



For Learning That Lasts A Lifetime

8th July 2026

Summer Reading Challenge 2026

Dear Parent/Carers

This year we are once again setting the Kent Libraries Reading Challenge as a whole school summer homework, with the theme being ...



Organised by the charity 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. Kent will offer children the chance to visit the library to participate in-person or to visit the [Summer Reading Challenge](http://www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk) to take part digitally.

The Summer Reading Challenge combines **FREE** access to books with fun, creative activities during the summer holidays. Throughout the Challenge, library staff and young volunteers support the children, helping them to discover new authors and illustrators and to explore a wide range of different types of books and ways of reading. This year's 'Read to the Beat' theme inspires children to explore the connection between stories and songs, discovering how reading and music ignite imagination and creativity.

How the Challenge works

- Children sign up through their local library and receive a collector poster.
- Children set a reading goal and borrow and read library books of their own choice during the summer, collecting special stickers to complete their poster and extra incentives along the way.
- Library staff and volunteers are on hand to advise and run family-friendly activities.
- Children who complete the Summer Reading Challenge are presented with a certificate and/or a medal.
- The official Challenge website hosts digital rewards, author videos, games and more for children to enjoy all summer: www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

The challenge opens on Saturday 4th July and continues through to Saturday 5th September 2026. Last year, St Margaret's won the trophy as the top 'reading school' in the area. We thank you for your support at home and hope that we can retain the title for 2026.

We look forward to seeing your medals and hearing about the books you have read, when we return in September!

Yours sincerely

K Byatt

Mrs K Byatt
English Lead