


Berkeley Primary School

Summer One 2023 Reading Newsletter

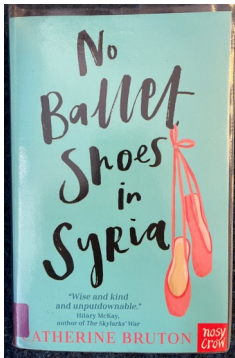


This has been another jam-packed reading half term here at Berkeley. Take a look!

 @BerkeleyPri_Sch Please look over on our Twitter page. We are always sharing our reading journey along with lots and lots of wonderful book recommendations.

Representation Through Books

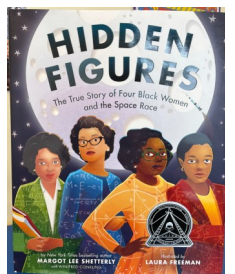
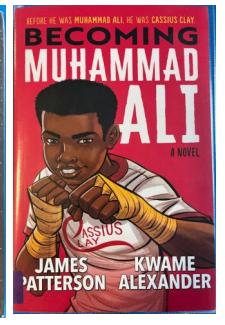
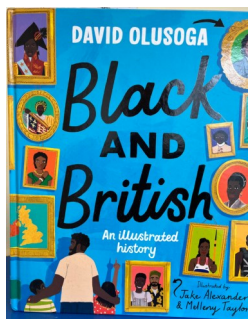
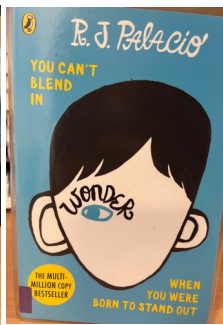
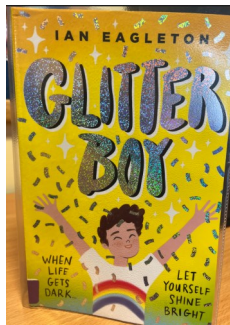
We are continually adding to our book collection to ensure that our children have access to a wealth of texts that promote diversity and inclusion. We endeavour to teach children the importance of becoming empathetic and respectful citizens by embracing everyone's differences. We want our children to be able to discover other cultures but to also find their own positive role models within the pages of the books we have available here at school.



'No Ballet Shoes in Syria' by Catherine Bruton is all about a young girl who has just arrived in Britain after seeking asylum from the war. This book is all about friendship and has a hopeful ending.



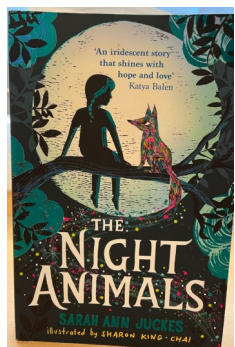
'The Girl with Space in her Heart' by Lara Williamson is all about Mabel. She is left with a hole in her heart when her mum and dad split, and her father then leaves home. The book also deals with issues surrounding anxiety, depression and bullying. A great book for helping children to develop their empathy for others.



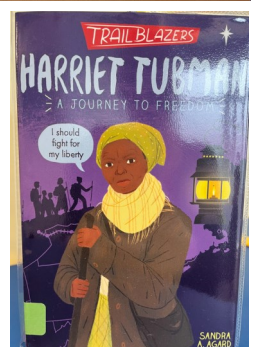
'Hidden Figures' by Margot Lee Shetterly tells the story of three African-American women who were leaders in the field of computing, helping to win the space race. This book deals with discrimination linked to both race and gender and shows what great things can happen when people persevere.



'Julian at the Wedding' by Jessica Love is all about celebrating individuality, acceptance and friendship. A follow up to the lovely 'Julian is a Mermaid'.



'The Night Animals' by Sarah Ann Juckes looks at mental health and family ties in a unique and beautifully illustrated way. It also shows that help can come in the most unlikely form when it is needed.



'Trail Blazers: Harriet Tubman' by Sandra A. Agard details the life of the extraordinary Harriet who, after escaping slavery herself, made many dangerous journeys to escort around 300 other slaves to freedom.

Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day

Website of the Week!

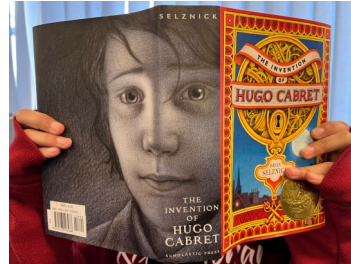
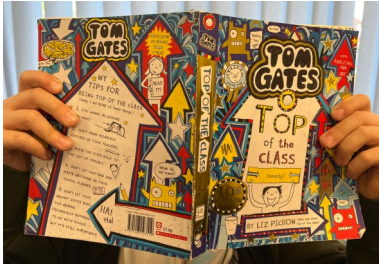
shop.scholastic.co.uk/lollies

The 'Lollies' is an annual children's book award ceremony focusing on texts that make you 'laugh out loud'. This year, there are so many great books nominated so if you are looking for a new book to buy and like to have a giggle, then look no further for inspiration!



Graphic Novels

We are always looking for different ways to engage every reader in our school and we think our ever-expanding range of graphic novels is really hitting the nail on the head! We always see children become so excited each time a new one is added to the shelves!

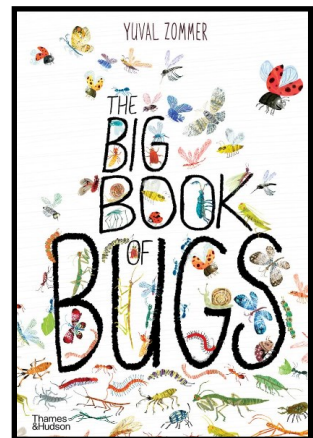
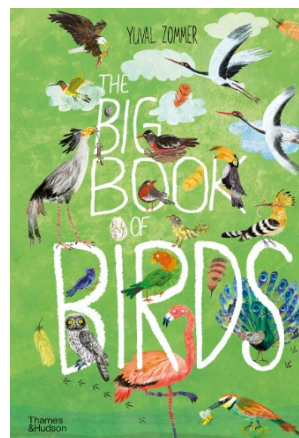
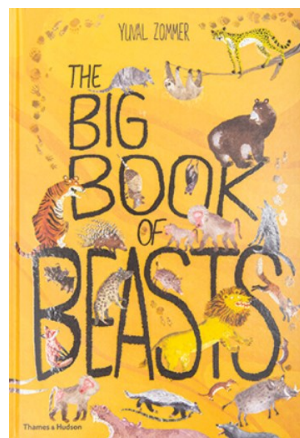
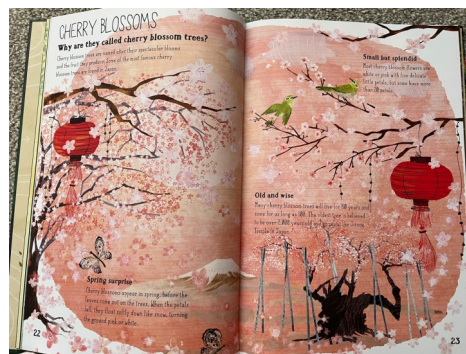


Graphic novels are very similar to comic books but are often longer and with a much more detailed and complex plot. They tell their stories through sequential art. The 'Bunny vs. Monkey' books by Jamie Smarts is very popular series of graphic novels here at Berkeley; especially with our older children.



Book Review — 'The Big Book of Blooms' by Yuval Zommer (Mrs Marsh)

The 'Big Book of ...' series of books are absolutely stunning! The illustrations inside are beautiful and will hold the attention of anyone reading them: young or old. My two-year-old daughter adores these books and I am convinced that my year 6 class would find them just as interesting. This book in particular teaches the reader all about some of the wild and wonderful flowering plants from all around the world. Have a look below to see some examples of the exquisite illustrations, as well as the other books in the series. ★★★★★

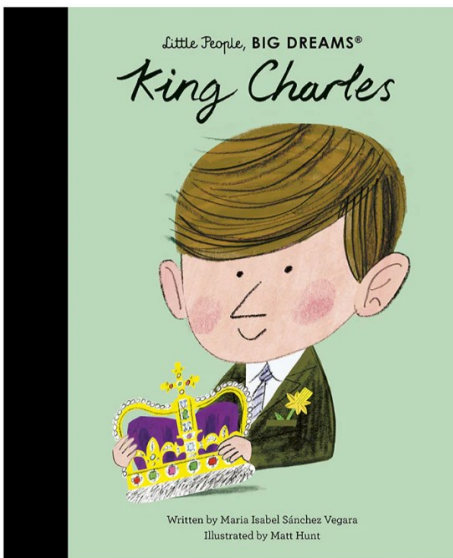


Reading Discussion: Tell a friend about a book you would recommend and why!

Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day



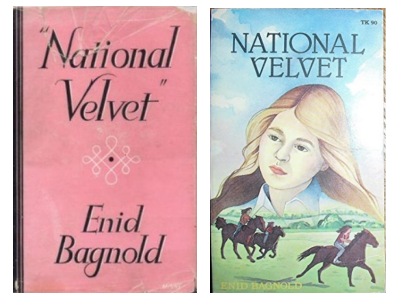
Bug Club is a lovely resource that children from Reception to Year 6 have access to. They are able to log on, at school and home, and read a range of books for pleasure. If your child no longer has their log in details or needs their book choices updating, please contact your child's teacher and they will be able to get you set up and ready to read. Take a look at some examples of the books below...



The King's Coronation

We love all of the 'Little People, Big Dreams' books here at Berkeley and have lots of them on our Book Club and classroom shelves. On the day we celebrated the coronation of King Charles, lots of classes read this wonderful book full of information about our new king. *Do you have any of these books at home?*

[Miss Wood's Book Review](#)



"National Velvet" is set in the 1920s but has a very contemporary theme as it shows a young girl competing and succeeding in a completely male-dominated sporting world. It is the story of a teenager called Velvet Brown who is obsessed with horses. One day, she and her father see a piebald (black and white) horse jump a wall in order to escape its field. This causes Velvet's father to make a remark which leads her on a great adventure, ultimately causing the sporting world to confront its rules and attitudes. I loved this book as a child as I was obsessed with horses too! I would recommend "National Velvet" for children who are 9+. **By Miss Woods.** ★★★★★

Mr Goodall reviews:

'The Tempest' by William Shakespeare (retold by Andrew Matthews).

'I would review this as a four star book!'



I have chosen to review a 'classic' novel by William Shakespeare. Shakespeare's books are hundreds of years old, which can sometimes make people reluctant to read them. However, my class recently read Andrew Matthews' retold version of 'The Tempest', and we really enjoyed it.

The play is set on a remote island inhabited by Prospero, the banished Duke of Milan, and his daughter, Miranda. Prospero, now a magician, uses his magic to control the spirits of the island. With the help of the spirit Ariel, he conjures a tempest in the sea to draw in his brother, Antonio, and Alonso, King of Naples, who had unlawfully stolen his dukedom. The play revolves around Prospero's attempt to restore himself and his daughter to their rightful position.

I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoys exciting tales of jealousy and betrayal, magic and romance, repentance and forgiveness. Some of the language and plot points can be a little hard to understand, but I would say Andrew Matthew's version is suited to confident readers who are aged 8+ or can be read to children of any age as a bedtime story!