



# BRAESIDE READING NEWSLETTER



Issue 1: November 2022

Welcome to our monthly reading newsletter. We hope that it encourages you to enjoy reading as it is a skill that is important in everyday life.

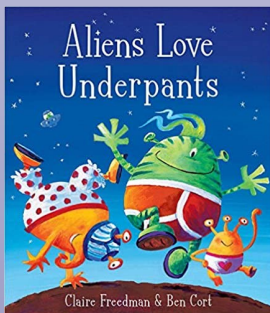
## Why read?

Research show that pupils who read for pleasure have 26% more vocabulary and do better in all subjects - including 10% better in Maths!

Each month we will be sharing recommended books and top tips to help you to love reading!

## EYFS - Picture books

### Kindergarten - Reception



#### Aliens Love Underpants! By Claire Freedman

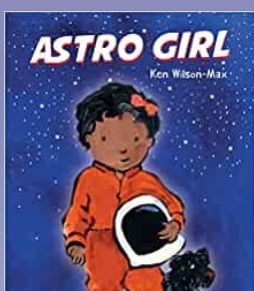
"Aliens love underpants, in every shape and size, but there are no underpants in space, so here's a big surprise...."

This zany, hilarious tale is delightfully brought to life by Ben Cort's vibrant illustrations. With a madcap, rhyming text by award-winning Claire Freedman, this is sure to enchant and amuse the whole family!

Perfect for joining in, this story is fantastically fresh and funny - you'll laugh your pants off!

#### Along Came A Different - By Tom McLaughlin

Reds love being red. Yellows love being yellow. And Blues love being blue. The problem is that they just don't like each other. But one day, along comes a different colour who likes Reds, Yellows and Blues, and suddenly everything starts to change.. Maybe being different doesn't mean you can't be friends . A very special picture book that supports the adage that there is more that unites us than divides us. Along Came a Different just goes to show how much better we can all be when we come together to find common ground as friends.

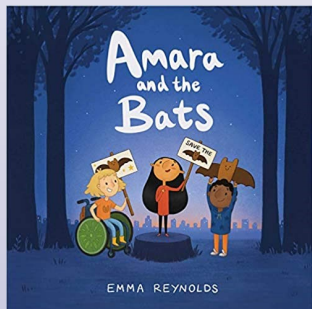


#### Astro Girl - By Ken Wilson-Max

Astrid has loved the stars and space for as long as she can remember. "I want to be an astronaut!" she says to everyone who will listen. While her mama is away, Astrid and her papa have fun acting out the challenges an astronaut faces on a space mission ' like being in zero gravity ('I can do that all day long!' she says), eating food from a kind of tube, and doing science experiments with the help of cookie sheets. When at last it's time to meet Mama at the air base, Astrid wears her favorite space T-shirt to greet her. But where exactly has Mama been?

# Key Stage 1 Recommended Reads

## Years 1 and 2



### Amara and the Bats - By Emma Reynolds

Amara loves bats! Her favourite thing to do is to collect bat facts and watch the amazing mammals fly at night by her house. But when Amara moves to a new town, she learns that her beloved bats no longer roost nearby because they are losing their habitat. Amara is upset. What can she do to help? She's just one person, and the problem feels so much bigger than her. But after doing some research, she discovers that there are many young people making big changes all around the world. Inspired to take action, Amara gathers her new friends to help save the bats. Together, she knows they can make a difference!

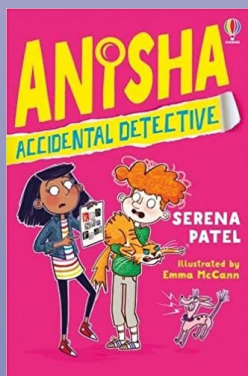
### Aziza's Secret Fairy Door - By Lola Morayo

A mysterious gift arrives on Aziza's birthday. It is a secret fairy door that will whisk her away to Shimmerton, a magical world with princesses, naughty fairies, shapeshifters, unicorn shopkeepers and mischief around every corner. But when the precious jewelled doorknob is taken, Aziza is trapped. Will she ever see her home and family again? Maybe her new friends, Peri and Tiko, can help . . .



# Lower Key Stage 2 Recommended Reads

## Years 3 and 4



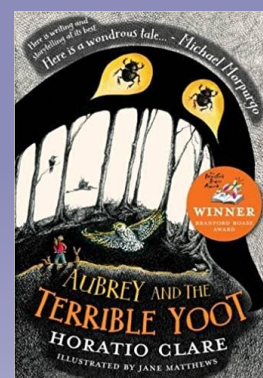
### Anisha, Accidental Detective - By Serena Patel

HELP! My super-dramatic Aunty Bindi is getting married tomorrow and she's having a mega meltdown.

But sssh! I've just found a ransom note, pushed through the letter box, saying Uncle Tony, Bindi's husband-to-be, has been kidnapped, and will only be freed if the wedding is cancelled! I have to keep this a secret otherwise it'll be panic-central... I guess it's up to me - Anisha, ACCIDENTAL DETECTIVE, to save the day.

### Aubrey and the Terrible Yoot - By Horatio Clare

Aubrey's father, Jim, has fallen under an horrendous spell, which Aubrey is determined to break. Everyone says his task is impossible, but Aubrey will never give up and never surrender - even if he must fight the unkillable Spirit of Despair itself: the TERRIBLE YOOT!



