



Assisted Reading for
Children in Oxfordshire

Special Newsletter - Number Seven

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Hope you all enjoyed the bank holiday and had a good week of what would have been half term. The weather certainly behaved – unusual for a bank holiday!

The first week of June is National Volunteers Week so here is an enormous thank you from the ARCh Team for all you do.

As you can see from our zoom meeting we are still learning, next time we will make sure we mirror all images before we take a picture! Can you spot the difference?!



We miss seeing you and hope it won't be too much longer before we can resume full service!

Charlotte says "This had 1,000 pieces and shows a popular holiday destination that I like to visit (and also went to secondary school in this town for a number of years). Perhaps the volunteers can guess where it is?" - answers on a postcard perhaps?



Clare tells us "I have been enjoying puzzling. This is the latest. The marmite jigsaw is double sided.

There is an Andy Warhol marmite design on the back.

I have resorted to turning the remaining black pieces over to try and put this last bit together!"

More children have returned to schools this week. At present it is just those in year one and year 6 and we are working on ways to connect those volunteers who were working with year 6 children before lockdown. Our letter writing project is one way of course but we are also exploring the option of online communications via schools. Watch this space!

Pupil survey

As you know the ARCh service stopped abruptly in March but we are still running our annual survey of schools; this year it will evaluate the impact of 6 month support from September 2019 until March 2020.



Lockdown Lizzie

In our last newsletter we told you about the duologue that Maggie Lloyd had produced. Local press were very interested in the story and it made the Oxford Mail, Bicester Advertiser, Banbury Guardian and the Heralds!

Here is a link to the article for those who haven't seen it.

<https://www.heraldseries.co.uk/news/18473257.runaway-dog-inspires-duologue-reading-charity-arch/>

Oxford Friends of the Earth are collecting stories on the positive aspects of lockdown – whether it is walking or cycling, noticing nature or recycling more.

- Are there changes that you are going through that will stay with you?
- Are there differences in your lifestyle that you would like to see last beyond the 'lockdown' and become a permanent part of your life?
- What have you learned, done or valued during this time?
- What's been good for you, for your community – and for our environment?

You can share your lockdown learning stories and photographs or read about others' experiences here

<https://www.oxfoe.co.uk/learning-from-lockdown-how-can-we-build-back-better/>

Little Ox Press

We recently met (online in a Zoom meeting!) with Deborah Cox who has set up Little Ox Press, <https://www.littleoxpress.co.uk>, a small local publishing company encouraging adults and children to create stories together. We felt ARCh sessions provide a perfect opportunity to create such work so you may like to start thinking about this ahead of your return to schools.

Here is Deborah's message to you all:

"A creative outlet is enormously beneficial (especially at the moment), which is why Little Ox Press is providing students with an opportunity to get their work published. This is being done in partnership with Oxford University Innovation.

The submission can be in any genre (from a collection of poems, film-reviews, essays or short-stories to a picture-book) and a collaboration with an adult is required - so the child either writes or illustrates and vice versa.

I hope we will be publishing yours and your students' work soon."

We too hope that it will not be too long before some of you can get working on this project with your children.

Ultimately we will end up with a variety of pieces which will be published in an ARCh book – an exciting prospect!

Digital Update

Applying to join Oxfordshire Libraries online

Go to www.libcat.oxfordshire.gov.uk and click 'join the Library' and fill in your details. We will email your account access details back to you within 1-2 working days.

eBooks and eAudio <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ebooks>

Choose from a great range of fiction and non-fiction reading for adults and children. We are investing in more titles in response to the current situation. Download the Libby or Borrowbox apps.

eMagazines and eNews <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/enews>

Pressreader and RBdigital magazines provide thousands of UK and international titles of leisure reading or current affairs for you to read online or download. Time to garden, get creative or find out what's going on around the world through curated news content.

Digital learning and study resources <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/leisure-and-culture/libraries/reference-online/general-reference> -

Britannica Online, dictionaries and reference books provide high quality homework support and resources for personal study.

eMusic <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/leisure-and-culture/libraries/reference-online/books-and-music> - relax and enjoy the best of recordings streamed through Naxos Music Library. Over 60,000 albums to choose from.

Sign up to our **eNewsletter** www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/librariesnewsletter

Download the **Oxfordshire Libraries app** to your tablet or phone from your app store.

Lots of our digital services have their own apps, too such as Libby for Overdrive eBooks, Borrowbox, Pressreader, RBdigital Magazines and Naxos Music Library.

Online shopping

Most of us are doing more shopping online now but did you know you can support ARCh whilst you are doing this, at no extra cost to you?

Here are 2 ways to do this;

Easyfundraising

There are over 4,000 retailers including John Lewis, Argos, Uswitch, eBay, M&S, Just Eat, Now TV, Domino's Pizza and Audible ready to give a free donation every time you shop online via easyfundraising. It only takes 2 minutes to sign up.

Plus, if you sign up and raise £5 in donations, easyfundraising will give us a bonus £5 donation.

All you have to do is:

1. Go to: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/archassistedreadingforchildreninoxfordshire/?invite=190DG8&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_content=raf-e
2. Click 'support this cause' and create an account
3. Choose from over 4,000 retailers to do your online shopping as normal and our cause will receive a free donation with every purchase you make.

Amazon

You can support us by always starting your shopping at

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1146276-0> !

Thank you for your support, you'll be helping to make a real difference to ARCh

