

Bury and Whitefield's Reading Newsletter



Introduction

Welcome back to Bury and Whitefield's reading newsletter; your home for all things 'book-ish'. This month hosts my favourite event of the year – and yours too I hope – as it's World Book Day! There are a range of brilliant books to choose from this year; truly something for everyone. It makes sense then that this month's theme is World Book Day. That means all themed suggestions will be from the selection of £1 WBD books that you can buy using your voucher.

Thank you to those of you who sent me pictures of your furry friends, they made me smile a lot! Here are some of your beautiful pets:



Reading at BWJPS

At Bury and Whitefield, we understand the importance of reading and aim to develop fluent readers who not only can read but enjoy reading. These wish lists are frequently updated to avoid multiple copies being purchased and to ensure they consistently offer an up-to-date selection. As always, our wish lists can be found on your child's class page (on our school website) or in this newsletter.

EYFS: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/>

Y1: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2PS0FETXIL21C>
...

Y2: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/YH5HJ18NF0LZ>
...

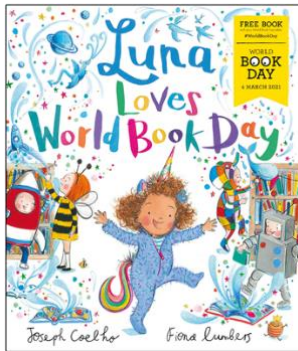
Y3: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3DZGBMFS8GM5V...>

Y4: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/71EK0739YJCH>
...

Y5: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/Z5YGGCC81RM3>
...

Y6: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3F3MPPM8THCC EW...>

“A book is a dream that you hold in your hands.” – Neil Gaiman



EYFS Recommendation

Luna Loves World Book Day (Joseph Coelho)

A stunning little picture book which truly captures the essence of World Book Day, from buying books to picking an outfit. Unfortunately, Luna's outfit rips and her day is close to being ruined. Will Dad save the day?

EYFS children will love seeing similar activities to their own; it truly is a happy read and it has a unicorn!

Years 1 and 2 Recommendation

Protect the Planet (Jess French)

This book has a stunning environmental message that if you treat all people, planets, animals and yourself with kindness, then you can protect the planet.

There are tricky terms throughout the book but the glossary and colourful illustrations allow the book to be understood and enjoyed as a family. This is a book children could flick through time and again and keep learning. Brilliant topic.

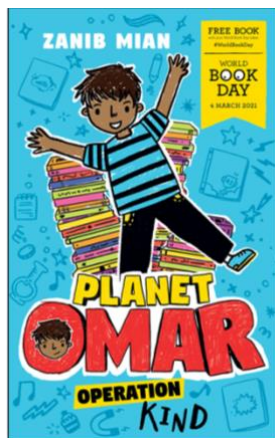


Years 3 and 4 Recommendation

Planet Omar: Operation Kind (Zanib Mian)

Omar has a huge imagination and an even bigger heart so when Daniel's little sister, Suzy, needs to have an operation, it is his mission to cheer her up. Unfortunately, his ideas do not always go to plan and he runs into a lot of annoying – but hilarious – issues. Join Omar on his mission to see if he succeeds and have some belly laughs along the way.

Great choice for children just starting chapter books.



Years 5 and 6 Recommendation

Skulduggery Pleasant: Apocalypse Kings (Derek Landy)

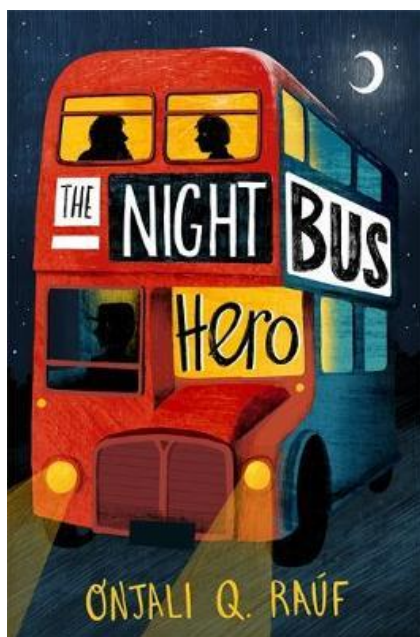
Skulduggery Pleasant, a skeleton-detective, is back with Valkyrie Cain, a teen heroine, to save the day and this time they are up against three ancient gods set to destroy the planet!

Readers of the Skulduggery series will know how wonderful these books are. Skulduggery is always one step ahead of catastrophe and is ready for action. His wit and humour keep the series light-hearted despite an action-heavy plot. This is a brilliant choice for those who have not read Landy's work before, as it gives a good trial to what are quite a lengthy series.



Miss Pereira's Books of the Month

Children's Fiction



The Night Bus Hero (Onjali Q. Rauf) – 8+

Onjali Q. Rauf has done it again! Hector is an unusual protagonist in that he is a school bully. However, the story follows Hector as he bullies everybody in his path, even a poor, old, homeless man. It is this prank-gone-wrong that changes Hector's life and forces him on a path from horror to hero.

