

New for
2024 - 2025



Reading Olympiad

Year 5

2024-2025

A guide for parents & children

The Importance of Reading

At Beardall Fields, want our children to love reading, to read widely and read often. The impact of reading on your child's education cannot be overstated. All research indicates that reading has a **powerful effect on their achievement, across all areas of the curriculum** and into other areas of life (including self-esteem, better sleep, combatting loneliness and general life satisfaction)! Here are some key research findings:

"Reading for pleasure is crucial for a child's cognitive development and is a **more powerful factor in their life than socio-economic background.**"

"Reading aloud is **essential** for developing fluent reading ability."

"Regular reading (just 20 minutes a day) can be worth **two whole GCSE grades!**"

"Regular readers outperform their non-regular reading peers in **every curriculum subject** by the end of year six".

19% of regular readers say it helps to prevent loneliness.

Children and adults, who read for just 30 minutes a week, are 20% more likely to report greater life satisfaction.

Readers have better self-esteem and regular sleeping patterns (which comes with attached physical health benefits).

The Reading Olympiad is our way of encouraging children to engage with reading through a range of high-quality texts: both fiction and non-fiction. The books you will find on the next few pages are by no mean an exhaustive list but have been proven to be loved by huge numbers of avid readers recently or through the ages.

It is impossible to overstate the importance of reading – listening to others read, reading aloud, and reading to yourself - it all helps to build a foundation for academic success.

So let's become Reading Olympiad Champions!

The Year Five Team

See the following for the research that has been quoted above:

Billington, J. (2015) [Reading between the Lines: the Benefits of Reading for Pleasure](#). Quick Reads, University of Liverpool
Sullivan and Brown (2013) [Social inequalities in cognitive scores at age 16: The role of reading](#).

CLASSICS



THE TOP
20

Scoring System

The Reading Olympiad is scored in the same way as last year. There are different ways we are now encouraging children to read and be rewarded:

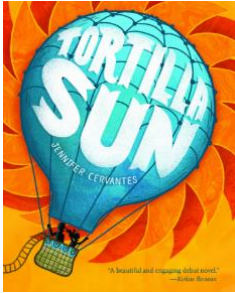
- Reading at home
 - Each child will have a race track to complete over the course of the year – they will fill in ONE square of the race track for every day that they read at home. Every time a child completes a lap they will be able to collect a different reward. See how many laps you can do over the course of the year and collect all the different rewards!
 - Reading THREE times a week at home will be rewarded with an extra playtime.
- Reading at school
 - Incentives and rewards for reading will still continue at school, led by staff working in your child's class. This could be a whole class reward (e.g. choosing time) or individualised (e.g. extra playtime, certificate). Staff will adapt this from class to class to meet the needs of the children.

Reading diaries will be checked once a week by members of staff and we will contact parents where a child has not read at home to remind them of its importance.

We will continue to encourage reading and reward children through our school POWERS system for demonstrating a positive attitude to learning

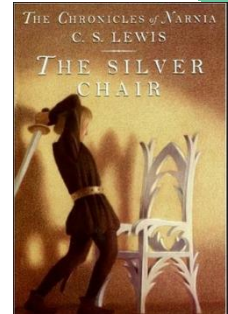


Top 20 Reading List



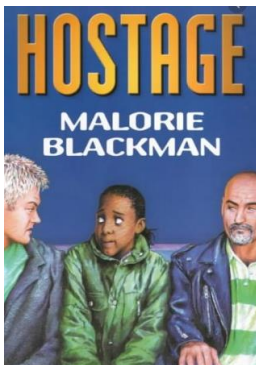
Tortilla Sun

By Jennifer Cervantes



The Silver Chair

By C. S. Lewis

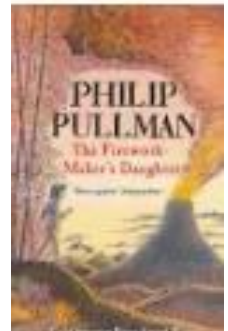


Hostage

By Malorie Blackman

The Firework Maker's Daughter

By Philip Pullman

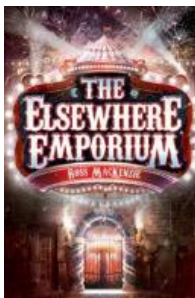


An Edition of First News

Various Authors

Rowan of Rin

By Emily Rodda

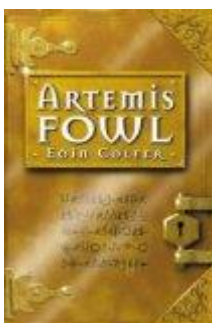
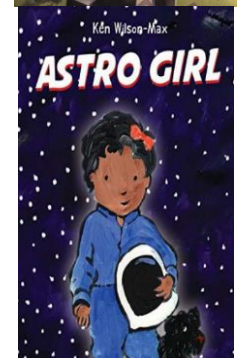


