

# Reading for Pleasure: Newsletter #1



Welcome to East Boldon Juniors' first Reading for Pleasure newsletter. I hope you find enjoyment and inspiration!

## What do you mean by Reading for Pleasure?

Reading for pleasure simply means to enjoy reading a book without the need to answer questions, explain the plot or produce writing related to it. All of this is great, but it's also brilliant to just get lost in a book!

Reading for pleasure isn't only about books either; it can be magazines, newspapers, comics, encyclopaedias, online articles.... The list goes on!

Reading can give so many benefits including improving wellbeing, strengthening vocabulary and building empathy.

## Reviews and Recommendations



I have just finished the brilliant *The Valley of the Lost Secrets* by Lesley Parr. Set in WWII, Jimmy and his younger brother Ronnie are evacuated to a Welsh village full of secrets, mysteries, loss and

friendship. The characters are brilliantly written and the relationships that develop between them are extremely heart-warming. If you loved *Goodnight Mister Tom*, you will love this book!

One of my pupils got me thinking the other day when she asked why we couldn't read a book with a female main character for once. I was inspired to find books I've loved with brilliant female heroines. Here are some suggestions:

*The Ramona Quimby series* by Beverley Cleary

*Madeline* by Ludwig Bemelmans

*Malory Towers series* by Enid Blyton

*Flossie Teacake's Fur Coat* by Hunter Davies

*The Melanie Brown series* by Pamela Oldfield

For older readers:

*His Dark Materials* by Phillip Pullman

*Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott

*Deenie* by Judy Blume

Non-fiction:

*Fantastically Great Women who Changed the World* by Kate Pankhurst

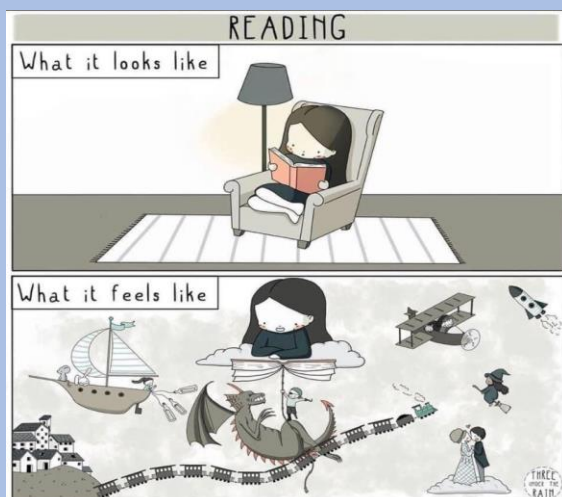
## Reading for Pleasure at School (and at home)

We love to get involved in reading events at school and, despite so many of our pupils learning from home, this half term has been no exception!

Pupils and their families have loved Mr Shenton's story times and we celebrated National Storytelling Week by sharing stories virtually.

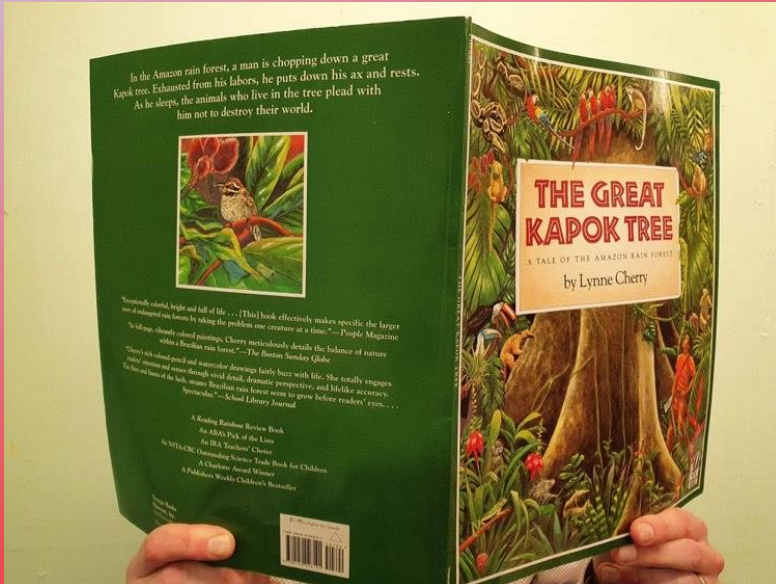
We also participated in a fantastic online workshop with the hugely famous children's author, Michael Morpurgo, where he talked about his books and being an author.

