



Reading Newsletter

Spring 2



Welcome to our fourth newsletter of the year. We hope your children are enjoying being back in school after lockdown.

This term's newsletter gives you an update on our World Book Day events, our new literacy leaders, and some recommendations from learners across school of the books they have been reading.

As always we welcome your feedback. Many of you have requested more rewards for those who read physical books, and this newsletter will give you more information about that. Do please keep the ideas coming. Email me with any suggestions and we will aim to act on as much as we can.

Mrs Emery

(Reading and Literacy Coordinator)

Bay Tree Books- Glossop- News

We were really sad to discover that Bay Tree Books in Glossop will be closing its doors soon and is looking for new ownership. Sarah Woolley has been the manager of this local gem for 17 years and the comments on her Facebook page show just how much the community value her. She re-opens her doors on April 13th, and is selling all stock with 25% discount. Please do pay the store a visit, and if your child has a voucher they received from us, do ensure they spend it before she closes.

We would like to wish Sarah all the best in her future endeavours, and hope that somebody takes the reins with this wonderful community bookshop soon.



The Importance of Reading for Pleasure By Louis Kidger- Year 10

Reading, whatever the genre, exposes one to a vast array of ideas, of concepts, and of language that, in world, will lead ultimately to a greater understanding of how we live. From fiction we can better understand the nature of true humanity; from non-fiction we can learn in depth about the world in which we live; from essays we can learn and form opinions and arguments based upon their subjects; and, I believe, a truly great book manages to be an amalgamation of the three.

The mental advantages of reading are clear to be seen.

Reading is also so much more than a process of simply learning. We often all watch films and TV series, tales in their own right portrayed on screen. However, reading allows us to be our own directors, to create our own cast. When you read fiction, you read but a script from which you can create the most vivid characters, with whom you can form the most visceral connections, connections that cannot be attained through any other medium.

I believe that if one can find an author with whom one can relate; if a style of literature that one finds fascinating can be found, then reading truly becomes for pleasure, and this is above all what matters.

Reading for pleasure provides countless positive effects, however, above all else, it is the greatest form of entertainment that can exist, it has been so for the previous millennia, and it will continue to be so for as long as society exists.

Louis Kidger



Literacy Leaders

Congratulations to the learners below, who submitted great applications to become our new Literacy Leaders. Already they have been involved in the coordination of World Book Day events, the creation of the new rewards policy and the production of this newsletter. Below is an introduction from a few of our leaders to inform you of why they've applied for this role.

Year 7

Alexander McHale-Smith
Sian Walker
Elli-Mae Scott

Year 8

Lottie Carter
Elise Clegg
Aoife Geogheghan
Jessica Simmons
Daniel Whittaker
Harriet Ratcliffe

Year 9

Aimee Carr
Chloe Gorrod

Year 10

Bethany Turner
Louis Kidger
Summer Marshall
Katie Lamb
Mair-May Gort

Sian- 'I love to read and encourage others. My favourite book is named "Can You See Me?". It is about an 11-year-old girl with autism(I won't spoil it for you) I hope I can use my enthusiastic personality to share my love for reading around the school.'

Daniel- 'I love organising events or challenges so am looking forward to be involved in creating the competitions linked to literacy.'

Aoife- I have always loved reading and writing and channelling my creativity into literacy and having fun with stories and English. I also love reading and am enjoying the classics on Sora, so I definitely will enjoy writing book reviews.



Mair-May- 'Reading is the most important thing in modern society. This is because you are completely in sync with another human's mindset, opening your mind to new ideas and ways of thinking.'

Lottie C- 'Reading has always been a passion of mine too, and I would love to pass this appreciation of books onto other students.'

Beth T- 'I really enjoy reading on Sora and have read for over 446 hours on there. I think that bringing the competitive element into reading will encourage reluctant readers to increase their reading time.'

Alexander- 'I want to try and help make reading more relevant and interactive to the people my age, so they can see that reading can be fun and not a chore.'

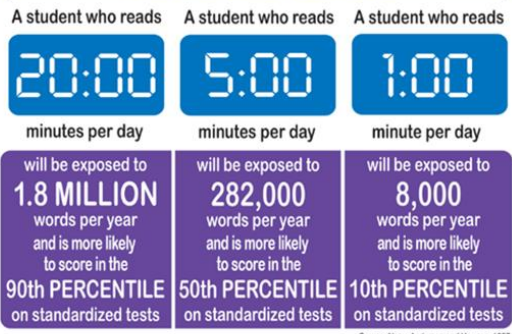
Jessica- 'English is my favourite subject. I have recently got back into reading and really enjoyed reading Divergent. I'd recommend this book if you are 12+ and are looking for a dystopian novel to get you back into reading.'

