

Hi Alpine Class,

Well I can't believe it is actually the last week of the school year! What a weird way to end. I am so sad that we did not get to finish the year together properly - I was so looking forward to going on a school trip with you, seeing you perform in the talent show and just having some fun together after we had slogged our way through the SATs. Hopefully you have enjoyed spending quality time at home with your loved ones instead and it has been awesome seeing some of you in school or in the keeping in touch sessions.



I am sure you are very excited to meet your new teacher, Mr Harlow, at your transition session on Thursday - make sure you wave at me if you see me!

There are still Purple Mash tasks set this week for you to have a go at. You can also send me an email on there if you have any problems.



I would still love to hear about what you are up to at home and see some of your pictures so keep emailing me at kowen@goatlees.kent.sch.uk.

Pupil of the Week

Millie for trying hard with Purple Mash tasks at home. Well done Millie!

Although it will soon officially be the summer holidays, I know some of you will want to keep working and challenging yourself at home. Here are some ideas to keep you busy:

*Practice your number bonds for all the numbers 1-20. Do you know all of the additions and subtractions for each number? (e.g. $0+4=4$, $1+3=4$, $2+2=4$, $3+1=4$, $4+0=4$, $4-0=4$, $4-1=3$, $4-2=2$, $4-3=1$, $4-4=0$)

*Practice your 2, 5 and 10 x tables

*Practice your 3, 4 and 8 x tables to get a head start for Year 3!

*Practice reading and writing all of the Year 1/2 common exception words (list on previous class letter week 4)

*Check out Kent Libraries summer reading challenge (info attached at the bottom of the letter)

*Complete the summer writing challenge (attached below)

*Complete the summer reading bingo (attached below)

*Have a go at some of the Maths games on <https://www.tutorhunt.com/tutor-bot/>

*Try out some of the reading tips attached to this letter

I'm sure you can all remember the wonderful Goat Fest that we held at school last summer - it was an incredible day! Although we can't have Goat Fest 2020, we thought you could hold your own festival at home, maybe you could even invite some friends or family to socially distance with you in your garden.

You could:

- *make a playlist of your favourite songs and have a rave tent - don't forget your bright clothing and glow sticks!
- *share stories with your family in the sun
- *watch <https://www.cosmickids.com/> and join in with some yoga
- *get some face paints or glitter tattoos and make your own designs
- *hold your own talent show
- *learn a song or dance and perform it to your family
- *play some sports
- *complete some craft activities, drawing or mindfulness colouring

We would love to see some pictures of you enjoying yourselves!



We want to say a huge 'Happy Birthday' to Riley J for 23rd July, to Lenny for 12th August, to Miss Wilson-Bell for 14th August and to Oscar for 21st August.

We hope you all celebrate in style!

Summer Writing Challenge
© The Mum Educates

Make a bucket list of things you want to do this summer. Date:	Write your life story. Date:	Go for a walk. Write five sentences about the walk you went on. Date:	Write a scary story. Date:	Write a letter to your friend or family. Date:
Write about the last week of school. Date:	Write a description of a garden using 5 senses. Date:	Write what you did on a rainy day. Date:	Write about the worst holiday of your life. Date:	Write swimming instructions for your younger sibling. Date:
Write a poem about summer. Date:	Write about a new exotic fruit you tasted this summer. Date:	Write about a picnic. Date:	Write about your favourite water game or activity. Date:	Write a recipe of your favourite food. Date:
Write a book review of your favourite book. Date:	Write about your favourite children's book author. Date:	Write about a magic lamp you found in the woods. Date:	Write a summer song. Date:	Write in your playhouse. Date:
Write a hilarious poem. Date:	Write about a favourite character you read in the book. Date:	Write a shopping list for your parents. Date:	Write about your favourite sport. Date:	Write a mystery story. Date:
Write a new ending for a book you read today. Date:	Write five interesting facts about summer. Date:	Write about the beach you went this summer. Date:	Write under the stars. Date:	Write what you want to achieve in your new class. Date:

Summer Reading BINGO

READ OUTSIDE	READ TO A STUFFED ANIMAL	READ TO SOMEONE ELSE	READ WHILE WEARING A HAT	UNDER THE COVERS
READ ON A BEACH TOWEL	READ ON A FRIDAY	READ IN A CAR	READ A NON-FICTION BOOK	WHILE EATING BREAKFAST
READ AFTER DINNER	READ UNDER A TREE	FREE SPACE	READ ON THE COUCH	READ SITTING ON THE FLOOR
READ IN A SWIMSUIT	READ WITH A FLASHLIGHT	READ IN A FORT	READ POETRY	READ TO SOMEONE ON THE PHONE
READ SOMETHING THAT CAME IN THE MAIL	READ TO YOUR PET	READ IN SOMEONE ELSE'S BED	READ IN YOUR PAJAMAS	READ A BOOK ABOUT ANIMALS

I know you will join with me in thanking all of the wonderful Teaching Assistants that have helped in our class this year and we wish Mr Kent and Mrs Catmull the best of luck as they leave Goat Lees Primary School for their new ventures! We will really miss you!