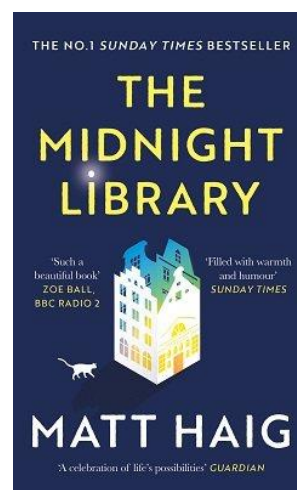
This book has an important social message for children but is also a brilliant whodunnit as we try to solve the mysterious and slightly odd crimes that are cropping up over London. Can Hector find friendship with Mei-Li and get to the bottom of these crimes? Can Hector find the error of his ways and help save the day? A brilliant book for children in Years 4 and upwards. It is written with empathy and shows the meaning of friendship, kindness and change. Another successful book for Onjali Q. Rauf.

Adult's Fiction

The Midnight Library (Matt Haig)

Unfortunately I have not had the chance to read this yet but this has been highly recommended by many and it is top of pile. Let me know if you beat me to it.

Somewhere out beyond the edge of the universe there is a library that contains an infinite number of books, each one the story of another reality. One tells the story of your life as it is, along with another book for the other life you could have lived if you had made a different choice at any point in your life. While we all wonder how our lives might have been, what if you had the chance to go to the library and see for yourself? Would any of these other lives truly be better? This is an enchanting new novel about all the choices that go into a life well lived.

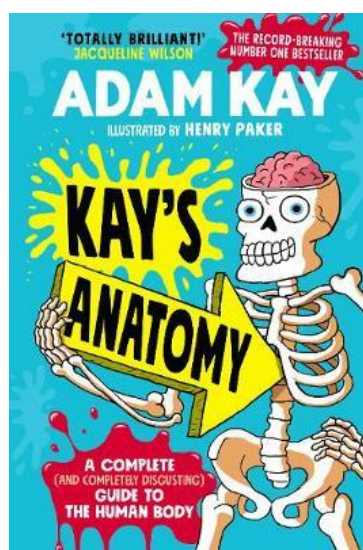


Children's and Adult's Non-Fiction

Kay's Anatomy: A Complete (and Completely Disgusting) Guide to the Human Body (Adam Kay)

Kay's Anatomy was actually recommended to me by Mischa (Y6) in our book club and any book that a child recommends is a brilliant book to me.

Hugely entertaining **AND** informative, this non-fiction text tells you everything you ever wanted to know about the human body. Complex – yet funny – facts, combined with explanatory diagrams and amusing cartoons, make this book as unputdownable as a novel. What I like most about this book is how Kay tackles the trickier topics, offering advice about junk food, smoking and the importance of washing! Though I think your child's favourite part may be 'True or Poo'. This book would be genuinely useful as a text book and is a no-brainer for any children that enjoy non-fiction texts.



“You can’t buy happiness but you can buy books and that’s kind of the same thing.” – Unknown

Developing Sequencing and Summarising Skills for Reading

Sequencing requires the key points of a story to be put into chronological order. Summarising means recalling the main points or ideas. A reader must first learn to sequence a text, retell a text using the language of the text, then put it into their own words (paraphrase) and finally select the most important ideas to sum up what the author has told them.

Summarising is an important skill as it:

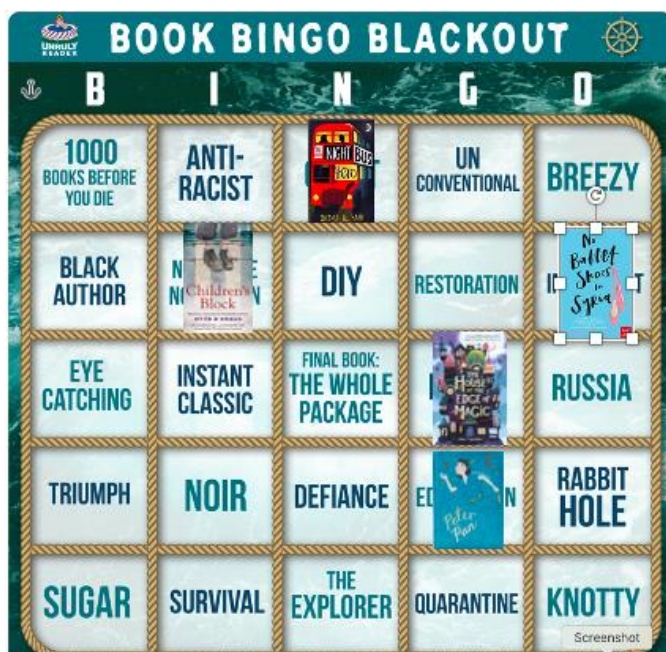
- aids comprehension and understanding skills
- helps students learn to determine essential ideas and consolidate important details
- enables students to focus on key words and phrases

