Ratho Library participates in the 'Gadgeteers' Summer Reading Challenge launching 25th June 2022

Dear parents & carers,

This summer, children aged 4-11 can visit Ratho Library to meet the Gadgeteers and to get involved in a science and innovation themed Summer Reading Challenge, brought to you in partnership with The Reading Agency and Science Museum Group.

Through taking part in the Challenge, with free materials from Ratho Library and online via the Challenge website, children will be able to join six fictional Gadgeteers. The characters – brought to life by children's writer and illustrator Julian Beresford – use their curiosity and wonder to understand the science behind a whole range of interests, from fashion and technology to cooking and music.

Through an exciting book collection and accompanying activities, the Gadgeteers will help to spark children's curiosity about the world around them, and encourage them to feed their imagination over the summer holiday. They will be boggled by brilliant facts, gaze at the stars, and be inspired by tales of creativity and invention.

Background:

The Summer Reading Challenge reaches over 700,000 children across the UK each year in partnership with public libraries. The Challenge continued to reach well over half a million children across the UK in 2021 as lockdowns eased, motivating children to keep reading during a difficult time. Families told The Reading Agency that taking part in the Summer Reading Challenge helped their children to enjoy reading more, feel more confident about reading and 'feel better' during a tough period. Family use of libraries also increased amongst Challenge participants, with more than 130,000 children joining the library as new members.

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Since 1999, the popular Challenge has encouraged children to read for pleasure over the summer holidays, building reading skills and confidence and helping to prevent the 'dip' in reading skills while children are out of school. By providing fun reading activities, the Challenge will support families and teachers by providing free-to-access recreation and learning resources – all created to keep children inspired to read. The digital Summer Reading Challenge platform will encourage children with limited physical access to the library to take part in the Challenge.

Karen Napier, CEO, The Reading Agency said: "We're delighted to see how library partners across the country are organising their own events and activities to support this year's Summer Reading Challenge. We are really looking forward to working closely with them to help get children reading, innovating, and sparking their imaginations this summer."

Ratho Library

- Temporary Provision June 2022
  We will be operating on a temporary basis in **Room 6 at Ratho Community Centre from Monday 6th June** whilst the Library vehicle undergoes essential mechanical maintenance. We will be in Room 6 on **Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays 10am – 1.30pm.**
- Services in Room 6 at Ratho Community Centre:
  - Return books; Collect & place reservations; Collect hearing aid batteries, Distance Aware lanyards & food waste bags; Apply for National Entitlement Cards; Browse limited stock
- Our location for the Library vehicle is at **Hillview Cottages**, visit facebook.com/RathoLibrary & Ratho Library for updates.

ratho.library@edinburgh.gov.uk | 0131 333 5297

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