

As part of our celebrations for World Book Day, and our bid to promote a love of reading in all our schools, we signed up to support Team Evie's Reading Challenge, which we launched on World Book Day.

Team Evie is a charity based in West Cumbria which was set up by Greg and Jill Johnston, in memory of their daughter, Evie. Their mission is to help sick children and their families who face similar challenges to those Evie faced in her all too short life. This mission is achieved by supporting 20 different wards and medical teams across the North East and Cumbria by raising vital funds to buy physiotherapy equipment, sensory equipment, comfort items, portable libraries, TVs, iPads for patients and staff training, Christmas and Easter hampers, breaks away for bereaved families and much, much more.

Greg from Team Evie visited all our schools to introduce the challenge, and to talk to the children about Team Evie. All the children were given a sponsor card (along with a book mark each!) and asked to set themselves an appropriate challenge to complete in a week. Using the money raised from the reading challenges, Team Evie provide portable library trolleys for children's wards in hospitals. Every book purchased using money raised in a school includes a message to say which school have provided it. We might even raise enough money to have a full library of books with our name on! Reading to children in hospital has been proven to aid children's recovery, strengthen family bonds and also provide some normality in difficult times. We look forward to getting our final total raised once the challenge is complete!

To find out more about Team Evie, visit www.teamevie.org

