

Summer Library Newsletter

Summer term already! It doesn't seem any time ago when we were welcoming the new Year 3's into the library for the start of their Junior journey. Now they are enthusiastic visitors to the library and a group of them have become excellent librarians. Speaking of librarians I must say a huge thank you to you all. You have been a real asset not only in the library but to the whole school and it was wonderful to see that recognised in our Ofsted report. You are true ambassadors for reading for pleasure in our school.

The Year Six librarians have been particularly dedicated and I would like to thank a group of them for arranging the last display in the library for this academic year. They organised and researched the entire project and I think they have produced a display which will encourage all children to look at some new books.

I usually find a quote to start these newsletters but this time I am using some of the quotes which the children have used in their display:

“ There is no friend as loyal as a book”

“ A book is not an escape from life but a short cut to a better one”

“ In the end we all become stories”

I will definitely be using these inspiring quotes in future newsletters - thank you Year Six.



There is nothing more satisfying than pairing up a child with the “right” book. Finding the right book may involve a little bit of extra work – but it is so worth it in the end.

“This book is too hard! This book is too easy!”

Finding a book at a good reading level for your child can be a challenge. Parents often seek a “just right” book: not too hard, but not too easy, but don’t be afraid to introduce your child to books that stretch their reading skills — that will help them grow as readers. You can offer support by helping your child sound out tricky words and talking about words they may not know yet. Ask questions about the story or text to help your child build their reading comprehension.

At the end of this newsletter there are a few titles which could prove to be the “right” book for your child. These suggestions are taken from the site “Love Reading 4 Kids” a very good resource for keeping up to date with recommended books. There is a particularly good article called “40 Great Bedtime Stories For the Under 5’s.”

<https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/blog/40-great-bedtime-stories-for-the-under-5s-6096>

There has been a lot of research this year on reading for pleasure and the results are quite alarming. The statistics show that many children do not get read to regularly. Harper Collins the children’s publisher reported that:

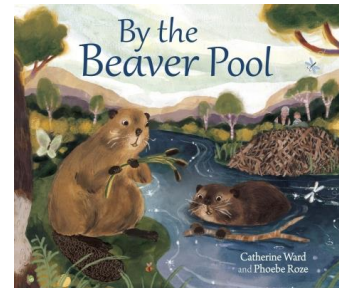
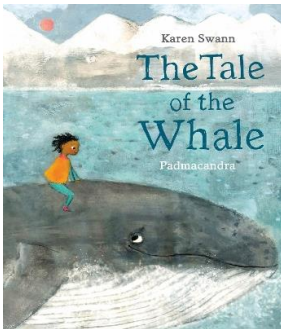
“One of the most striking findings was that, despite reading aloud to children being a proven way to boost their enjoyment of reading, the number of parents reading aloud to children is at an all-time low,”

The report also highlighted that boys and girls are treated differently, with only **29% of 0-to-2-year-old boys read to “every day/nearly every day”, compared to 44% of girls** in the same age group. Only **36% of 5-to-7 and 22% of 8 -to-10-year-olds are read to regularly at home**, according to the data of almost 2,000 people. The research also revealed that many parents do not find enjoyment in reading to their children, with only **40% of parents saying it is “fun for me”**. Parents face increasing pressures, with **34% of parents of 0-to-13s wishing they had more time to read to their children**.

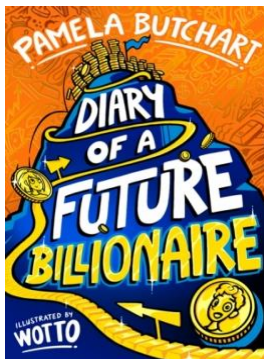
Having the time to read with your child seems to be the major issue nowadays as well as having to compete with screens etc. Bedtime can be the perfect time to read out loud to your child – starting right from the beginning of their lives and continuing right to teenage (and beyond). So here are a few suggestions of new books that would be great for reading out loud to your child. Many of these books have extracts on the Reading4Kids site so you can test it out on your child.

Have a wonderful summer and if you are lucky enough to be going away don't forget to pack those books!

Younger children



Years 3-4



Pamela Butchart – a huge favourite of our library and all her books are hilarious to read aloud. This is her latest book.

Fast-paced and outrageously funny, James Davis' debut book sees its heroine embark on a madcap intergalactic adventure that fizzes with energy.



A time travel adventure story – great one for reading out loud. Josh Lacey weaves history into his adventures and this book really describes Viking times – warning the battle descriptions are quite gory!

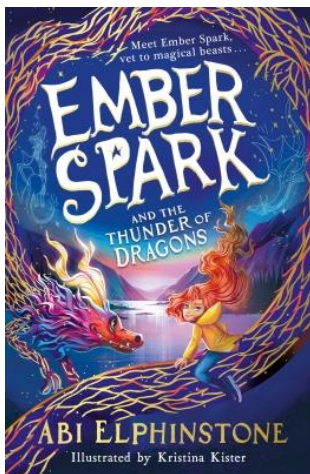
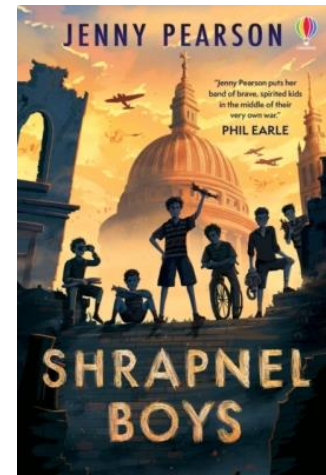
Years 5-6 and young adult (bearing in mind Year 6 will soon be Year 7)



This is a young adult book but I have included it because it is so relevant for today's children. Two VERY different boys with one big thing in common – Existor is an online gaming sensation, Fred is the friendless school loser. Nobody knows they're the same person!

If your child has been inspired by the recent 80th anniversary of VE Day this is a perfect new book.

This gripping story is about the lives of a group of young boys living in London at the start of the war. Twelve year old Ronnie, his younger brother Micky and his best friend Lugs are the self-styled Shrapnel Boys, full of banter and bravado, but there is danger overhead – not just from the planes. Recommended for reluctant boy readers.



Another very popular author in our library. I have chosen this book as it is the first book of a series of 3. Children do seem to really enjoy a series of stories and this one will not disappoint. Ember Spark, an inquisitive ten-year-old has “an unusual gift with animals”. She discovers that magic is all around us as she is catapulted into a thrilling adventure.

All of these books are great for reading out loud to your children and all should encourage discussion around themes of the story. A final quote from Harper Collins for all of us to bear in mind:

Children who are read to daily are almost three times as likely to choose to read independently compared to children who are only read to weekly at home. It's never too late to start, or resume, reading with children.

Happy summer reading to everyone!