# Upper Key Stage 2 Recommended Reads

## Years 5 and 6

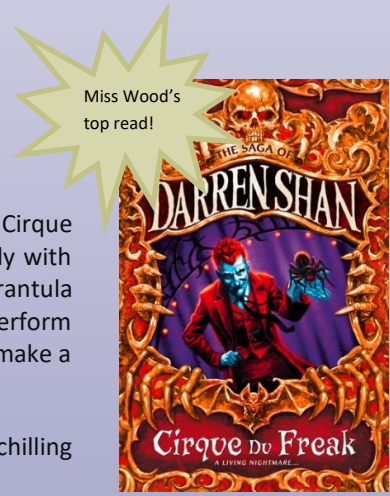
### Asha and the Spirit Bird - By Jasbinder Bilan



Asha lives in the foothills of the Himalayas. Money is tight and she misses her papa who works in the city. When he suddenly stops sending his wages, a ruthless moneylender ransacks their home and her mother talks of leaving.

From her den in the mango tree, Asha makes a pact with her best friend, Jeevan, to find her father and make things right. But the journey is dangerous: they must cross the world's highest mountains and face hunger, tiredness – even snow leopards.

And yet, Asha has the unshakeable sense that the spirit bird of her grandmother – her nanijee – is watching over her ...



Miss Wood's top read!

### Cirque Du Freak - By Darren Shan

The chilling Saga of Darren Shan, the ordinary schoolboy plunged into the vampire world.

Darren goes to a banned freak show with his best mate Steve. It's the wonderfully gothic Cirque Du Freak where weird, frightening half human/half animals appear who interact terrifyingly with the audience. Darren – a spider freak – 'falls in love' with Madam Octa – an enormous tarantula owned by Mr Crepsley. Darren determines to steal the spider so that he can train it to perform amazing deeds. But his daring theft goes horribly wrong and Darren finds himself having to make a bargain with a creature of the night.

Something out of the ordinary is set against the background of children's normal lives to chilling effect. Atmospheric, funny, realistic, moving and... terrifying.

Have you got a book to recommend? Let Miss Wood know and it could feature in next month's newsletter.



## Supporting Readers at Home





**Open University** research suggests there are three important ways to support readers and a love of reading.



**Read Aloud**

Reading aloud to your children shows them reading is a pleasure, not a chore. Older children can read to younger ones too.





Children who read, and are supported as readers, develop strong reading skills and do better at school.



**Family Reading Time**

Making time to read alongside one another helps develop children's reading stamina and interest. Let them choose what to read and relax together.





For more ideas see the OU website: [www.ourfp.org](http://www.ourfp.org)



**Book Chat**

Book Chats encourage readers. Invite them to make connections and share their views. Join in with your thoughts too!





I wonder if...why... what...who...





# Key Stage 3 Recommended Reads

Years 7, 8 and 9



## Flood Child - By Emily Diamond

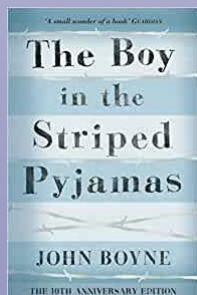
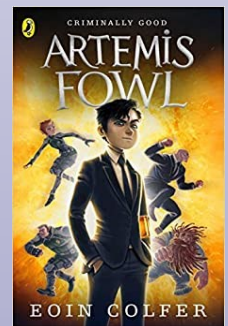
Flooded England, 2216 ... England has changed for ever: most of it is under water. Worse, bloodthirsty pirates prowl the shores, and when they kidnap the Prime Minister's daughter it looks like war. But out of this drowning world comes Lilly Melkun, a girl determined to put things right, with the help of a pirate boy - and an extraordinary treasure from the past, with the power to change the future ...

## Artemis Fowl - By Eoin Colfer

No scheme is too dastardly, no plot too devious. And he's just discovered that fairies are real. Poor fairies.

But these are not the cuddly creatures of bedtime stories. They are armed. They are dangerous. And when Artemis captures Captain Holly Short for her fairy gold, he messes with the wrong elf. Holly isn't armed but she's *incredibly dangerous, and pretty annoyed with all the kidnapping*. Artemis Fowl is about to find out that fairies fight back ...

Let the misadventure begin.



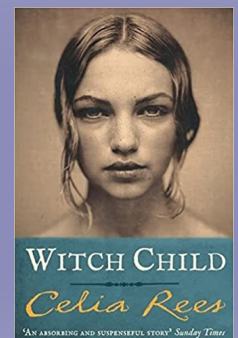
## The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas—By John Boyne

The story of The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas is very difficult to describe. Usually we give some clues about the book on the cover, but in this case we think that would spoil the reading of the book. We think it is important that you start to read without knowing what it is about. If you do start to read this book, you will go on a journey with a nine-year-old boy called Bruno. And sooner or later you will arrive with Bruno at a fence.

We hope you never have to cross such a fence.

## Witch Child - By Celia Rees

When Mary sees her grandmother accused of witchcraft and hanged for the crime, she is silently hurried to safety by an unknown woman. The woman gives her tools to keep the record of her days - paper and ink. Mary is taken to a boat in Plymouth and from there sails to the New World where she hopes to make a new life among the pilgrims. But old superstitions die hard and soon Mary finds that she, like her grandmother, is the victim of ignorance and stupidity, and once more she faces important choices to ensure her survival. With a vividly evoked environment and characters skillfully and patiently drawn, this is a powerful literary achievement by Celia Rees that is utterly engrossing from start to finish.



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