The Elsewhere Emporium

By Ross Mackenzie

Astro Girl

By Ken Wilson-Max



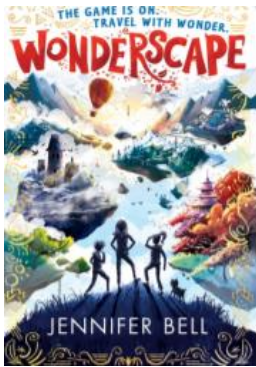
Artemis Fowl

By Eoin Colfer

**Any of the
Curriculum
Books in your
class**

Various Authors





Wonderscape
by Jennifer Bell

**Any of the
Horrible
Histories/Science/
Geography Series**
Various Authors



The Snow Merchant
By Sam Gayton

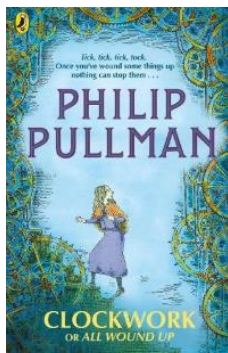
Viking Boy
By Tony Bradman



The Island
By Armin Greder

**Mystery of the
Maya**

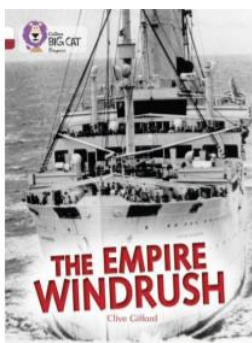
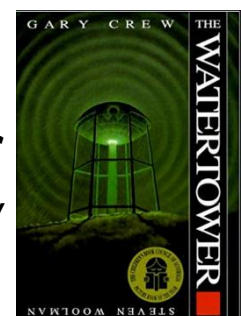
By R. A. Montgomery



Clockwork

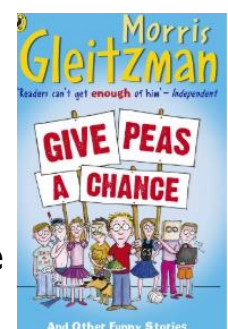
By Philip Pullman

The Watertower
By Gary Crew



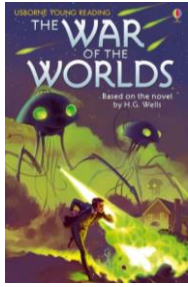
**The Empire
Windrush**
By Clive Gifford

Give Peas a Chance
By Morris Gleitzman



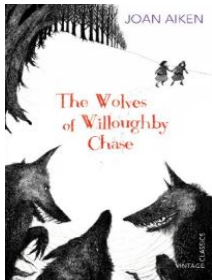
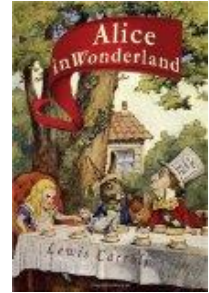
CLASSICS

Classics



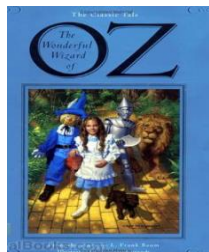
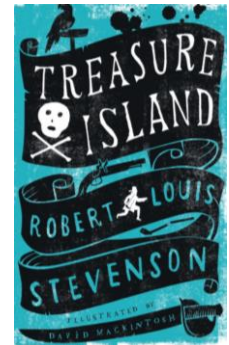
The War of the Worlds
By H. G. Wells

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
By Lewis Carroll



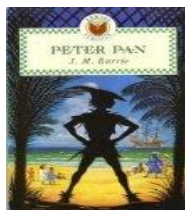
The Wolves of Willoughby Chase
By Joan Aiken

Treasure Island
By Robert Louis Stevenson



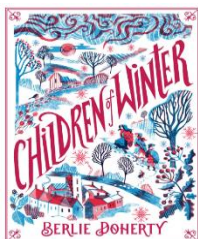
The Wizard of Oz
By L. Frank Baum

Mary Poppins
By Pamela L. Travers



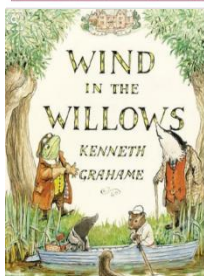
Peter Pan
By J. M. Barrie

Harry Potter Series
By J.K. Rowling



Children of Winter
By Berlie Doherty

Any of the Oxford Reading Tree 'Classics' Series



The Wind in the Willows
By Kenneth Graham

