



LITERACY BITES

TERMLY NEWSLETTER

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KWAME ALEXANDER ★ KADIR NELSON
THE UNDEFEATED



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WHAT'S INSIDE

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'Recommend Me a Book'
Competition

Reading at home

WELCOME BACK

Dear parents and carers,

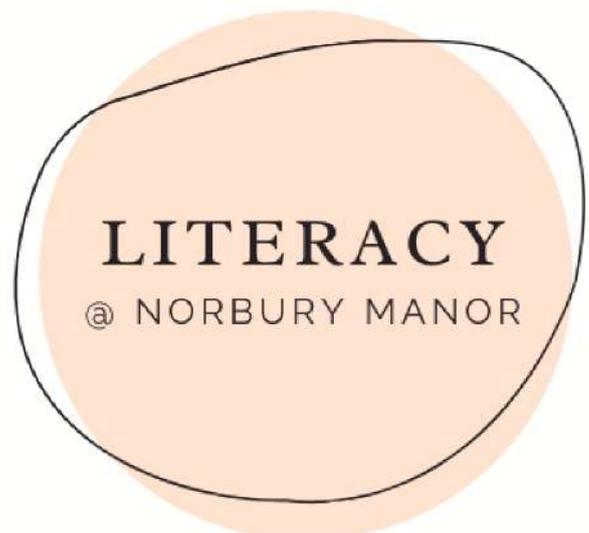
Welcome back to a new school year! With a mixture of trepidation and excitement, students are coming back to a 'new normal'. We remain committed as ever to the high standards of learning and literacy at Norbury Manor.

In past years, there has been a strong tradition of literacy, as evidenced through the successes of past World Book Day celebrations, the Book Wizard, Word of the Week challenges and Spelling Bee competitions.

This year, we will be bringing in some new initiatives. For example, we intend to introduce more writers to students from diverse backgrounds through the 'Book of the Month' reading campaign. September's feature for KS3 was 'Undeclared' by Kwame Alexander and Kadir Nelson.

Turn the page over to find out more about how our students engage with literacy!

Ms Chong
Literacy Coordinator



#WOWChallenge

Paradigm (n.)

Week beginning: 7.9.2020

Definition:

A typical example or pattern of something.

Word in context:

1. This is a **paradigm** for students to base their work on.
2. The war was a **paradigm** of the destructive side of human nature.

Synonyms:

Etymology:	Other word forms:	Synonyms:
from late Latin: paradigma "pattern, example" from para (beside) + dicere (to show).	paradigmatic (adj.) paradigm shift (n.)	Prototype Archetype Exemplar Norm Ideal Pattern Original Example Model

WOW

CHALLENGE

- CAN YOU USE THE WORD IN CONTEXT?
- CAN YOU USE OTHER FORMS OF THE WORD IN CONTEXT?
- WHAT WORDS CAN YOU FORM WITH THE WORD ROOT OR SIMILAR PREFIX/SUFFIX? ARE THESE WORDS RELATED TO THE SUBJECTS YOU STUDY HERE AT NMBEC?

E.G. PARA- PREFIX
PARABOLA (USED IN MATHS)



WORD OF THE WEEK

This year, we will be bringing in a revamped Word of the Week poster, which will feature words with their corresponding picture.

Research by Georgia State University published in The Journal of General Psychology states that using imagery is an effective way to improve memory, particularly in terms of accurately recalling conceptually related word lists.

"Creating images improved participants' memories and helped them commit fewer errors, regardless of what kind of list we gave" (Oliver, Merrin, et al, 2016).

Therefore, when students create images of the list words in their head, they should be able to recall more words and terms than those who don't. If applied well in both lessons and at home, the impact on our students' learning will be tremendous!

Additionally, word roots and etymology will help students to make greater connections between different subject areas.

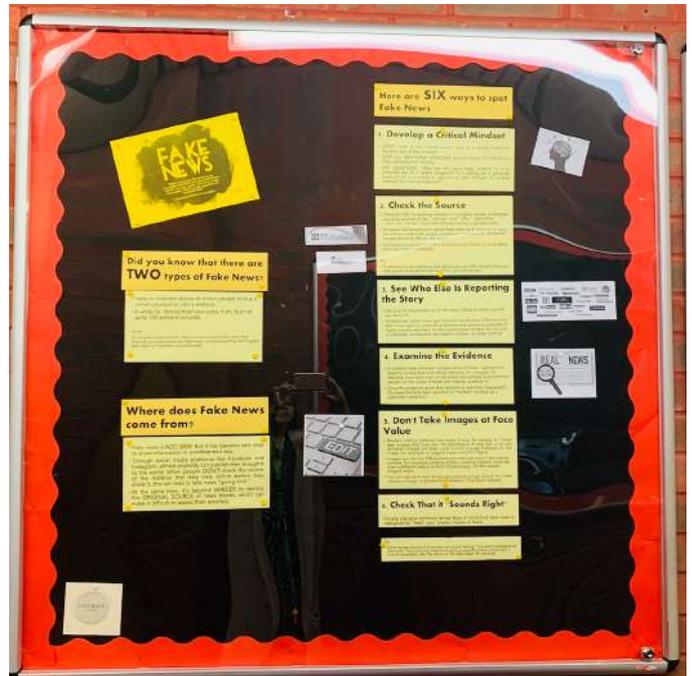


DISPLAY BOARDS

Do check out these Literacy boards, which are also situated along the LRC corridor!