Ways to develop sequencing/ summarising:

- write down the key points of a well-known story, cut them up and ask your child to put them in order
- ask your child to summarise the plot of a story in 15 words or less
- have your child act out the key points of a story in 3 freeze frames
- ask your child to make a comic strip version of their book – summarising it in 4, 6 or 8 pictures
- have them answer the 6 key questions: who, what, where, when, why and how
- ask your child to summarise what they have read in 30 seconds

Reading Challenge Update

I have been very busy this month so haven’t had as much reading time as I would have liked. I have added two books to my reading challenge, ‘The Children’s Block’ and ‘The Night Bus Hero’ and am half way through a third. I wouldn’t recommend ‘The Children’s Block’ (an adult’s book) as I found the plot disjointed. However, ‘The Night Bus Hero’ (a children’s book) was brilliant as you can read above. As always, I welcome any suggestions for upcoming reads.



Category	Title	Rating
Quest	The Night Bus Hero (age 8+)	4/5
Narrative Non-Fiction	The Children’s Block (16+)	1/5

Feedback

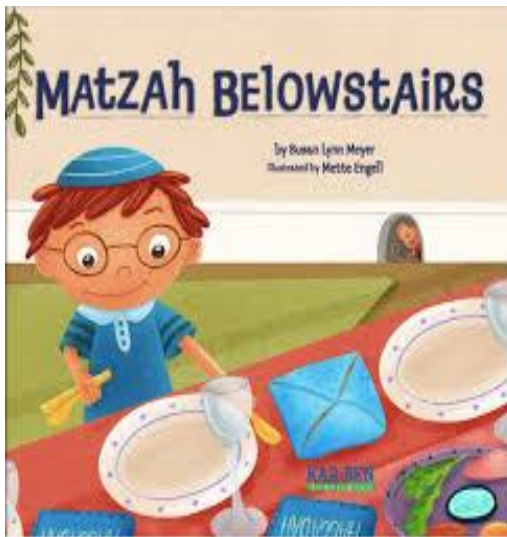
It was great to receive emails containing pictures of your pets last month. I would love to keep this interaction going so feel free to pop an email to c.pereira@bwjps.org.uk with any ideas, suggestions or reading-related pictures. 😊

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” – Dr. Seuss



Jewish Studies Book of the Month

Matzah Belowstairs (Susan Lynn Meyer)



“Abovestairs” the Winklers are humans having their Pesach seder while “belowstairs” the mouse family can’t start their seder without any matzah. The Winklers have a new tin box in which their matzah is stored. Thankfully, Miriam mouse gets her opportunity to get Mariah, when dad Winkler hides the afikomen under the bookcase! But the piece of matzah is too big to fit through the tiny mouse hole, where Miriam struggles to take it for her family’s seder. When little Eli Winkler finds the afikomen and spots Miriam struggling to get it inside, the two decide to share it. The mouse family is finally able to begin their seder.

Young readers will enjoy learning about Pesach, whilst parents and teachers can share the history and story behind the holiday. Colourful illustrations and easy to read sentences will engage younger readers in this story.

Upcoming Events

March is a brilliant month for reading with tons of fun reading events for all the family!

Carnegie Children’s Book Awards March	March brings the release of the Carnegie Book Awards shortlist. Reading activities takes place from March to June; from the moment that the shortlists are revealed to the final winners announcement. https://www.cilip.org.uk/
British Book Awards March	Literary awards celebrating the commercial successes of publishers, authors and bookshops, administered by The Bookseller. Look out for the British Book Awards Children’s Fiction Book of the Year Shortlist and the Children’s Illustrated & Non-Fiction Book of the Year Shortlist. https://www.thebookseller.com/british-book-awards
World Book Day 4 th March	World Book Day is a registered charity on a mission to give every child and young person a book of their own. It’s also a celebration of authors, illustrators, books and (most importantly) it’s a celebration of reading. Visit https://www.worldbookday.com/ or https://shop.scholastic.co.uk/scholastic-live-world-book-day for a range of activities.
Shakespeare Week w/c 15 th March	Shakespeare Week is a national annual celebration provided by the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust for people of all ages and stages of interest. https://www.shakespeareweek.org.uk/
World Storytelling Day 20 th March	World Storytelling Day (WSD) is a project to promote oral storytelling by inspiring people all over the world to organize events. The goal is to have as many people tell and listen to stories at as many places and in as many languages as possible.
World Poetry Day 21 st March	World Poetry Day serves to promote the reading, writing, publishing and teaching of poetry throughout the world so why not curl up and read your favourite poem. http://www.un.org/en/events/poetryday/

Happy reading!
Miss Pereira

