



# Accelerated Reader Newsletter

## 2026 The National Year of Reading



We have had a wonderful start to the **2026 National Year of Reading Campaign!** Every month, we will be promoting the **'Pleasure of Reading'** with new ideas and activities.



Already in January, we have seen the launch of three new Seaside Story Rucksacks for our Reception and Key Stage 1 children to enjoy. This week also saw the opening of our Starbooks pop-up café for our Key Stage 2 children, complete with biscuits and hot chocolate to enjoy alongside a good book!

Staff have been busy collecting children's views on the books they would most like to read, matched to their interests. This has generated quite the shopping list! As you can see from the picture, we now have a fantastic collection of books for both libraries based on the children's interests. The range includes graphic novels, chapter books for our younger readers, and books on quad bikes, monster trucks, Anne Frank, inventions, David Attenborough, caves, camping, skiing, movie-making, and much more. As the National Year of Reading says, 'Go All In!' — and we certainly have!



A special mention goes to our Library Team, Mrs Sullivan and Mrs Mellish, who work tirelessly to keep our libraries in excellent shape for the children to enjoy. We are also delighted to welcome four new library volunteers who have joined the team to help meet the demands of our busy libraries. Thank you to them for their time and dedication.

We have also seen an increase in volunteer readers in classrooms. This has had a significant impact on our children, who are eager to read with anyone who will listen and talk about books! Thank you to everyone who has given up their time to support this.

Needless to say, the English team has plans for every month of the campaign! February has already begun with National Storytelling Week and the ever-popular Book Fair. This Parents' Evening, we succeeded in raising over **£3,000 to spend on books**. This is simply incredible and our highest amount so far. Your support makes such a difference to the children — so thank you.

Please look out for the World Book Day letter and book voucher coming home this week.

Have a wonderful half term filled with reading!

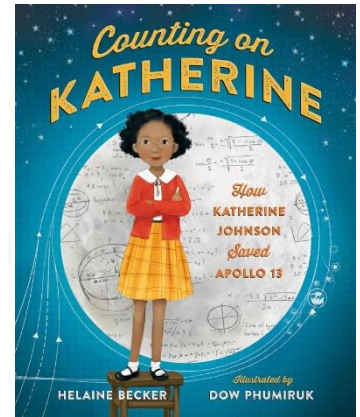
Mrs Irwin



## Recommended Reads

### Key Stage 1 – Top-Notch Non-Fiction

Meet Katherine Johnson, the mathematical genius who helped make the historic Apollo 11 moon landings possible and made sure that Apollo 13 returned home safely when the mission was in critical danger. Counting on Katherine is a beautiful biography, sure to inspire young readers. Winner of the information book category of the UKLA Book Awards 2020. As a child, Katherine loved to count. She counted the steps on the road, the number of dishes and spoons she washed in the kitchen sink, everything! Boundless, curious, and excited by calculations, young Katherine longed to know as much as she could about maths, about the universe . . .



### Key Stage 2- Top-Notch Non-Fiction

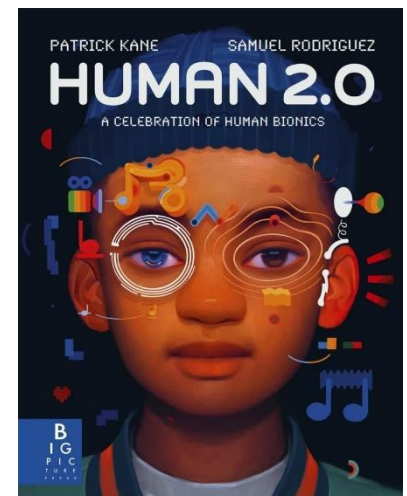
Imagine being able to hear for the first time, or see in full-colour, or take your first steps on Earth. This incredible book celebrates the remarkable achievements made in medical engineering, and offers a glimpse of what the future might hold for humanity.

Pioneering technological breakthroughs have truly changed lives. For some people, particularly those with disabilities, recent advances have crossed the realms of the purely imaginable, and reached a place of possibility.

People with paraplegia can walk again, those who are hearing impaired can listen to even the faintest sounds, and some people with missing limbs can create beautiful works of art.

This phenomenal book is a celebration of all that has been achieved so far, and a look at what might be possible in the near future. Is it inevitable that technology will surpass biology?

From cochlear implants and pacemakers, to bionic arms and legs, this empowering book also features spotlights on pioneers including Paralympians Richard Whitehead and Blake Leeper, and the world's first 'cyborg' Neil Harbisson.



**HOME CONNECT PARENTS – Your child's quiz scores to your inbox!**

**Did you know that you can receive email notifications with updates on your child's test and quiz scores?** If you would like to receive email notifications, then follow the instructions below.

To log in to our 'Seaside Home Connect' website, please use the following link:

<https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/studentprogress/homeconnect?t=2249043>

and log in with your child's 'User Name and Password'. This should be recorded in the front of their reading record.

You may need to add [homeconnectautodelivery@renlearnrp.com](mailto:homeconnectautodelivery@renlearnrp.com) to your address book, to make sure that the emails reach your inbox.



## Quizzing at Home:

Accessing Accelerated Reader from home for quizzing :

Remember to use this link or QR code:

<https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/welcomeportal/2249043>



Each class teacher has nominated children within their reading class to receive one of four awards.

- **Reading Target Points Met** - The teacher sets each child an individual points target – children need to quiz on their books and pass to earn their book points and reach their target.
- **Most Improved ZPD** – this is based on a Star reading test which the children complete each half term. The winner is the person in each class who has had the biggest increase in their ZPD range, which can also be converted to their reading age.
- **Best Attitude to Reading** – all adults involved in reading across the school, select a child who has really impressed them with their efforts towards reading.
- **Best Kept Reading Record** – the child in each class who has recorded a sufficient amount of in school and home reading, as well as identifying new vocabulary within their books.
- **Best Effort with reading Non-Fiction** - the child who is making a real effort to read a variety of non-fiction books.

All the teachers' nominations were placed into a hat and a winner for each award has been selected at random.

The winners for this half term are...

Key Stage	Most Improved Reader/ZPD	Best Attitude towards Reading	Best Kept Reading Record	Best Effort with Reading Non-Fiction	Reading Target Points Met
KS1	Sana Shaw	Attie Hunt-Jones	Harry Banfield	Mylo Goldsmith	Yassin Selim
KS2	Albie King	Blake Pearce	Ellie Busson	Oscar Snipe	Sienna Knight

## New Word Millionaire Readers

Children are continuing to work hard towards an increased word count - here are the new millionaires!

An enormous congratulations to these children.

<b>Bronze - 1 million words</b>	<b>Silver - 2 million words</b>	<b>Gold - 5 million words</b>	<b>Platinum - 10 million words!</b>
Donnie McBride Esther Olassa Hannah Webster	Ivy Jenkins Grace Harding Freddie Drake		



We are also extremely excited to be able to welcome the following *new children to AR*. It is lovely when we get to add new children and we really look forward to seeing them progress in their AR journey. It is such a fantastic achievement to move onto 'Accelerated Reader' and we love being able to acknowledge and welcome as many children as we can.

<b>Accelerated Reader Welcomes...</b>		
Jacob Withell	Luella Rozario	Sienna Turrell
Jack Bennett-Diver	Tyler Hodges	Jacob Cornish
Ralph Obrien	Theo Peters	Frank Merritt
Harrison Peposhi	Alice O'Shea	Babushka French

**Congratulations to the children who were nominated and those that won, enjoy your book prizes!**

**You should all be extremely proud of yourselves.**

**Happy Holiday Reading!**