Sora- The Digital Library



Sora has been very popular over the lockdown period, with ...books being checked out in January, and 596 in February.
If there is a book or series your child is enjoying reading that they would like adding to Sora please let us know. We are always looking to add to our collection.

HERE'S THE IMPACT OF READING 20 MINUTES PER DAY!



Below is the data for Sora access in Spring 1.

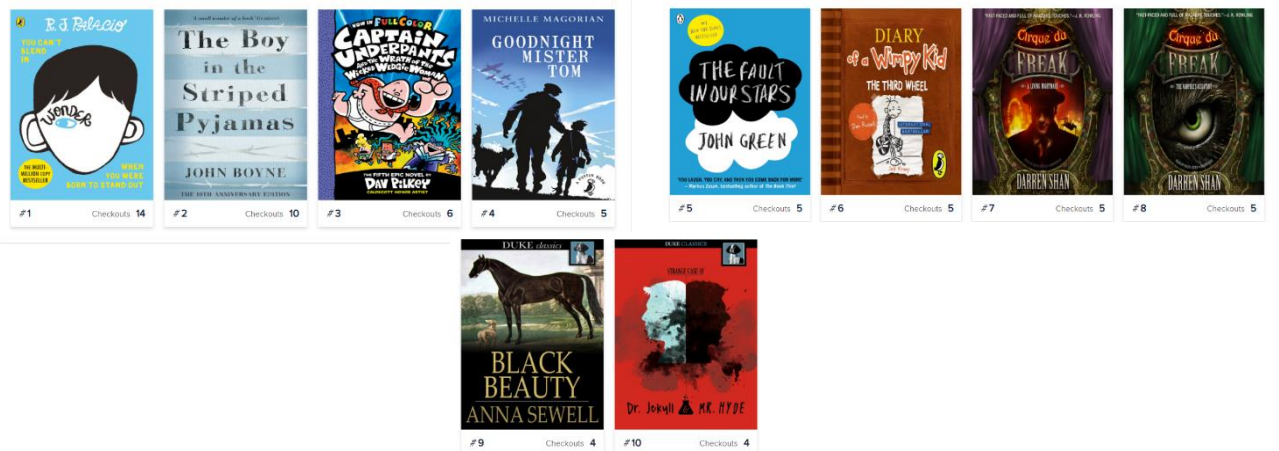
January:

Books Accessed- 1717
Checkouts- 928
Average Minutes per day, per user: 34:14

February:

Books Accessed: 1286
Checkouts- 596
Average Minutes per day, per user: 35:22

Top 10 Most Popular Books on Sora- February



New Reading Rewards Policy

Below is a summary of the new reading rewards policy, which details how the learners who prefer to read physical books can obtain their silver and gold awards.

Physical Books

Bronze-

- Submit a 300 word book review to Mrs Emery
- Enter one of the World Book Day Competitions
- Read and review a Bronze challenge book recommended by the literacy leaders.

Silver-

- 5 detailed book reviews which are at least 500 words in length.
- Read and review a Silver challenge book recommended by the literacy leaders
- A collage which represents the books you have read (see images below) Or one book you loved. This could include images/quotes. This can be drawn/painted/designed on the computer. It should be neat and suitable for display

Gold-

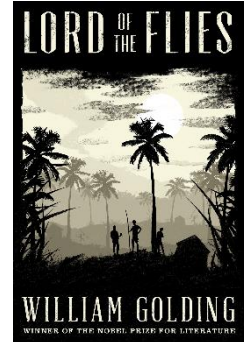
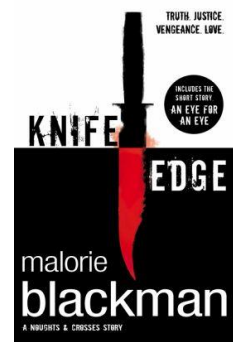
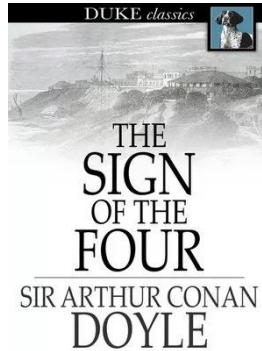
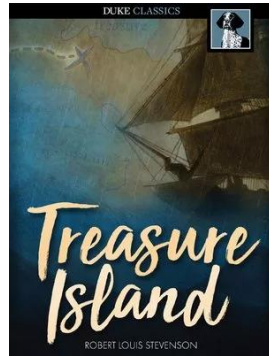
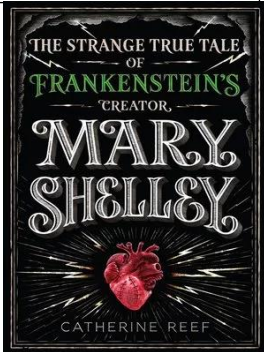
- 10 detailed book reviews which are at least 500 words in length
- Read and review a Gold challenge book recommended by the literacy leaders
- Produce and edit a vlog review of a book which has changed your life.
- Interview a staff member and produce a vlog/podcast about a book that changed their life.



