



National Year of Reading 2026

What is the National Year of Reading?

The National Year of Reading is a UK-wide initiative launching in 2026 to encourage children and adults to read for pleasure. Led by the Government and Department for Education in partnership with the National Literacy Trust, the campaign responds to growing concerns about declining reading enjoyment among young people.



Recent research from the National Literacy Trust found that only 1 in 3 children and young people aged 8–18 enjoy reading in their free time, while 1 in 4 say they do not enjoy reading at all. Reading for pleasure supports children's academic achievement, confidence, wellbeing, and future opportunities, with strong readers at the end of Key Stage 2 going on to earn an average of £65,000 more over their lifetime.

What can parents and carers do to help?

Parents play an important role in encouraging reading at home, whatever their child's reading level. For younger children, this may mean reading aloud regularly and providing books to explore independently. Older children may respond better to graphic novels, audiobooks, comics, non-fiction linked to their interests, or Young Adult (YA) books designed to engage teenagers.

Libraries are also a valuable free resource, offering access to books, reading clubs, and activities. Apps such as Libby allow families to borrow digital books and audiobooks from their local library at no cost.

To find out more, click on the official website link: [National Year of Reading website](https://www.nationalyearofreading.org/)

Free webinar for parents and carers...

From Lullabies to Lyrics: The Sound of Family Stories

Award-winning spoken word artist Jaspreet Kaur will show how storytelling and poetry can empower families. Expect powerful words, cultural connection, and inspiring ways to use creativity for social change.

Date: 9 July 2026 Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Zoom (online)

Facilitator: Jaspreet Kaur

Best suited for: Parents & Carers of All Ages

Cost: Free

[From Lullabies to Lyrics: The Sound of Family Stories](https://www.nationalyearofreading.org/)

Gaming...

Video games are an important cultural and creative medium that combine storytelling, design, and music. Digital technology, including gaming, can help support children and young people's literacy development in ways that feel relevant to modern audiences.

The current research focus is now on exploring how video games influence young people's literacy skills, attitudes, and behaviours, while considering the future of literacy in a digital world.

The National Year of Reading has devoted a section on their website to the links between gaming and reading. There are book recommendations, website links and even podcast links.

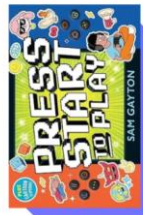
To find out more, click here: [NYoR Gaming](#)



BOOK



AUDIOBOOK



BOOK



BOOK

Summer Reading Challenge 2026

THE
READING
AGENCY

**Summer
Reading
Challenge**

What is the Summer Reading Challenge?

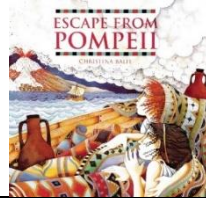
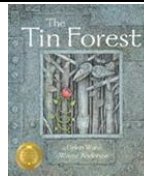
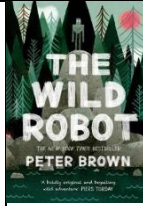
The Summer Reading Challenge encourages children to keep reading during the summer holidays, ensuring they are ready for a great start to the new term in the autumn. Children set a reading goal and collect rewards for reading anything they enjoy.

Children can sign up at their local library or you can sign up online, and it's FREE to take part.

[Summer Reading Challenge link](#)

What books we are reading this term?

Year 3



The Tin Forest by Helen Ward

<https://www.goodreads.com/en/book/show/87277>

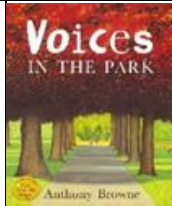
The Wild Robot by Peter Brown

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/book-recommendations/bookfinder/the-wild-robot/>

Escape from Pompeii by Christina Balit

<https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/book/17268/Escape-from-Pompeii-by-Christina-Balit.html>

Year 4



Voices in the Park by Anthony Browne.

<https://www.goodreads.com/en/book/show/80877>

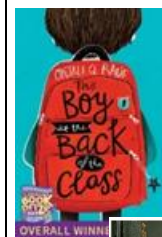
The 50 States by Gabrielle Balkan

<https://www.quarto.com/books/9781847807113/the-50-states>

Podkin One-Ear by Kieran Larwood

<https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/book/13262/Podkin-One-Ear-by-Kieran-Larwood.html>

Year 5



The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Q. Raúf

Linking to our story time and literacy lessons

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/book/t/the-boy-at-the-back-of-the-class/>

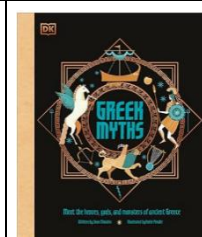
The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/book/t/the-secret-garden/>

The Arrival by Shaun Tan

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/book/the-arrival/>

Year 6



When Darwin Sailed the Sea by David Long

<https://www.quarto.com/books/9780711249660/when-darwin-sailed-the-sea>

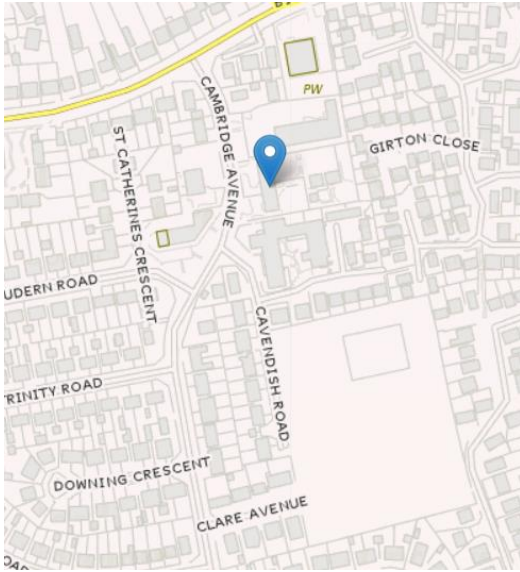
The Nowhere Emporium by Ross Mackenzie

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/book/t/the-nowhere-emporium/>

Greek Myths: Meet the heroes, gods, and monsters of ancient Greece by Jean Menzies

<https://www.readingzone.com/books/greek-myths-meet-the-heroes-gods-and-monsters-of-ancient-greece/>

Our local library



**Cambridge House
Cambridge Avenue
Bottesford
Scunthorpe
North Lincolnshire
DN16 3LG**

**Monday: 1pm to 4.30pm
Tuesday: closed
Wednesday: 1pm to 4.30pm
Thursday: 9.30am to 1pm
Friday: closed
Saturday: closed**

Closed on bank holidays
library.enquiries@northlincs.gov.uk

Final thoughts...

Thank you for reading our Summer term edition of the Bottesford Bookworm!

As the summer begins, we encourage you to help make reading part of your child's daily routine. Whether it's a bedtime story, a trip to the library, or quiet reading time on a sunny afternoon in the garden, every page helps build strong reading habits and a lifelong love of learning.

Thank you for your continued support. Keep your eyes peeled for our next edition

Until then, keeeeeppppp reading!

Mrs Burt