

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I am writing to share some of the exciting activities available through the library service this summer.

On Tuesday 14 July, we'll be welcoming children's author Ali Sparkes who will be hosting a Zoom session to talk about her experiences as a writer. Ali's sessions are always hugely entertaining and we hope that this virtual opportunity will reach new audiences. This is a great opportunity for children to meet a real life artist and perhaps discover new reading choices. This is a FREE event and booking is on Eventbrite (link - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/live-virtual-childrens-author-talk-with-ali-sparkes-tickets-112449942806?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch>).

The Summer Reading Challenge continues online at www.sillysquad.org.uk and will run until September 2020.

- Children register and set their own target for their challenge
- They read or listen to books, comics etc. that make them happy!
- Adding each completed book to their online profile will give a reward of online badges, games and videos
- When their challenge is complete children download their certificate
- Children can take part using our digital lending services, or what they have at home. When libraries reopen, they'll be able to borrow library books.
 - [eBooks and audiobooks](#)
 - [Digital comics](#)
- Children who are not library members can join online for instant access to our digital services; they will be sent a library card when libraries reopen.

Dorset Council's Library Services are offering a range of activities to support the Challenge and keep children engaged with reading and the arts during the Summer holidays.

- They'll be inviting children to submit a drawing for inclusion in a short animation as part of our drawing challenge – more information to follow.
- Storytelling with Mama G will take place on Tuesday 11 August. This Zoom event will be bookable on Eventbrite.
- They'll have regular activities on our Facebook page throughout the summer holidays including creative activities, Storytime, Lego challenges, author blogs and more.
- Arts Award Discover, administered by Trinity College London is available to all children aged 5+. This introductory qualification in the Arts is designed to get children and young people engaged with and excited about the arts in the broadest sense. The attachment 'Discover at Home' is a guide for parents, which takes them through each stage of the award. Taking part through Dorset Libraries is FREE and families will need to contact DLSlibrarians@dorsetcc.gov.uk to register and they will be able to guide them through the process as required, moderate their work and order their certificates. All of the activities outlined above could be included in Arts Award Discover.

You can keep up to date with library news and activities by signing up for their [newsletter](#).

We hope to see as many of our children at West Moors Middle School engage in these wonderful summer opportunities.

Best wishes

Dr Craddock
Headteacher