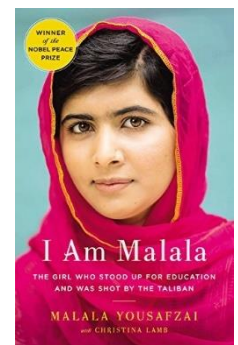
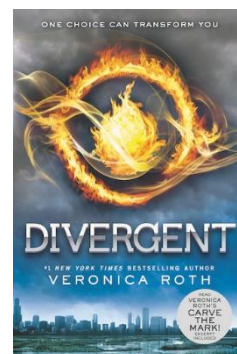
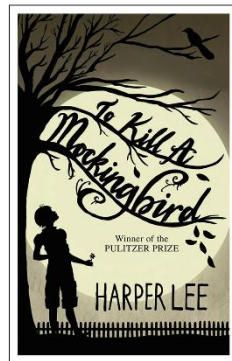
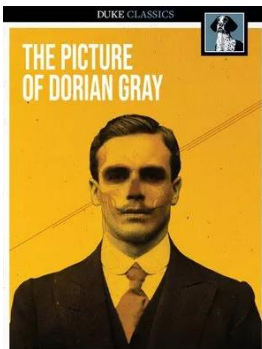
Literacy Leader Challenge Books

To achieve Bronze, Silver and Gold awards, choose one of the challenging books below to read, and write a 500 word review. Email these across to: d.emery@lhs.aspireplus.org.uk

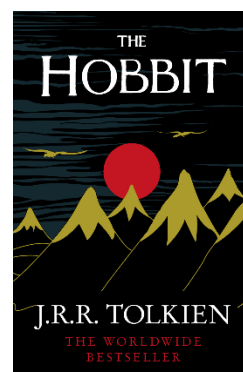
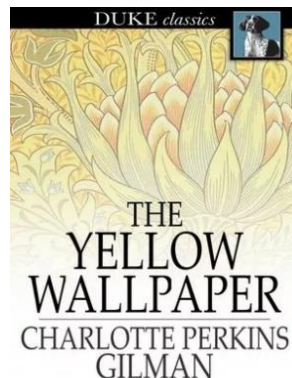
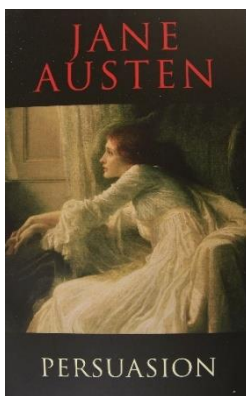
Bronze Award



Silver Award



Gold Award

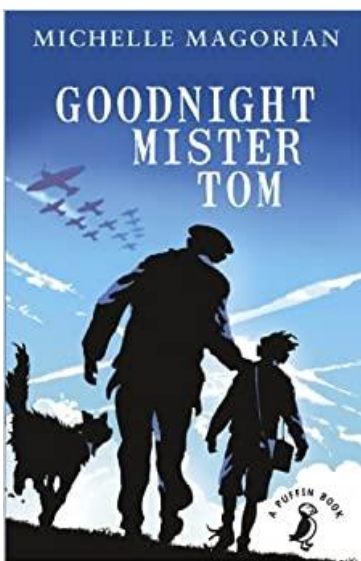




Learner Book Recommendations

One of the best ways to encourage young people to read for pleasure, is to talk about the books you are reading with others. The learners expressed in their recent feedback that they would like to see some reviews written by learners across school. Hopefully some of these will entice your child to read a new book.

All learners who submit a review receive their Bronze reading award!



