

# Oakdene Primary Reading Newsletter

## April 2021

First of all, we must say a huge WELCOME BACK to all children who have returned over the past four weeks to Oakdene Primary as well as a wonderful WELCOME to our new children joining us. The corridors and classrooms have been quiet for far too long and it is fabulous to hear stories being shared once again with full classes. Also, a huge well done to all the children who were in school, ready and eager to read at 9.00am every morning. We have of course had to make some necessary changes to some of our usual reading practices and scheduled events in order to ensure pupil and staff safety.

In this newsletter we have included some recommended reads of the month, details of what each year group have been reading this term in class along with a celebration of reading events that have happened during the term. We hope that you find this information useful in order for us to work together to support your children in the transition back to full-time learning.

Miss Doherty  
KS2 & English Lead

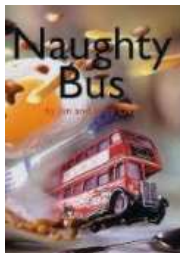


## What we're reading in class



Each class has regular whole class reading lessons where one text is read and studied for up to 6 weeks at a time. Often these texts are linked to a topic the children are learning about in class and are also sometimes linked to their writing lessons. We have included below the texts that the children have been reading in class this term in each year group.

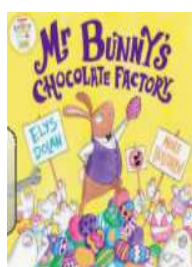
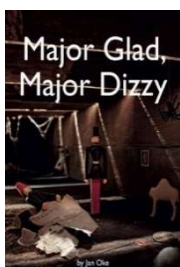
### Reception



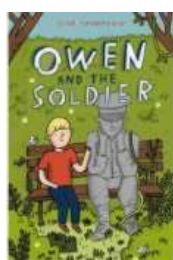
### Year 1



### Year 2



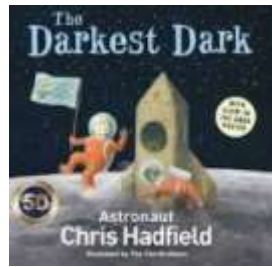
### Year 3



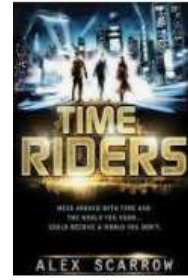
### Year 4



Year 5



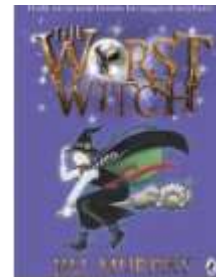
Year 6



## Read it or watch it?



Long before there was Hogwarts there was Miss Cackles Academy for Witches! The Worst Witch was written and illustrated by Jill Murphy over 45 years ago. Mildred Hubble is the worst witch in the school. She is always getting her spells wrong, she crashes her broomstick, dents her hat, and accidentally turns her arch-enemy Ethel Hallow into a pig. Fearsome form mistress Miss Hardbroom is not impressed. But with her friends Maud and Enid beside her Mildred learns to never give up, and that friendship is its own kind of magic! Bella Ramsey, the actress who plays Mildred in the CBBC/Netflix tv series had this message:



"I love reading! It's important because it lets you explore other words and understand people better!" Have you watched the series or read the books?

**Which do you prefer and why?**

## Celebrating World Book Day March 2021



World Book Day took place on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March and whilst it has been difficult to share wonderful experiences such as this as a whole school, we at Oakdene felt it was so important to do all that we can to celebrate our love of reading. Our wonderful staff took part in our very own 'Masked Reader', we had our 'Extreme Reading Challenge' and engaging activities throughout the whole week. Thank you to everyone who took part in making the week so special.



# Recommended Reads



Age 5+



Children have been through a lot this year and this lovely book, bursting with hope and reasons to look forward, provides the comfort and reassurance they've been needing, plus a sense of the joy that's been missing for too long. It stars a young sister and brother, plus their sometimes-frazzled parents, and describes the creation of a rainbow image for their window. Painting the rainbow brings back good memories as well as some sad ones, but ultimately reminds them of the really important things in life – family and friends – and that “we’ll still have each other when this rainstorm ends!”

Welcome to The Nothing to See Here Hotel! Book your stay now for this fabulously funny series full of mayhem, monsters and more than a little bit of magic by bestselling author Steven Butler and illustrated by Steven Lenton. Life is never dull for Frankie Banister and the weird and wonderful guests of The Nothing to See Here Hotel - the no.1 holiday destination for magicals! But when Frankie is kidnapped and dragged off to a secret cistern-city deep in the dooziest depths of the sewers, things get a whole lot weirder! This is book 4 in a fabulous series!



Age 7+

Age 9+



A breathtaking fantasy adventure for fans of Brightstorm and His Dark Materials. The City was built on a sharp mountain that jutted improbably from the sea, and the sea kept trying to claim it back. That grey morning, once the tide had retreated, a whale was found on a rooftop. When a mysterious boy washes in with the tide, the citizens believe he's the Enemy - the god who drowned the world - come again to cause untold chaos. Only Ellie, a fearless young inventor living in a workshop crammed with curiosities, believes he's innocent. But the Enemy can take possession of any human body and the ruthless Inquisition are determined to destroy it forever. To save the boy, Ellie must prove who he really is - even if that means revealing her own dangerous secret . . .

## 7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school closures.

- 1 Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)



Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Following a recipe to make some cupcakes is valuable reading. Be on the lookout for reading; wherever it is!

- 2 Ask your child lots of questions



All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to' (even for older children). So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'

- 3 Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read



If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the bear on the front cover? Where do you think he will go?'

- 4 Ask your child to summarise what they have read



When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Acting out the things that happened in the story or describing the big idea of a chapter is really fun and maximises learning. For example, 'can you remember all the things that happened on the bear hunt?'

- 5 Ask your child to write about what they have read



Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper to make a treasure map with clues from the stories you've read together.

- 6 Read and discuss reading with friends or family



Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'I hope the tiger doesn't come to tea today!'

- 7 Maintain the motivation to read



Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Your child is on an amazing journey to becoming a reader. Put them in the driving seat and have fun on the way! For example, 'choose your favourite story for bedtime tonight.'