Kent Libraries, Registration and Archives – update for primary schools from Swale District Libraries – April 2017

FREE SUMMER FUN FOR FAMILIES

The Summer Reading Challenge for children starts in all Kent's libraries on Saturday 15 July. The Challenge encourages children aged 4 – 11 to read 6 books during the long summer break. Children collect rewards along the way for reading whichever library books they choose. When they read 6 books they will receive a fantastic medal and certificate. This year's theme, Animal Agents, features a variety of clever creatures, specially trained to use their skills and natural instincts to solve mysteries. It is a great opportunity to have fun over the summer holidays.

Children can find competitions, challenges, author interviews, news and the Book Sorter which recommends what children might like to read next on the Summer Reading Challenge website throughout the year.

www.animal-agents.org.uk

Class visits to the library are a great way to get the children excited for the Summer Reading Challenge. Alternatively, library staff may be able to visit the school. The visits provide an excellent opportunity for the children to learn more about the library and to encourage reading for pleasure, particularly with the added incentives that the Summer Reading Challenge provides.

Please contact me if you would like to organise visits to the library, or library staff to the school, as these need to be booked in advance.

Dementia Awareness Week 15th to 21st May 2017

Raise awareness of dementia with titles such as *Grandma's box of memories: helping Grandma to remember* by Jean Demetris and *Really and truly: a story about dementia* by Emilie Rivard, available from Kent Libraries.

Deaf Awareness Week 15th to 21st May 2017
Raise awareness of deafness by learning sign language. Explore relevant titles such as *What the jackdaw saw* written by deaf children with Julia Donaldson, *Dachy's deaf* by Jack Hughes and *Moonbird* by Joyce Dunbar and Jane Ray, available from Kent Libraries.

Elmer Day Saturday 27th May 2017

Encourage pupils to celebrate Elmer Day by visiting their local library to borrow Elmer books written by David McKee. Perhaps you'd like to borrow an Elmer title that

week to read to your class? Visit our online catalogue at www.kent.gov.uk/libraries to discover the range of titles and reserve your copy from Kent Libraries for free. There will be activities at Sittingbourne Library and Minster-in-Sheppey Library where children can hunt for animals and get colouring.

The library

There are a variety of items to borrow from the library. There is fiction of varying levels including beginner readers and picture books, and non-fiction on many different subjects. These are available in different formats that include large print, audio CD and dual-language picture books. We also have storysacks available to borrow which is a great resource for storytime and Bag Books for multi-sensory storytelling.

There are public PCs available to use and children get 5 free prints for homework every day. We have a range of online resources including Britannica Online, Britannica Spotlight Series, Issues, EBSCO and Grzimek's Animal Encyclopaedia. Visit www.kent.gov.uk/libs for more information.

Did you know you can buy a school ticket? A school ticket allows you to borrow more items at a time for a longer loan period. We can also offer special bespoke sessions. Please visit http://www.edukent.co.uk/our_services/service/libraries_registration_archives/ for more information.

Please contact me if you have any queries about how libraries can support schools.

Kind regards,

Sarah Denman
Customer Service Development Librarian – Swale District
Email: sarah.denman@kent.gov.uk