Reviewed by
Sian in 7

This book is available on Sora and in the school library

Goodnight Mister Tom

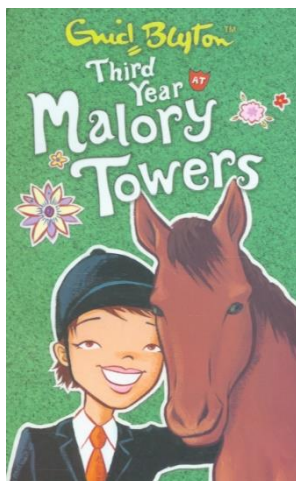
This is one of my favorite books. If you find World War 2 Interesting, and enjoy an amazing book, then this is for you. This book is probably aimed at around 10 – 14-year olds. It is quite easy to follow, but the story is put together amazingly. Throughout the book, you start to become more connected to the characters making it heart-destroying when the problem comes and over-joyed when the resolution comes.

A boy called William has to find a place to evacuate because it is too dangerous in the city. He finds, loving, caring, Mr. Tom, Who builds a strong bond with 8-year-old William. It is amazing to see, shy, timid William, become a great, strong-minded boy. Unfortunately, William's evil Mother falls sick, and orders William to head back to London. He does not want to go.

I won't spoil the essence of the book, but that is the vague idea. I like this book most because of the character building and how much it makes you feel like you are really there, and not lay down on your bed. Throughout the whole of the book, I am waiting, on edge, for the problem. Even if there was no problem, this book would still be fabulous because of the relationship between William and Mister Tom Is so inspirational and meaningful. I would recommend this book to anyone my age who would like to start reading. It's a great way to start your adventure.

The only bad thing that I will say about this book, is that when the problem comes, they rush it way too much. It's like they can't wait to reach the resolution.

On the whole, this book is: Heart-warming, inspirational and an amazing story. It definitely makes my top 5.



The book Third form at Malory Towers by Enid Blyton is a fun adventure filled book. It's is about a group of young girls at a boarding school that face different problems and dilemmas. I think this book is suitable for ages 7+ as it has some difficult language yet is really fun to read. I thought that this book was a really good way of showing what life at boarding school is like and that everyone faces similar problems in life. **Reviewed by Caitlin in 8**



Learner Book Recommendations

Kill Joy



HOLLY JACKSON HAS WRITTEN THIS SHORT BOOK FOR WORLD BOOK DAY, AS A PREQUEL TO HER 'A GOOD GIRL'S GUIDE TO MURDER' BESTSELLER.

IT FEATURES A GIRL CALLED PIP WHO GOES TO A MURDER MYSTERY PARTY AND DISCOVERS A NEW CURIOSITY WITHIN HERSELF. IN THEIR TOWN, THERE WAS A REAL MURDER OF A TEENAGER, AROUND 3 YEARS AGO. THE TOWN CAN'T SEEM TO ESCAPE THE TRAGEDY EVEN THOUGH THE SUPPOSED KILLER WAS HER BOYFRIEND SAL SINGH, WHO KILLED HIMSELF NOT LONG AFTER SHE DIED. AT THIS PARTY, THEY HAVE TO DISCOVER WHO WAS THE MURDERER OF 'REGINALD REMY' A FICTITIOUS CHARACTER. PIP DISCOVERS MANY CLUES, SUSPECTING EVERYONE, NOT FORGETTING ONE DETAIL, EVEN EARNING HERSELF AN EXTRA CLUE. AT THE END OF THE PARTY, SHE HAS THE MOST EVIDENCE AND SEEMS VERY RIGHT BUT THE GAME IS 'TOO SIMPLE' AND DOESN'T MATCH HER SUSPICION. AFTER FINDING THIS PASSION AND CURIOSITY, CAN PIP PROVE THAT SAL SINGH DIDN'T MURDER HIS GIRLFRIEND? READ KILL JOY AND A GOOD GIRL'S GUIDE TO MURDER TO FIND OUT.

I REALLY ENJOYED THIS BOOK BECAUSE TO ME, THE MAIN CHARACTER WAS VERY RELATEABLE, AS WHEN SHE FOUND SOMETHING SHE LIKED, SHE WOULD PURELY FOCUS ON THAT AND GET 'OBSESSED'. AT TIMES, THE CHARACTERS WERE HARD TO FOLLOW BECAUSE THEY HAD TWO NAMES EACH - THEIR REAL NAMES AND THEIR CHARACTERS IN THE MURDER MYSTERY GAME, BUT ASIDE FROM THIS, THE BOOK WAS VERY ENJOYABLE AND KEPT ME GRIPPED. HOLLY JACKSON DELIVERS THE STORY VERY WELL, MAKING THE GAME SEEM REAL AND INCLUDING PLOT TWISTS WHERE YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT. I WOULD RECOMMEND THIS BOOK TO ANYONE WHO LIKES THINGS TO DO WITH MYSTERY.

World Book Day
Book!