We also say goodbye to Sasha who has relocated during lockdown - we will have to answer the dinner register 'Bangers and Sash' to remember you!

Have a great summer and we look forward to seeing you when we return to school!

Love Mrs Owen, Mr Kent, Miss Wilson-Bell, Mrs Cooper and Mrs Catmull



10 Top Tips to Encourage Children to Read

1. Encourage your child to read

Reading helps your child's wellbeing, develops imagination and has educational benefits too. Just a few minutes a day can have a big impact on children of all ages.

2. Read aloud regularly

Try to read to your child every day. It's a special time to snuggle up and enjoy a story. Stories matter and children love re-reading them and poring over the pictures. Try adding funny voices to bring characters to life.

3. Encourage reading choice

Give children lots of opportunities to read different things in their own time - it doesn't just have to be books. There's fiction, non-fiction, poetry, comics, magazines, recipes and much more. Try leaving interesting reading material in different places around the home and see who picks it up.

4. Read together

Choose a favourite time to read together as a family and enjoy it. This might be everyone reading the same book together, reading different things at the same time, or getting your children to read to each other. This time spent reading together can be relaxing for all.

5. Create a comfortable environment

Make a calm, comfortable place for your family to relax and read independently - or together.

6. Make use of your local library

Libraries in England are able to open from 4 July, so visit them when you're able to and explore all sorts of reading ideas. Local libraries also offer brilliant online materials, including audiobooks and ebooks to borrow. See [Libraries Connected](#) for more digital library services and resources.

7. Talk about books

This is a great way to make connections, develop understanding and make reading even more enjoyable. Start by discussing the front cover and talking about what it reveals and suggests the book could be about. Then talk about what you've been reading and share ideas. You could discuss something that happened that surprised you, or something new that you found out. You could talk about how the book makes you feel and whether it reminds you of anything.

8. Bring reading to life

You could try cooking a recipe you've read together. Would you recommend it to a friend? Alternatively, play a game where you pretend to be the characters in a book, or discuss an interesting article you've read.

9. Make reading active

Play games that involve making connections between pictures, objects and words, such as reading about an object and finding similar things in your home. You could organise treasure hunts related to what you're reading. Try creating your child's very own book by using photos from your day and adding captions.

10. Engage your child in reading in a way that suits them

You know your child best and you'll know the best times for your child to read. If they have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) then short, creative activities may be the way to get them most interested. If English is an additional language, encourage reading in a child's first language, as well as in English. What matters most is that they enjoy it.



Media release

8 June 2020

The Reading Agency and Libraries Present



SILLY SQUAD



Summer Reading Challenge 2020

sillysquad.org.uk

Illustrations © Laura Ellen Anderson 2020



The Summer Reading Challenge is back!

The popular annual Summer Reading Challenge for children aged 4-11 is under way once more through KCC's libraries service – despite the library buildings themselves being currently closed.

This year's theme is "Silly Squad" which is all about funny books, happiness and things that make us laugh. Children taking part in the challenge will join the Silly Squad, an adventurous team of animals who love to have a laugh and get stuck into many different kinds of funny books.

Children's reading can dip during the long summer holidays if they do not have regular access to books and encouragement to read for pleasure, and the annual Summer Reading Challenge is intended to address this.

Last year 19,111 Kent children took part in the Summer Reading Challenge (Space Chase – 2019) – with 11,175 children completing the Challenge - significant increases of 12% and 15% respectively on 2018.

