



Bredon Hill Academy
— LEARNING TOGETHER FOR SUCCESS —

Reading for Pleasure Newsletter Autumn 2023

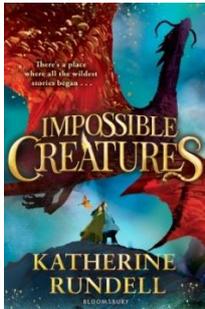
Our aim is for every student to say: “I am a Bredon Hill Academy student. I am a reader.”

Welcome to our new cohort in year 6 and welcome back to years 7 & 8. We hope you have had an enjoyable summer of reading. We have enjoyed seeing your summer reading and writing challenges. The Reading Newsletter is here to help you and your parents/carers choose the best reads over the coming academic year.

Our focus this term is: increasing our book miles. We can help our children find the tools they need to succeed in life. Having access to information through the printed word is an absolute necessity. Knowledge is power, and books are full of it. But reading is more than just a practical tool. Through books we can enrich our minds; we can also relax and enjoy some precious leisure moments. With your help, your children can begin a lifelong relationship with the printed word, so they grow into adults who read easily and frequently whether for business, knowledge, or pleasure.

Books to try...

Year 6 9+



Brimming of ideas, award-winning Katherine Rundell’s epic adventure is set in a world that joyfully and provocatively stretches the imagination as Christopher and Mal, two children with exceptional futures, explore the secret and mysterious world of the Archipelago where mythological creatures, sometimes benign but frequently savage, still live.

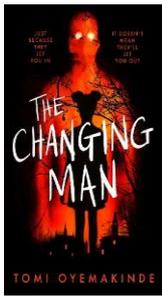
Mal’s destiny propels the course of their thrilling and desperate sea voyage on which so much of the future of the world depends while Christopher’s special qualities are also a mark of the vital role, he is to play in it too. Both have skills of strength and insight on an heroic scale especially with regard to caring for and understanding the special qualities of all living creatures – including trees. And both are readily recognisable from other fantasy epics such as Philip Pullman’s *His Dark Materials* and Ursula Le Guin’s *Earthsea* sequence.

Year 7 11+



When Delores Mackenzie is chased home by a restless spirit, she is sent to the mysterious Uncles in Edinburgh Old Town to learn how to control her unusual 'gifts'. Scared and alone, she finds her new home at the Tolbooth Book Store is full of curious surprises: some welcome, others less so. But when a sinister apparition threatens the lives of her strange new housemates, Delores must gather all her strength to save them.

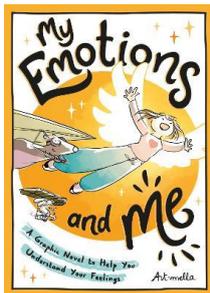
Year 8 13+



As a new student at a prestigious boarding school Ife is struggling to fit in. Not all her peers are friendly, and she feels increasingly lonely and homesick. Ben is another Nithercott attendee with his own struggles, his beloved older brother has disappeared, and nobody seems overly concerned. Bijal is a walking encyclopaedia of Nithercott history and is desperate to make some friends. As the three students slowly get to know each other they realise that something strange is haunting their hallways, could the urban legend of The Changing Man be true?

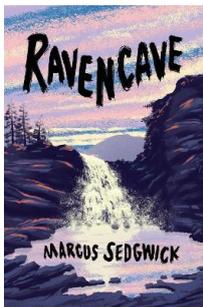
Graphic Text

11+



Drawing on extensive research into how our brains process emotions, *My Emotions and Me* helps us to find the messages behind our moods and offers simple tips to feel better in times of need. It's time to follow the clues to make your own investigations into your amazing brain!

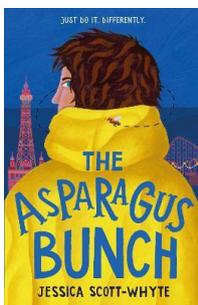
Dyslexia-friendly Text 11+



True to his matchless style, Marcus Sedgwick's *Ravencave* is unexpected, beautifully written and has a distinctly soulful feel.

James and his family have returned to Yorkshire for a holiday. It's a place deeply connected to his dad's family, and a "place full of ghosts", as his mum remarks. But this is far from a cheery family break. James' brother Robbie barely says a word to him, his dad has just been laid-off work by profiteering bosses, and his writer mum hasn't written anything for ages — "Are you still a writer if you no longer write anything?" James wonders.

Dyslexia-friendly and Neurodivergence-Focused Text 11+



As satisfying (and sweet) as the confectionary its unforgettable protagonist is an expert on, Jessica Scott-Whyte's *The Asparagus Bunch* tells the chock-full-of-charm story of Leon and his fellow neurodiverse friends. Refreshing and endlessly insightful on Leon's autism spectrum disorder, it's a funny, thought-provoking delight. Confectionary aficionado Leon is 4779 days old ("13 years and 1 month, if you're mathematically challenged"), and lives with his mum Caroline who works at Blackpool Pleasure Beach. "Most people think I've got an attitude problem," he acknowledges, but Caroline isn't most people, and neither are the friends he makes at his sixth new school, which he joins as Dr Snot diagnoses him with autism spectrum disorder.

Let Mrs Bartlett know of any good texts you would like featured in these newsletters. Drop her an e-mail cbartlett@bredon.worcs.sch.uk or leave her a post-it-note in room 4.

The library and an offer!

Our library is undergoing an update this year where we are updating stock and styling. As part of this initiative, we have been given a super opportunity to receive £300 pounds worth of non-fiction books for the students if 10 carers/parents take out a subscription to [Britannica magazine](#). These can be either 12-month plans (costing £59.99) or 6-month plans (costing just £29.99). Each new subscriber will also receive a **free book** as a sign-up gift – perfect in the run up to Christmas! Bredon Hill Academy have our own unique code: **ELMLEY** (can be upper or lower case) - we just ask you to put this into the discount code box at www.whatonearth.co.uk on any of their price plans and it will count as one of our 10. As a school, we subscribe to Britannica and copies are available to read in the library.

We are always on the look out for good quality books to boost our stock too. If you have any age-appropriate (10-13) good quality texts that you no longer need, do think about donating them to us. Just drop them off at reception. We would be extremely grateful.

Places to visit for book information:



<https://www.lovereadingleading4kids.co.uk/>

<https://www.readingrockets.org/topics/early-literacy-development/articles/reading-your-child>



<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/activities/>

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/>



We will be holding our annual Scholastic Book Fair on the week of the 16th November 2023.

On 20th November the Book Fair will be open to parents/carers between 3:20 and 5pm in the Foyer.

Thank you for your time. Our next issue will be out in December. The English Department.