Reviewed by

Chloe G 9P

"I AM NUMBER FOUR"

Book review

This book is about Four, a boy with extra-ordinary powers who escaped Lorien, a world engulfed in war, with eight others and their keepers or cêpans. There is a magical enchantment on them, meaning that they can only be killed in chronological order but the first three are dead and the Mogadorians will hunt him next.

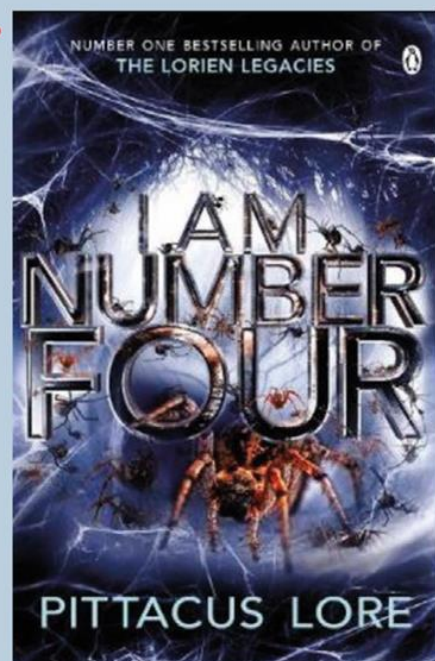
While in Ohio, Number Four, going by the name John Smith, makes friends. He has never settled in one place for long enough to do this before so everything is new. After a confrontation with the school bully, Mark, his powers start for the first time and after talking to Henri, his cêpan, we find out that his powers will develop so that he will be heat and fire proof.

After being befriended by Sam and Sarah, John only endures more torments from Mark and has to learn to keep his powers hidden so that the Mogadorians don't find him until he can control them. When disaster strikes at a party, with Sarah trapped inside a burning house, John uses his powers to rescue her but then wonders how long the truth can stay hidden.

In a turn of events with Henri and John seeing the Mogadorians and Six finding them, the enchantment is broken and no-one knows who will survive.

One of the most memorable moments in the book is the battle at the end, where everyone is fighting against the huge beast. It is such a tense chapter that I couldn't put it down.

I would recommend this to anyone aged 11-17 who likes sci-fi and books based around people from other planets. This is the first of a series based around the other teenagers from Lorien so I am excited to read those as well.



NOUGHTS AND CROSSES

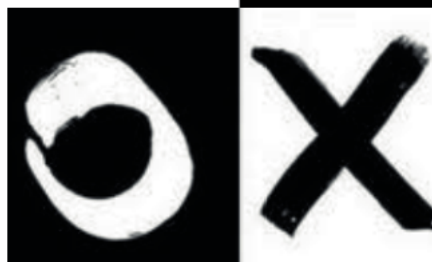
This book explores the lives of two teenagers, **Callum** and **Sephy**, who live in a dystopian world where black is **powerful** and white is **weak**. The story of these young adults **starts** when they are children. Callum's mum works for Sephy's mum and their **friendship** stemmed from seeing each other all of the time. Now teenagers, they struggle with **prejudice** and whether they should give in to what **society** wants and not follow their **love** for each other.

I think that this book was incredibly **powerful**. The **stark** message it gives really follows what it is like to be **victim** of prejudice and **struggle** with what is deemed "right" in society.

The **relationship** between Callum and Sephy emphasised that **love** is real **despite** others believing that it is **wrong**.

I **loved** this series of books because the **gripping** tale of two love struck teenagers crossing **cultural divides** was delivered extremely well and I really found a sense of how people experience **prejudice**.

This was the first dystopian novel that I ever read and helped me find the genre of books that I find most enjoyable and interesting.



This amazing book takes you into the world of wonder and magic but with a modern day setting. It combines the genres of mystery and fantasy with an interesting set of characters and a fun story lines.

I would like to describe the character (Skullduggery Pleasant) to be slightly relatable and humorous. This book can be read and enjoyed by children, teens and adults alike and could probably inspire a lot of people to become writers and spread imagination the world.

