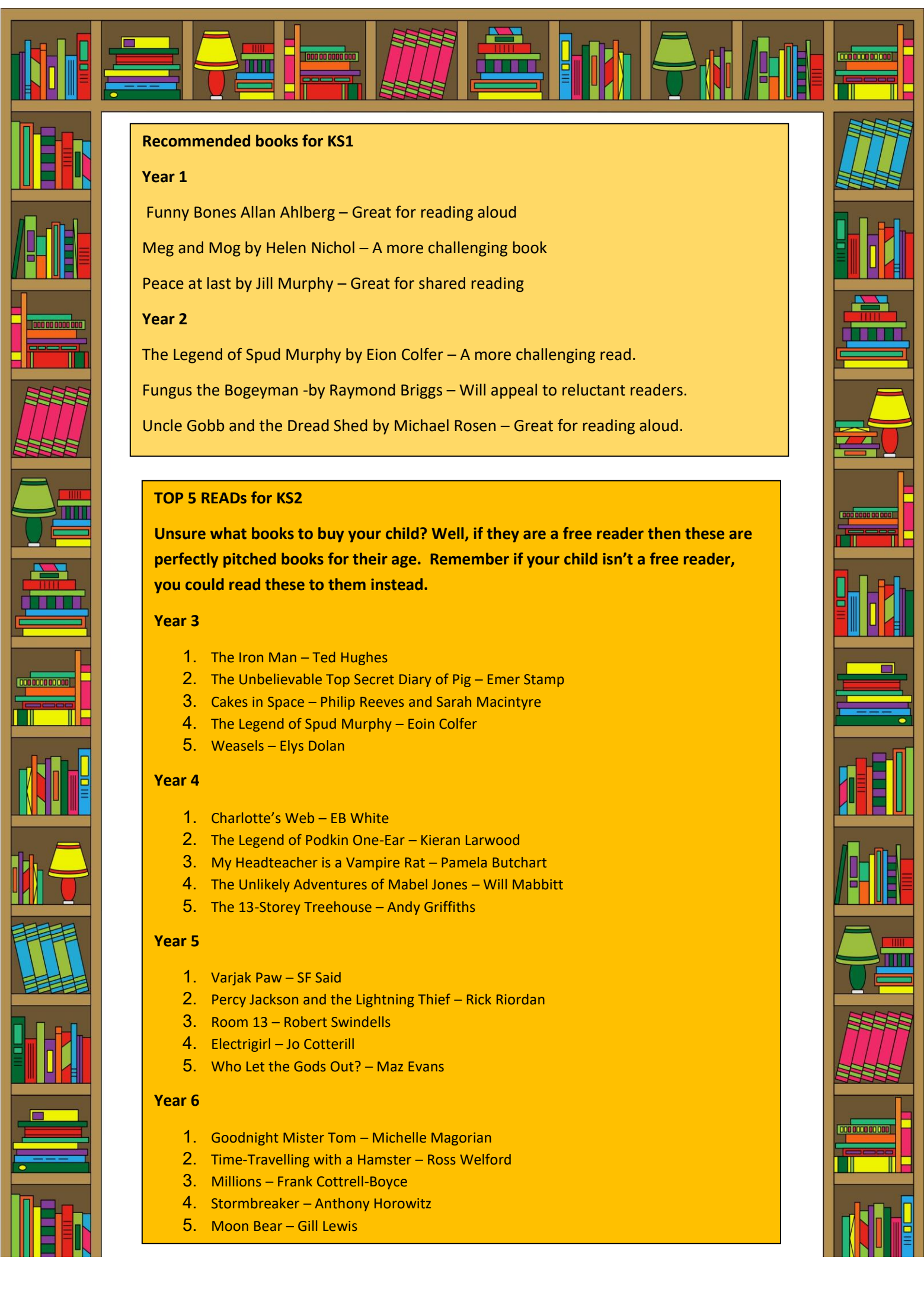
Ideas for reading with your child age 4-7 (FS and KS1)

Reading with your child can mean sharing books, stories, rhymes, or any other writing.

You can:

- Read books together.
- Tell each other stories.
- Chat about the things that you have read.
- Talk about pictures in books.
- Share stories even when you don't have a book in front of you. Why not re-tell your favourite stories?

Find more information on reading with your child on www.booktrust.org.uk



Recommended books for KS1

Year 1

Funny Bones Allan Ahlberg – Great for reading aloud

Meg and Mog by Helen Nichol – A more challenging book

Peace at last by Jill Murphy – Great for shared reading

Year 2

The Legend of Spud Murphy by Eion Colfer – A more challenging read.

Fungus the Bogeyman -by Raymond Briggs – Will appeal to reluctant readers.

Uncle Gobb and the Dread Shed by Michael Rosen – Great for reading aloud.

TOP 5 READS for KS2

Unsure what books to buy your child? Well, if they are a free reader then these are perfectly pitched books for their age. Remember if your child isn't a free reader, you could read these to them instead.

