



Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you are well. As I am sure you are aware, most years we take our children to The Cheltenham Literature Festival to listen to authors and take part in workshops. It is an event which is always thoroughly enjoyed and an opportunity for children of all ages to meet their literary heroes and discover new ones.

Sadly, this year, we shall be unable to visit the Festival in person. However, this will not stop us from taking part! We have signed for the CLF's exciting virtual programme. By way of preparation, we shall be decorating our classrooms with festival bunting and creating festival hats. Suitably prepared, we shall listen to readings from authors resident the Festivals 'Den', take part in draw alongs and immerse ourselves in lots of other booky activities.

We thought it would be of interest for you to know which classes will be following which authors, so please see below for listings.

Eagles:



We shall be working on M.G.Leonard's 'Falcon Express' which is our class reader this term and watching M.G.Leonard talking about her work. If you have not read the Beetle Boy series, this is a must for any bookshelf.

Kestrels:

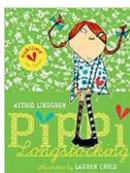


We shall be drawing along with Laura Ellen Anderson, creating book covers for her spooky series, Amelia Fang. We shall also be producing some truly disgusting recipes that we recommend you don't try at home!



Raising the tone, we shall listen to readings by Anna James from her series Pages and Co. and wondering just which characters from our bookshelves we would like to meet in person.

Merlins:



There is so much available for the younger children this year! We shall be listening to Lauren Child talking about her reworking of the much loved Pippi Longstocking, drawing along with Alex T. Smith and his fictional dog Claude, catching up with yet another classic in the making from the brilliant Oliver Jeffers and much, much more!

Links to the above readings and many more amazing events are available *free* to you on the Cheltenham Literature Festival website (<https://cheltenhamliteraturefestival.com/the-den>). As thanks for this incredible resource, and for the fantastic support that the Festival has given our school (through 5 years of involvement in the Reading Teachers = Reading Pupils project and access to the best authors and workshops) we should like to ask for a donation of £2 or more. We hope that this small gesture will help safeguard the essential work that the Festival does for young people within Gloucestershire and beyond.

Finally, on a book related topic, could we ask that you have a look around at home for any school reading books that may have made their way to bedroom shelves. Over the course of the last year a large number of our Big Cat books, kindly paid for by Foss have gone missing and our stocks are now some depleted. Thank you.

Best wishes,

Mr Ringer