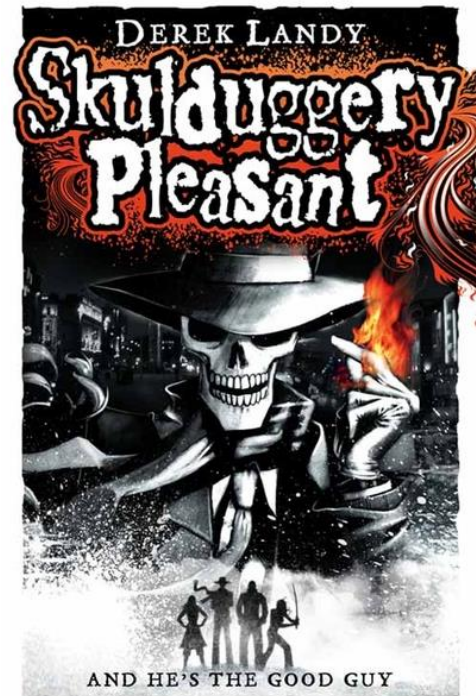
The storyline focuses on the teenage girl Stephanie and her development in her learnings of magic. I like this book because it has a different look into magic compared to other books such as Beast Quest or Harry Potter. It doesn't just say that there are wizards that cast spells, it shows two different kinds of magic and I find that fun to explore and I think that others would to. It also features a detective who is trying to track down a magical item of old gods and solve the mystery of why Gordon was targeted which puts Stephanie in danger.

In this book it does explain the how's and whys of Skullduggery's existence but parts of which are done in an almost comedic way as the book is full of dry humor people who aren't really into fantasy or mystery books should also want to read this fantastic book as well.

There is an amazing historic part of this book when skullduggery is explaining what happened to him he tells the reader about an ancient war of which no humans were aware of.

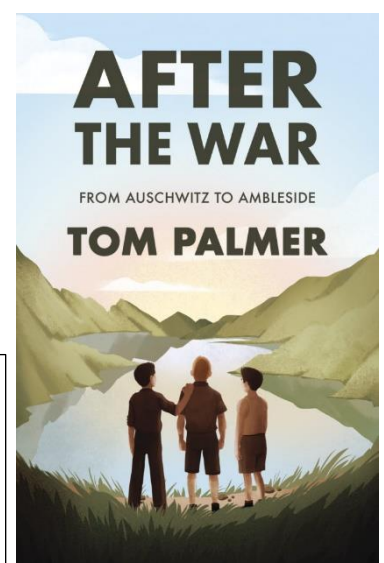
Whereas I love this book there is obviously going to be something that I don't like such as the basic bad guy thing in this book the villain lusts for more power and has found something of which he needs to get this and will stop at nothing to get it, this is something that I only realized after reading the other 7 books in some the good guys don't win which I feel is an important lesson to share to young people that you can't win every battle and even the heroes lose some times.

The book is set in the summer of 1945, world war two is just over, and three Polish boys have managed to get away from Nazi Germany concentration camp. They fly to the lake district to a safe place so that they have a chance to live their lives again. The boys are like brothers, and the book shows flash backs of nightmare of the cruel war torn lives they left behind. Yossi, is my favourite character, hoping to see his family again, he had to learn to trust people around him. Yossi struggles to communicate with the people and with their kindness. The book is really good and made me think how lucky we are today.



Reviewed by Logan L 10

This book is available on Sora and in the school library



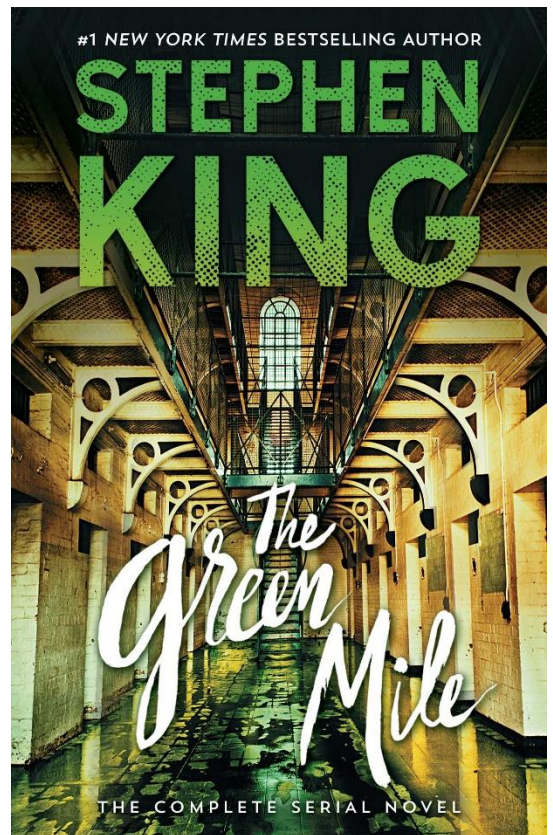
Reviewed by

Ethan M- 7P

Staff Book Recommendations

I recently discovered Stephen King when I read "It" (a book I highly recommend for the older audiences) and really enjoyed his style of writing. When I discovered the "The Green Mile" was actually a book (and not just a film) I knew I had to read it! The film is fantastic too, one of my all-time favourites! The book most definitely adds some more depth, and answers some questions that the film doesn't.