Year 3

1. The Iron Man – Ted Hughes
2. The Unbelievable Top Secret Diary of Pig – Emer Stamp
3. Cakes in Space – Philip Reeves and Sarah Macintyre
4. The Legend of Spud Murphy – Eoin Colfer
5. Weasels – Elys Dolan

Year 4

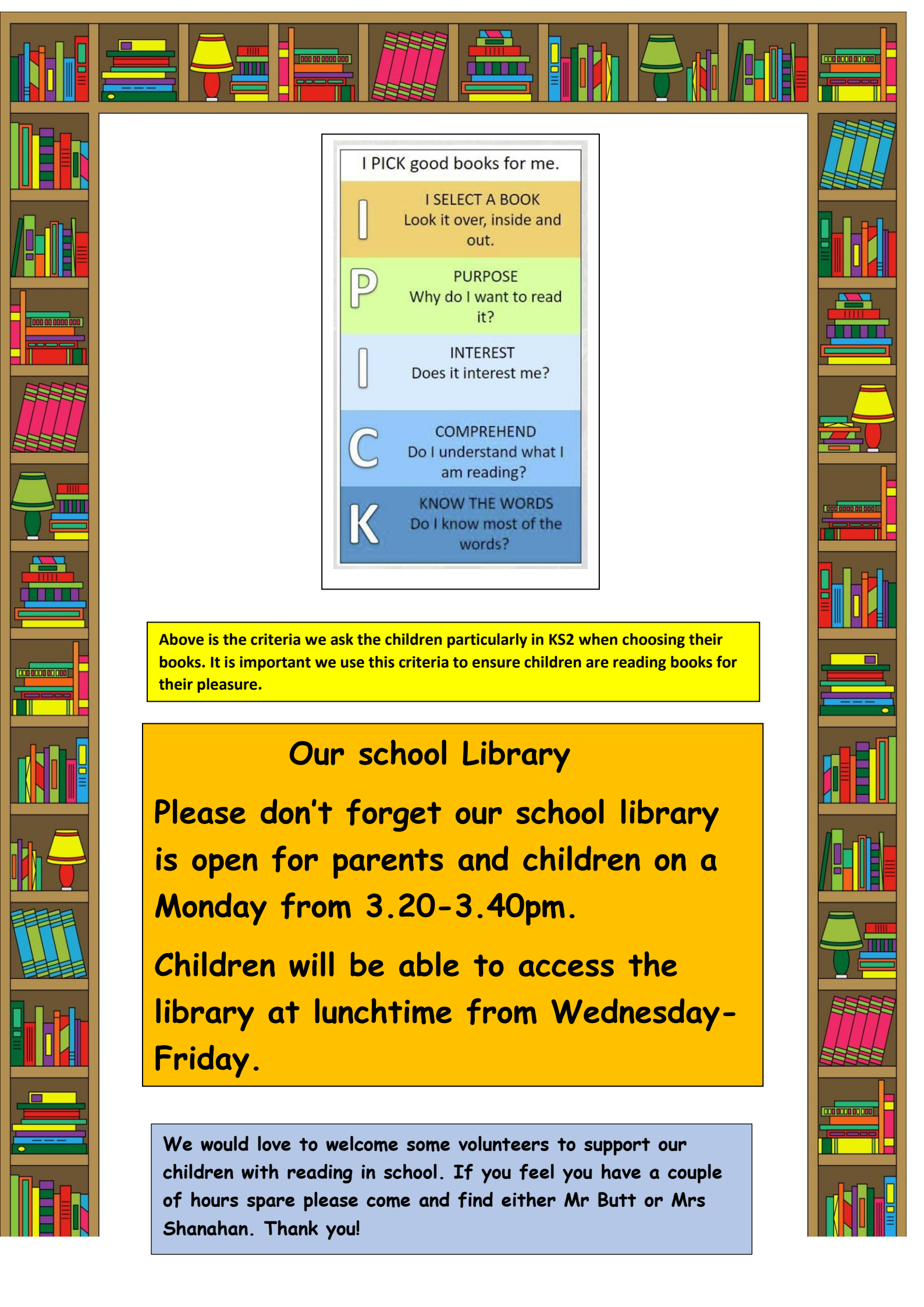
1. Charlotte's Web – EB White
2. The Legend of Podkin One-Ear – Kieran Larwood
3. My Headteacher is a Vampire Rat – Pamela Butchart
4. The Unlikely Adventures of Mabel Jones – Will Mabbitt
5. The 13-Storey Treehouse – Andy Griffiths

Year 5

1. Varjak Paw – SF Said
2. Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief – Rick Riordan
3. Room 13 – Robert Swindells
4. Electrigirl – Jo Cotterill
5. Who Let the Gods Out? – Maz Evans

Year 6

1. Goodnight Mister Tom – Michelle Magorian
2. Time-Travelling with a Hamster – Ross Welford
3. Millions – Frank Cottrell-Boyce
4. Stormbreaker – Anthony Horowitz
5. Moon Bear – Gill Lewis



I PICK good books for me.

I

I SELECT A BOOK
Look it over, inside and out.

P

PURPOSE
Why do I want to read it?

I

INTEREST
Does it interest me?

C

COMPREHEND
Do I understand what I am reading?

K

KNOW THE WORDS
Do I know most of the words?

Above is the criteria we ask the children particularly in KS2 when choosing their books. It is important we use this criteria to ensure children are reading books for their pleasure.

Our school Library

Please don't forget our school library is open for parents and children on a Monday from 3.20-3.40pm.

Children will be able to access the library at lunchtime from Wednesday-Friday.

We would love to welcome some volunteers to support our children with reading in school. If you feel you have a couple of hours spare please come and find either Mr Butt or Mrs Shanahan. Thank you!