We have a whole school literacy policy on SPaG (spelling, punctuation and grammar). The display above contains commonly misspelled words and reasons why we make mistakes.

This one on the right deals with growing concerns around fake news. Understanding digital literacy can help students sharpen their understanding of the world. The display takes them through six ways to recognise fake news.



STUDENT	BOOK REVIEW 'I need to read'	B.R.No.
	Title:	Author:
	BRIEF OUTLINE OF PLOT	
	BEST EPISODE	
WHY I WOULD RECOMMEND THIS BOOK		Star rating

'RECOMMEND ME A BOOK' COMPETITION

Another exciting new venture is the monthly Recommend Me a Book Competition. We are inviting students from all key stages to think about a book that has been revolutionary or ground-breaking for them.

Book review forms will be made available outside the LRC, and there will be a drop off box. Make sure that you submit your entries by the last Thursday of every month.

There will be a prize for every key stage!





Sharing audiobooks as a family

Audiobooks can be the key to unlocking your child's love of reading, with exciting voices and sound effects bringing stories to life. One of the best things about audiobooks is that you can listen to them almost anytime and anywhere as a family – whether you're in the car or the kitchen, during bath time or bedtime. In the days of tablets, smartphones and smart speakers, listening to digital stories is easier than ever before.

Changing life stories

The benefits of sharing audiobooks at home

Audiobooks can give children access to a wider range of stories than they can read for themselves. This can help them learn new words or how to pronounce unfamiliar words.

Many audiobooks are read by well-known actors and celebrities, which can be really exciting for kids!

Audiobooks can be particularly good for less keen or confident readers, giving them the chance to get more absorbed in a story than they might when struggling to read a text.

Audiobooks can be a great way to share stories together as a family, particularly for parents who are less confident reading aloud to their kids.

Research shows that listening to audiobooks can boost children's reading skills, reading enjoyment, mental wellbeing and emotional intelligence.

Discover the world of audiobooks

Head to your local library. They might have physical CDs you can borrow and may also offer access to audiobooks through apps such as **Libby** or **BorrowBox**. Similarly, your child's school may have a school library system that includes free access to audiobooks.

Sample or buy audiobooks. You can download audiobook apps and audiobooks on to a phone, tablet or computer from websites such as **Audible**, **Google Play** or **iTunes**. Some are free or have free sample chapters, while others are paid for. For example, you can find great **Ladybird stories** from £3.99 on the iTunes store, while older children might enjoy the **Roald Dahl audio app**, with the first chapter free to try.

Smart stories. If you have a smart speaker or voice-controlled assistant (e.g. **Alexa**, **Apple HomePod** or **Google Home**) why not ask it for a story? Ask **Alexa** for **CBeebies** stories or **The Magic Door** to take you to an audio adventure game. **Google Home** offers free audio stories via the **StoryCastle** app from **HarperCollins**.



Great audiobooks to try at home





Great audiobooks to try at home





The Twits by Roald Dahl, narrated by Richard Ayoade (Penguin Random House)



How to Train Your Dragon by Cressida Cowell, narrated by David Tennant (Hachette Children's Books)



The World's Worst Children 2 by David Walliams, narrated by David Walliams, Morgana Robinson, Nitin Ganatra and James Goode (HarperCollins)



George's Secret Key to the Universe by Lucy and Stephen Hawking, narrated by James Goode (Penguin Random House)



Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone by J.K. Rowling, narrated by Stephen Fry (Pottermore Publishing)



Create your own family audiobook!

Once you've listened to a few audiobooks together, why not try recording your own as a family? It's easy – most phones and tablets include a basic sound recording feature to get you started.

Write your own story together as a family or read one of your favourite books aloud. If you're feeling brave, you can try some silly voices and sound effects too!

As well as enjoying listening back to the recordings yourselves, you could send the audio files to family members (such as grandparents or relations living far away) who will love to hear the children's voices, and how well they can read!

Visit www.wordsforlife.org.uk for more activities, ideas and inspiration for how you can bring stories to life at home.

READING AT HOME

Finally, thank you for supporting your child's literacy and reading at home. There's something powerful about strong connections between home and school, which is even more crucial in this current climate of volatility.

In July of this year, National Literacy Trust reported some encouraging statistics about the increase in reading at home during lockdown. "Children's enjoyment of reading has increased during lockdown (from 47.8% pre-lockdown to 55.9% post-lockdown), having reached a 15-year low before that."

Please continue to encourage good reading habits at home.

Here are some tips from the National Literacy Trust, to foster reading at home:

1. **Make time.** Children said that time away from school and social activities during lockdown has given them more time to enjoy stories.
2. **Autonomy and choice.** Children said that they have loved getting to choose what they read rather than being told what to read.
3. **Find a quiet space.** Children said that having a quiet space to enjoy stories helped them concentrate and relax.
4. **Explore new worlds.** Children said that they have discovered brand new stories through ebooks, audiobooks and storytelling videos.
5. **Talk and share.** Children said that they loved sharing stories with their family, and missed talking about them with their friends.