The story is from the narrative of an officer named, Paul Edgecombe, who is the "top screw" on a death row block at an American Prison in 1932. Paul tells the story as he writes it, as an old man in his retirement home. He reflects on a story where he receives a new death row inmate, John Coffey (like the drink only not spelt the same.) John sticks out in Paul's mind and is such a unique and amazing character. He is described as being an incredibly tall, muscular, black man, who looks like he could cause all sorts of trouble, but as Paul gets to know him, sees him as a gentle giant who asks if they keep the light on after dark, as he doesn't like it. John also cried, a lot, silent and solemn. The reason for John being on "The Green Mile" he accused of a horrendous crime. It takes Paul and his colleagues to work out how special John really is. It is an incredible story full of twists and turns, fantastic characters (Mr Jingles is the best) and full of emotions. **Warning:** *Probably aimed at an older audience due to some choice language and some sensitive themes covered.*



Reviewed by Miss Ashworth

This Young Adult dystopian novel is set in a dark world, where a dictator rules America. People are sent to Alcatraz for crimes they haven't committed, then stalked and killed for a live audience to view. This book looks at our obsession with reality TV, and the path the dark path that it could take in a dystopian world. Suitable for older readers, if you like books such as The Hunger Games, then this might be the book for you.



Reviewed by Mrs Emery

This book is available on Sora

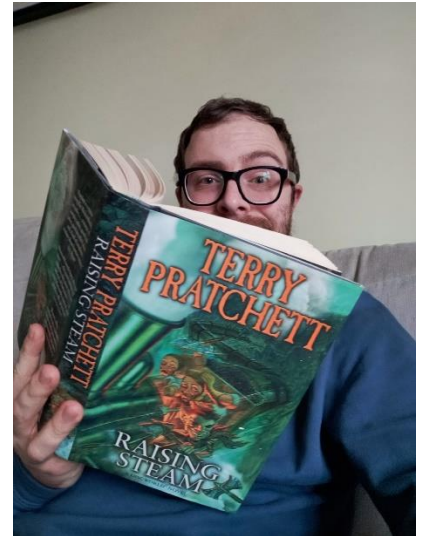
Staff Book Recommendations

"When I was in high school, one of my friends put me onto a book that was a funny parody of the fantasy, Dungeons and Dragons worlds. It was 'Men at Arms' - a book about the woefully underequipped guards policing the dwarves, trolls and humans in the city of Ankh-Morpork. I loved the world and the characters and sought out more. I eventually read all the books in the Discworld series (around 20 at the time I think).

Fast forward to 2013 where I spotted this cover as I was passing a bookshop and was instantly transported back to my teenage years reading Pratchett books. I now own almost all of them again and I have a special place for this one as it reignited my love for the books.

Raising Steam follows an entrepreneur in the city of Ankh-Morpork who discovers steam power and tries to usher in an age of technological and industrial advancement. He is met with resistance, difficulties and the disdain of the wizards as he tries to combine magic and science, with a witty Pratchett twist.

Terry Pratchett passed away in 2015 after writing through an Alzheimer's diagnosis, so there won't be any more Discworld novels, but the world he has created over 40 stories is well worth exploring. Happy Reading!"

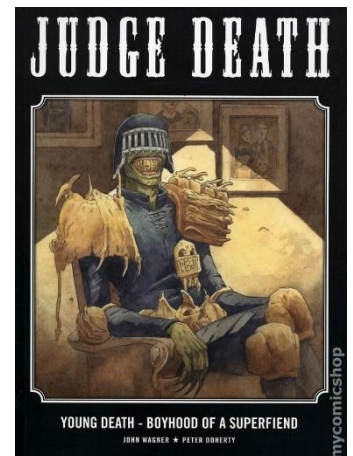


Reviewed by Mr Gregson

Lots of these books are available on Sora

This comic is an origin story of Judge Death, a super villain and arch nemesis of Judge Dredd. Judge Death comes 2000AD, from an alternate dimension, where he believed all crime was committed by the living, so outlawed life and exterminated the living. The comic looks at how came into power, and where his beliefs stemmed from. These are comics I loved reading as a teenager, but would be suitable for KS4 readers who like Marvel comics or Science Fiction.

These comics are available to buy online on Amazon, or can be purchased as a weekly subscription.



