

Dear Alverton School

The national curriculum for English aims to ensure that pupils develop the habit of reading widely and often for both pleasure and information.

Organised by The Reading Agency (www.readingagency.org.uk) and the UK public library network since 1999, the **Summer Reading Challenge** is the UK's biggest annual reading promotion for children aged 4 to 11. Last year, in Cornwall 8166 children took part. These have been unprecedented times and we had to adapt to how this is could still be delivered. The Reading Agency has created a Digital Summer Reading Challenge platform. The new platform provides a fun, immersive and safe environment for children to achieve their reading goals, play games and join reading groups.

This year's theme is Silly Squad, a team of animal friends who love to go on adventures and get stuck in to all different kinds of funny books. For 2020 it's all about funny books, happiness and having a laugh!

The **Summer Reading Challenge** combines **FREE** access to books with fun creative online activities; This year it has been extended and will be launched on Friday 5th June and run until mid-September.

How the Challenge works

- Children sign up online to the Digital Summer Reading Challenge <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>.
- The website will be free to access, featuring games, quizzes, digital and downloadable activities to incentivise and encourage children and their families to take part in the Challenge at home. Although library buildings are closed, libraries will also continue to deliver the Challenge through virtual services and e-lending platforms i.e. Borrowbox, Facebook and Twitter.
- Children taking part this year will be asked to set their own reading goal and we are keen to see if this encourages take up and completion. However, we will still be suggesting six books as the best goal to try for. Children who complete their **Summer Reading Challenge** will be able to download a certificate.

How do schools benefit?

- The **Summer Reading Challenge** is intrinsically inclusive and can contribute to the achievement.

- It enhances and supports your school's reading policy and your mission for all children to read more widely and for pleasure.
- It encourages parental engagement and family involvement in reading and helps your school make links with the library and the wider community.
- It allows children to become more independent in their reading when choosing books and encourages using imagination and empathy to explore a text beyond the page.
- It helps prevent the tendency for children's reading to dip over the holidays and supports the successful transition between year groups and stages.

Please find attached the Schools Pack with lots of information about the **Summer Reading Challenge**.

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Yours sincerely,

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www.cornwall.gov.uk | 'Onen hag oll'