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Devon School Library Service Newsletter November 2025

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November 2025

School Library Service

Centre news for November



Breaking News!!

Children's Booker prize to be launched in 2026, more information to follow.

This month we were delighted to host the **Primary school library network meeting** at our Willand centre. The session focused on preparations for the National Year of Reading 2026. View all the news & updates from the meeting.



New KS2 class sets available

We now have two KS2 class set titles available for borrowing:
The Abominables by Eva Ibbotson
Tom's Midnight Garden by Philippa Pearce.

Email us for more information.

Topic box requests for Spring 2026

A reminder that topic box requests should be submitted at the end of a term in time for delivery at the beginning of the next term.

Remember to submit your topic box requests for the Spring term by **19 December 2025** to ensure prompt delivery in January.

Please share this information with your school colleagues so they don't miss out!

Email us

Buy books the smart way!



We offer **25% off** all books purchased through us.

- ✓ Available to **ALL schools**
- ✓ Includes **stationery, plastic jackets, and FREE delivery**
- ✓ Subscribing schools can return books purchased as part of their exchange returns

Make your budget go further!!

SLS calendar of events for The National Year of Reading 2026

Exciting News – Our National Year of Reading Page is Live!

We're happy to announce that our dedicated page to support the **National Year of Reading** campaign is now live!

On this page, you'll find:

- An overview of the campaign and its goals
- Ways you can get involved
- Useful weblinks
- Details on how the School Library Service can support you



Throughout the year, we'll be publishing monthly themed events, activities and booklists to celebrate reading. You can explore these by visiting our **Calendar of Events** section.

National year of reading 2026

Updated 'Framework for Reading Aloud'



This resource provides a selection of high-quality read-aloud books for each year group from Foundation to Year 6, introducing key authors and a variety of genres and formats.

It supports teachers in meeting statutory requirements of the English National Curriculum and aligns with the Government's Reading Framework, while promoting a whole-school reading culture.

It is designed as a **Read for Pleasure** tool that complements topic-led reading and teaching sequences, enriching pupils' knowledge, skills, and experience.

Framework for reading aloud

Discover our latest Hot Reads

We're pleased to share our latest list of Hot Reads - a carefully compiled selection of newly published books perfect for engaging young readers. These titles have been chosen to spark curiosity, inspire imagination, and support literacy across all age groups.



For a subscribing school these can be ordered as part of your exchange. Non subscribers may purchase these direct.

Hot reads booklists

Pre-publications booklist for December

With a small list of new titles scheduled for publication in December, we've carefully curated a selection of standout books that are likely to generate strong interest and high demand within your library.

December pre-pubs booklist

Christmas reading activity



Reading aloud is a magical way to build reading skills—and sharing stories together makes this time of year even more special!

That's why we've selected **16 brilliant Christmas books** and created all the resources you need to run this activity and build a festive Countdown to Christmas wall display.

Simply gather your books, download the resources, and you'll be ready to go in December!

Books to accompany this activity can be purchased from us. Order now to guarantee delivery for 1 December.

Downloads for Christmas activity

FREE Secondary school library network meetings

There's still time to sign up to our **Secondary school library network meetings** being held this month.

- Wednesday 12 November at South Molton CC
 - Thursday 13 November at Stover Senior School
- Focus:** Looking ahead to the National Year of Reading 2026

All meetings begin at 1.30pm, email us to book your place.