Reviewed by Mr Emery

Does your child have a book recommendation that they would love to share with our learners? Next term we are looking to feature reviews from some of our learners from across school. These can be submitted to their English teacher, or emailed across to Mrs Emery on d.emery@lhs.aspireplus.org.uk

World Book Day

This year we celebrated World Book Day virtually with a series of competitions aimed to celebrate reading for pleasure. We have lots of entries into our Book face competition, well done to Emily and Isabel our winner and runner up. Both learners received book tokens and an Easter egg. Well done also to Miss Osbaldeston and Miss Wither, our staff winner and runner up.

We also have a number of entries into our 'Pets of World Book Day' competition. Learners were tasked with representing a book using their pets. Below are some of the winning pets who will feature in a specially commissioned calendar!

Finally, congratulations to Charlotte in Year 9, the winner of our Shelfie competition! We have 56 learners enter this, but Charlotte got the highest amount of guesses correct!



World Book Day



Pets of World Book Day



Ziggy and Vinny
Miss Hamilton



Klaus as Brutus from Julius Caesar
Louis K- Year 10



Bobby as the Gingerbread Man
Aoife G- Year 8



Captain Hook and Tick Tock-
Miss Warnock-



Snoopy as one of the mice from Coraline
Amira H



Willow- Treasure Island
Erin M- Year 10



World Book Day Winner for the
LHS Library Competition
'If I were an Author'
Well done Bentley 7S



The Library is Reopen!

The Longdendale Library is now open to Learners and years groups have already started visiting during Tutor time to pick a book of their choice.

There is currently a competition running to leave a book review online, you won't want to miss out!

All Learners will be given a LHS Library Guide

Please visit the LHS Library page on our website for all updates on the Library and events

<https://www.longdendalehighschool.org.uk/schoollife/departments/lhs-library>

Congratulations!

Well done to all the learners below who received reading awards this term! We posted out 70 reading awards in Spring 2 during lockdown, showing just how much learners have been reading during this time. In total, there have been 132 reading badges awarded to learners for their efforts this year.

Emily C- Year 7- Bronze
 Aimee C- Year 9- Bronze
 Leo K- Year 9- Silver
 Olivia S- Year 7- Bronze
 Isobel B- Year 8- Bronze
 Kelsie S- Year 7- Bronze
 Harry T- Year 7- Bronze
 Bethany T- Year 10- Silver
 Bethany T- Year 10- Gold
 Alice H- Year 7- Bronze
 Maya M- Year 7- Bronze
 Louis K- Year 10- Bronze
 Louis K- Year 10- Silver
 Joseph W- Year 7- Bronze
 Rhiannon P- Year 10- Silver
 Lucca K- Year 10- Silver
 Harriet R- Year 8- Silver
 Harriet R- Year 8- Gold
 James P- Year 7- Bronze
 Roderick- Year 7- Bronze
 Aeron T- Year 10- Silver
 Aeron T- Year 10- Gold
 Bentley B- Year 7- Silver
 Summer M- Year 10- Bronze
 Mason T- Year 10- Bronze
 Chloe G- Year 9- Bronze
 Lottie C- Year 8- Bronze
 Alexandra S- Year 7- Bronze
 Bailey W- Year 7- Bronze
 Keira M- Year 7- Bronze
 Ella-Mae- Year 7- Bronze
 Isabelle C- Year 7- Bronze
 Felicity H- Year 7- Bronze
 Helen B- Year 7- Bronze
 Helen B- Year 7- Silver
 Alexandra R- Year 9- Bronze
 Charlotte P- Year 7- Bronze

Charlotte T- Year 9- Bronze
 Scarlet S- Year 7- Bronze
 Bryony R- Year 7- Bronze
 Isabelle A- Year 7- Bronze
 Sian W- Year 7- Bronze
 Leah Faye W- Bronze
 Amber W- Year 11- Bronze
 James Embury- Year 8- Bronze
 Imogen R- Year 7- Bronze
 Elliot C- Year 7- Bronze
 Jessica G- Year 10- Bronze
 Rebecca C- Year 7- Bronze
 Joshua P- Year 10- Bronze
 Halle B- Year 9- Bronze
 Lily M- Year 7- Bronze
 Ethan M- Year 7- Bronze
 Leah W- Year 8- Bronze
 Mia O- Year 7- Bronze
 Tia M- Year 7- Silver
 Lena P- Year 7- Bronze
 Logan L- Year 10- Bronze
 Nikola M- Year 7- Bronze
 Erin M- Year 10- Bronze
 Katie L- Year 10- Bronze
 Aoife G- Year 8- Bronze
 Eden W- Year 8- Bronze
 Daniel W- Year 8- Bronze
 Mair-May G- Year 10- Bronze
 Elise C- Year 8- Bronze
 Jessica S- Year 8- Bronze