We are now looking forward to celebrating World Book Day on the 5<sup>th</sup> March. We can't wait to see your props and costumes!



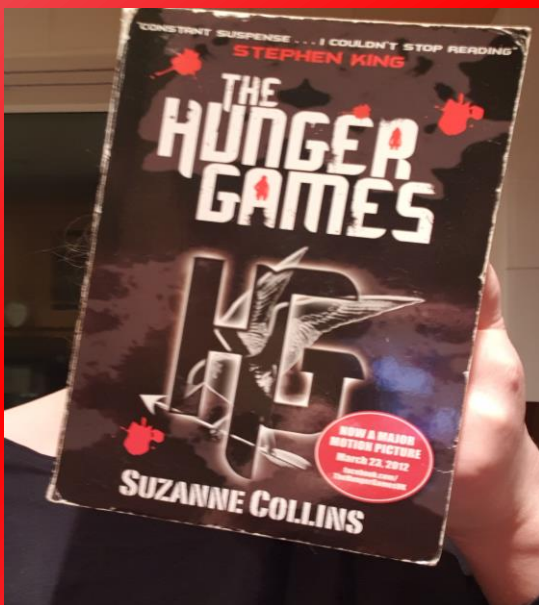
## Readers in Disguise!

All the staff at EBJ love reading too! Can you guess who these staff members are who are sharing their favourite books with us?



'This is one of my all time favourite children's books as it explores, in a fascinating way, deforestation. This is such an important topic for us all to understand.'

It is a story of a community of animals that live in one tree, The Great Kapok Tree, and they do their utmost to protect their environment, protect each other, and protect their way of life!



'This book is one of my favourites due to the interesting characters and intriguing plot. I reread it every now and then.'

## Spotlight on.... 4MT

I love to hear what different classes are getting up to and Mrs Taylor shared their fantastic Reading Bingo with me. How many of these reading challenges can you tick off?

READ BY THE FIREPLACE WITH HOT CHOCOLATE (YOUTUBE FIREPLACE WILL WORK)	Read and write a recipe to share with the class!	Read a comic book or a magazine!	Read a short book (or a few pages) in an extreme place!
Read a book about the sea or space!	Read a book that mum, or dad picked!!!	Recommend a book to a classmate!	COUNT ALL OF THE BOOKS IN YOUR HOUSE AND DRAW THE NUMBER ON A PIECE OF PAPER- TRY TO READ THE BLURB OF AS MANY AS YOU CAN!
Read every other page with a parent/guardian! (Noah's suggestion)	Read with a stuffed animal or your favourite toy!	Look up a picture of your favourite book and try to recreate the cover.	Take an Accelerated Reader test after you have finished a book!

Let me know what brilliant books your class are reading or what fun reading activities you have completed!

## Reading During Lockdown

Here are some resources to engage with reading whilst we're spending more time at home. Click on the links below:

A free issue of the [Beano online](#)

A great selection of, [Non Fiction Web books](#)

[Neil Gaiman reading aloud The Graveyard Book](#)

[Oliver Jeffers \(author of The Heart and the Bottle\) reading aloud This Moose Belongs to Me](#)

## Get Involved!

I would love to hear from you for my next issue. Send me your photos, your recommendations, your reviews, your Readers in Disguise guesses or anything else reading related. You can contact me through Class Dojo or the school office. Happy reading! Mrs Burns, English Lead