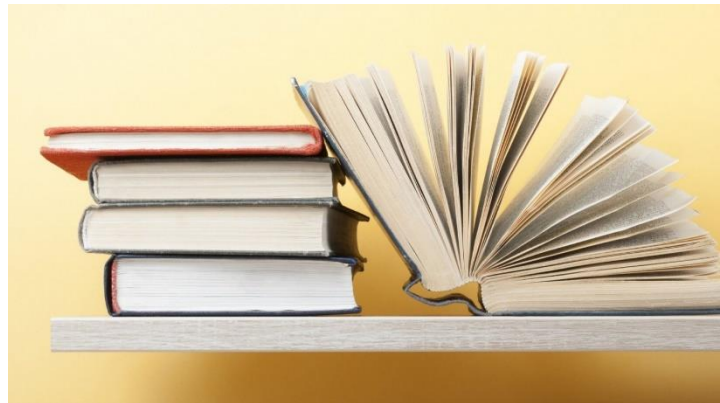


## Resources to support reading for pleasure and progress at home

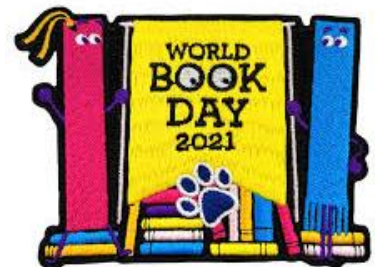
We are keen to support our students and families with ideas and resources to encourage reading during Lockdown. We believe in supporting the whole family, so many of the links and resources will be useful for younger children also.



1. Authorfy has interactive resources, videos and activities to support children's reading and writing <https://authorfy.com/about/>. These 10 minute videos with challenges by acclaimed children's authors are brilliant <https://authorfy.com/10minutechallenges/>, as are these Masterclasses (you can filter by age): <https://authorfy.com/masterclasses/>



2. The World Book Day site has an 'Author and Illustrator Academy' with videos, resources and book extracts for all ages and stages. <https://www.worldbookday.com/online-masterclasses/>. For 3 students, I highly recommend Matthew Syed (*You are Awesome* – about a growth mindset) and for older students, Malorie Blackman & Patrice Lawrence (*Noughts and Crosses* & *Orangeboy*); plus Muhammed Khan (*Kick the Moon*). Sophie Henn has a video to teach students how to create their own comic book characters. The World Book Day site has also just started a 'Book Ideas Hub' with links and resources to encourage children (of all ages) to read, write and draw for pleasure. <https://www.worldbookday.com/2020/03/book-ideas-hub-brilliant-stay-at-home-ideas-free-resources/>

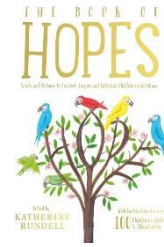


3. This site encourages young people to keep a 'Lockdown Diary' to help with mental health and to bring some fun into these stressful times. You can select the appropriate age (early years- age 7; 8-12; and teen- YA) and then you will find videos by authors and educators talking to young people in a compassionate way and offering suggestions for their diaries. <https://www.ourcoronadiary.com/how-to-join-in/>. For example, the author of the superb book



*How to Be Extraordinary* (highly recommended!) has a video about the magic of questions -- perfect for KS2/3 children. <https://www.ourcoronadiary.com/post/rashmi-sirdeshpande-the-question-diary>

4. The Book of Hopes is a free eBook with short stories, poems & drawings is perfect during a time of crisis; it is great for KS3. <https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/book-hopes/>.



5. One unexpected advantage of the current situation is that literary festivals (which used to be expensive and involved travel) are now free and available to all. Just last week, the Northern YA Literary Festival took place; young people can watch the recordings of interviews with fabulous authors for free: <https://nyalitfest.wordpress.com/programme/>. Sessions with YA authors include 'How to Get Published', 'Women at War', 'Myths, Magic & Legends', 'Last One to Die' (horror/supernatural), 'Map-making with Vashti Hardy', and 'Mystery-solving, code-cracking and daring detectives.' As part of this event, the 'Voices' panel explores the untold historical stories of people from diverse backgrounds



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gkr50A017lw&feature=youtu.be>.

Similarly, The Hay Festival had a wonderful series of talks (available for free via 'Hay Player') for young people of all ages: <http://www.hayfestival.com/education>

6. There are several authors reading aloud their books on a daily basis (with recordings on YouTube) or providing free videos/books/resources:



- Don't miss Cressida Cowell (Children's Laureate) reading aloud her books, including *How to Train Your Dragon* and *The Wizard of Once*. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe01xn13M8q2dslw0mvW9lg>
- Also wonderful are the Piers Torday videos: he is reading aloud *The Dark Wild*, which is the story about a virus which has hit the animal world, and a vaccine that has just been developed...<https://www.youtube.com/c/piersftorday/featured>.
- Tom Palmer, known for his hugely popular football fiction (sometimes linked to war) has multiple free reads on his site <https://tompalmer.co.uk/free-reads/>. He also has engaging and helpful videos to support creative writing: <https://tompalmer.co.uk/writing-tips/>. In addition, he has a YouTube channel where he reads aloud extracts and offers tips. Palmer's new book, *After the War*, is about

children who survived the Holocaust and who started a new life in the Lake District. It is well-researched and he has multiple resources linked to Holocaust Memorial Day which was in the 27<sup>th</sup> January. <https://tompalmer.co.uk/holocaust-memorial-day-resources-and-competition/>