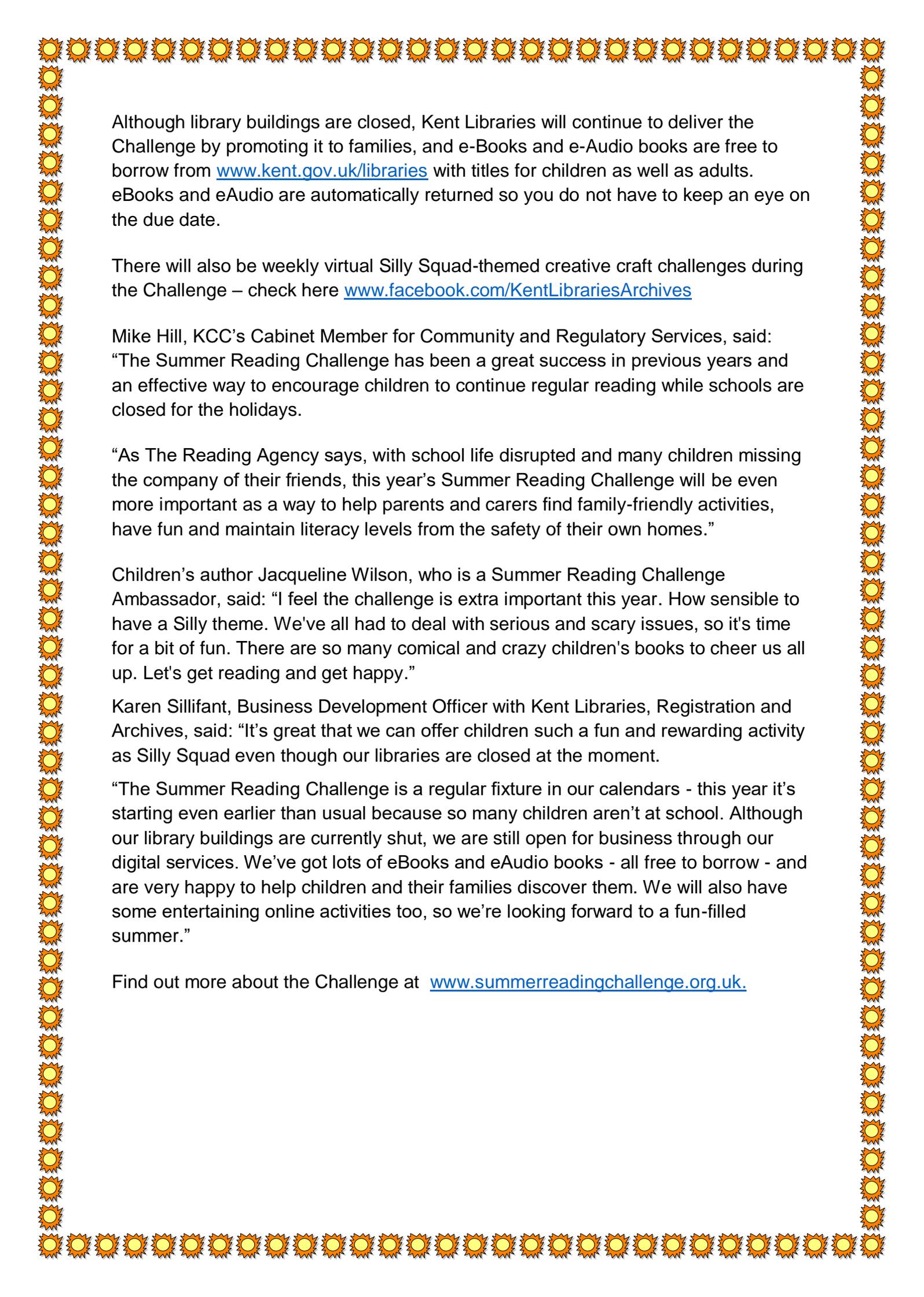
Usually children visit their local library to register and collect a wallet, stickers and other rewards as they progress through the challenge, reading a total of six books.

However, with the disruption caused by COVID-19 causing public libraries to be currently closed, the 2020 Challenge will work in a different way. For the first time In Kent, it is going to be a digital-only activity to keep children reading and support parents and carers with children already at home.

Silly Squad launched on Friday with a special day of curated virtual events on the [Summer Reading Challenge's Facebook page](#). It includes special super silly readings, family activities and draw-a-longs from guest celebrities and authors. The challenge then runs through the summer until the end of September.

The digital challenge is free to access, featuring games, quizzes and downloadable activities to incentivise and encourage children and their families to take part in reading related activities at home.

Children can choose their own reading goals, create book reviews, play games and collect virtual rewards. Parents and guardians can register their children online at www.sillysquad.org.uk via the safe, sign-up process.



Although library buildings are closed, Kent Libraries will continue to deliver the Challenge by promoting it to families, and e-Books and e-Audio books are free to borrow from www.kent.gov.uk/libraries with titles for children as well as adults. eBooks and eAudio are automatically returned so you do not have to keep an eye on the due date.

There will also be weekly virtual Silly Squad-themed creative craft challenges during the Challenge – check here www.facebook.com/KentLibrariesArchives

Mike Hill, KCC’s Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services, said: “The Summer Reading Challenge has been a great success in previous years and an effective way to encourage children to continue regular reading while schools are closed for the holidays.

“As The Reading Agency says, with school life disrupted and many children missing the company of their friends, this year’s Summer Reading Challenge will be even more important as a way to help parents and carers find family-friendly activities, have fun and maintain literacy levels from the safety of their own homes.”

Children’s author Jacqueline Wilson, who is a Summer Reading Challenge Ambassador, said: “I feel the challenge is extra important this year. How sensible to have a Silly theme. We’ve all had to deal with serious and scary issues, so it’s time for a bit of fun. There are so many comical and crazy children’s books to cheer us all up. Let’s get reading and get happy.”

Karen Sillifant, Business Development Officer with Kent Libraries, Registration and Archives, said: “It’s great that we can offer children such a fun and rewarding activity as Silly Squad even though our libraries are closed at the moment.

“The Summer Reading Challenge is a regular fixture in our calendars - this year it’s starting even earlier than usual because so many children aren’t at school. Although our library buildings are currently shut, we are still open for business through our digital services. We’ve got lots of eBooks and eAudio books - all free to borrow - and are very happy to help children and their families discover them. We will also have some entertaining online activities too, so we’re looking forward to a fun-filled summer.”

Find out more about the Challenge at www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk.