

BLPS - Reading Rocks!

Volume 1, Issue 3

Spring Term 1 2023

Welcome to the Spring Term 1 edition of Reading Rocks which features our usual LEXIA Level achievers, Accelerated Reader Wizards and Free Book Friday stars. There were some new competition winners too and our school was lucky enough to take part in a research project all about reading for pleasure.

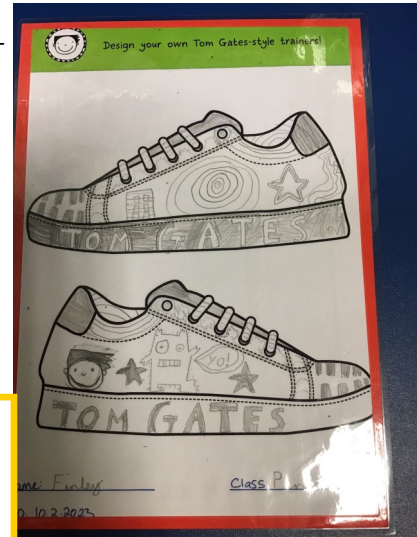
We have a copy of this reading newsletter also on our school website which can be found at:

<https://www.bullionlane.durham.sch.uk/>

CONGRATULATIONS to this term's reading competition entry winners who were chosen for their brilliant work revolving around Liz Pichon's popular character Tom Gates. Liz Pichon is not only the author but also the illustrator of these popular books and if you haven't already heard of her and her creations then check them at the website below. Children love the art and the style of the writing which allows the reader to ZOOM through the books at a speed which makes home feel a super confident reader. This term was linked to the books and children had to design their own Trainers in the style of Tom Gates. Some of the entries were fabulous and it was, once again, a tough decision to make, however we have one lucky winner who won a Tom Gates book of their choice plus an art book all about how to draw just like Liz Pichon.

First Place: Finley Phillips
2nd Place: Scarlet Cairns,
3rd Place; Brenda Aiello
4th Place ElliotForbes

Finley's creative design will be transferred onto a pair of real trainers and displayed in our library so watch this space for further news.



Ms Baird recommends: *The Midnight Fair* by Gideon Sterer and Marriachiara Di Giorgio, A beautiful picture book that will appeal to all ages. This book follows a group of woodland animals who venture into a fairground when the humans are asleep! Watch out for the fox who does a very kind deed at the end of the story.



Look out for World Book Day after the half term break. Check out the website for lots of information, ideas and resources for this international day to celebrate books. Check out the link below for all the latest announcements. Your child will also be taking home a special book token which they can use as payment towards a book or to exchange for a free book form the special selection on offer this year. So pop into a book shop this half term holiday and see what's on offer.

<https://www.worldbookday.com/2022/09/world-book-day-2023-announcements/>



Cool Reading Websites for Kids

Dive into the world of Tom Gates and discover the author, the books, the freebies, the games and the characters:

<https://thebrilliantworldoftomgates.com/>



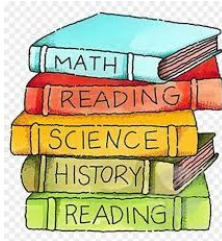
Thank you for all your kind book donations this term. Did you know many books can not be recycled due to the glue in the spines? By donating they are being kept out of landfill and getting a second lease of life!



Reading Spotlight

This term our reading spotlight is on Mrs Hamilton (Bede Year 6 teacher and Year 4 students).

A huge thank you to Mrs Hamilton who has undertaken a research project on behalf of the school which is all about reading for pleasure. The goal is to read to Year 4 children for 20 minutes each day purely for pleasure. The teachers involved can choose anything and the data is to be recorded and sent to the researchers for analysis. Latest research suggests that children who are read to on a daily basis become stronger readers and are able to achieve higher results in their reading comprehensions as well as it having a positive impact on reading in other lessons. We look forward to looking at those results once all the data has been processed. As the school was lucky enough to take part we have been given a fantastic package of nearly £1500 of books for our school. This is a much needed boost to our library and staff and children alike are eager to start reading them.



Accelerated Reading



Accelerated Reader (AR) is a reading management and monitoring programme that aims to foster independent reading. The internet-based software assesses reading age, and suggests books that match pupils' needs and interests. Pupils take computerised quizzes on the books and earn AR points as they progress.

This term our top reading wizard is Layla Quinn. She received a certificate and a book from The Free Book Trolley.

Listen now.

Your local library in your pocket.



Thousands of eAudiobooks available to borrow from your local library. Join today.



FREE BOOK Friday winners: Our Free Book Friday reading trolley is proving really popular and we have given out nearly 100 books already! Children choose their own from a selection of non fiction and various fiction genres. This term the trolley was given a makeover and Year 5 children from Penshaw Class now have the responsibility of getting it ready for our Celebration Assembly where the class Reader of the Week can choose one out of the many on offer. Our newly appointed Year 5 librarians also help children to choose a particular genre suitable for their age as well as helping to maintain our Secret Library, outdoor portable library and the outdoor reading areas.



LEXIA is a brilliant way for children to become better at reading and spellings. There are 21 levels and we celebrate everyone's achievements. Here are this terms top students who have all gone up at least one level. Well done everyone!

Reception: Oliver McCauley



Year 1: Jack Ellison, Amelia Roberts, Joseph Carr, Jay Ewart, Siera Simon, Mollie Middlemas and Ava Ozor.

Year 2: Logan Dixon, Elliot Forbes, Josh Washbrooke, Evan Curry, Meghan Mallaby, Bonja Wilson and Minnie Neasham

Year 3: Ollie Quinn, Jacob Wilkinson, Heidi McGuffie, Jaxon Hart, Lexi Fergusson, Jenna Howard, Libby Marshall, Aurora Brenan, Jasmine Burns, Layla Moody and Marnie Raine

Year 4: Jake Stephenson, Robert Donnelly, Megan Cavens, Tedd Dodds and Darius Molduvan

Year 5: Erin Mavin and Bobby Graham

Year 6: Layla Quinn, Gabriel Thompson, Ted McKenna, William Murphy, Kara Marshall, Freddie Crudginton and Tyler Cummings