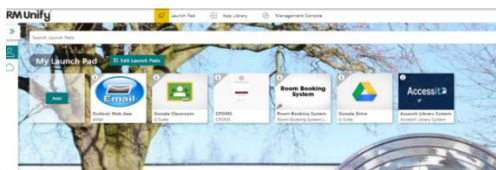
7. “Click and Collect Service” from The Astley Cooper Library



**Student Web App User Guide**

- Log on to the school network using your username and password

- Launch RM Unify



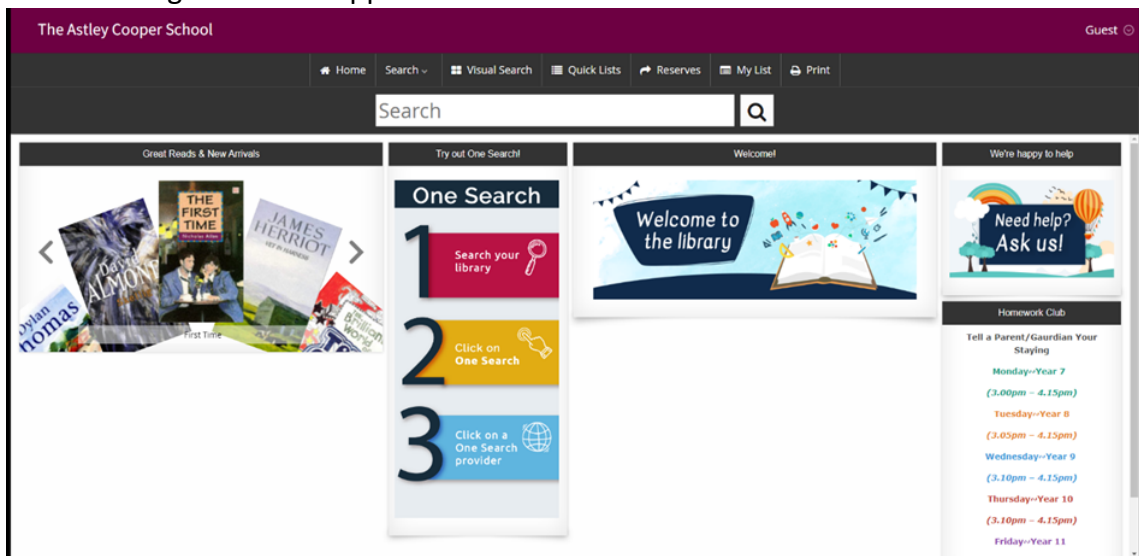
via google chrome



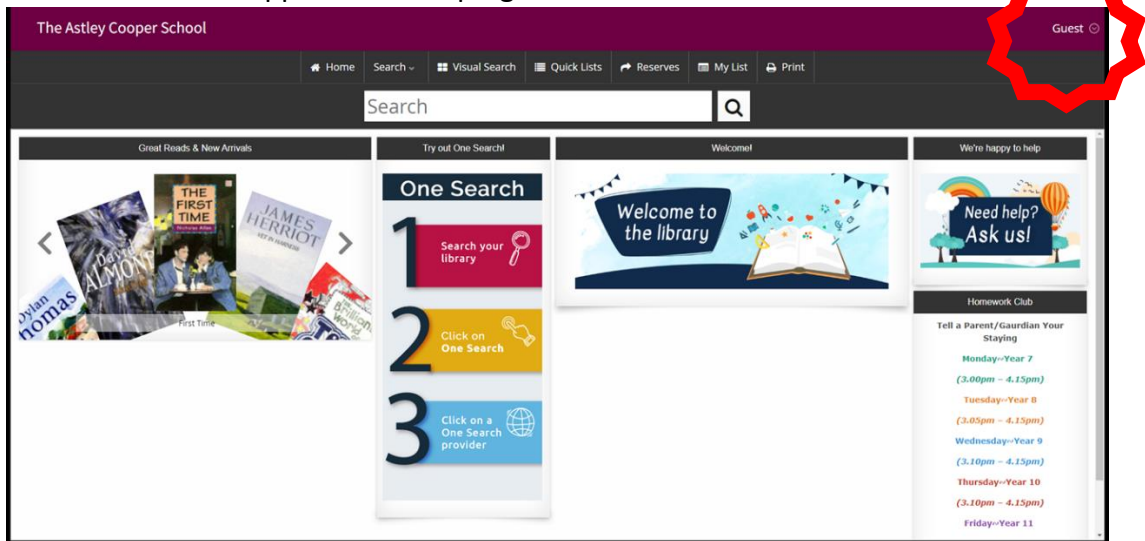
(If the Accessit tile does not appear on you launch pad, search for the tile within the RM Unify App Library and add it to ‘your launch pad’.)

- Select the  tile in RM Unify

- The following screen will appear



- Your name should appear in the top right hand corner

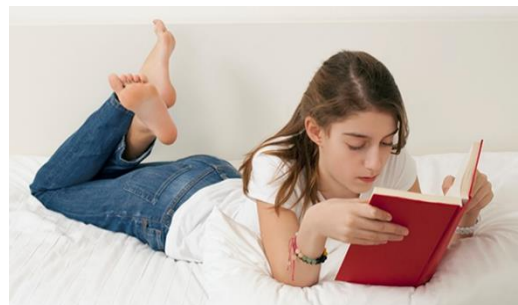


- Please watch the following video on the features of the Accessit Student App

<https://player.vimeo.com/video/251566741>

- Collecting and Returning Books – during break and lunch times only

- Monday – Year 7 & 6<sup>th</sup> Form
- Tuesday – Year 8 & 6<sup>th</sup> Form
- Wednesday - Year 9
- Thursday – Year 10
- Friday – Year 11



If you have any problems or questions please email:  
***library@astleycooper.herts.sch.uk***