

New for
2024 – 2025



Reading Olympiad

Year 4

2024-2025

A guide for parents and 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. **This is why at Beardall Fields we expect children's reading diaries to be signed by parents AT LEAST once a week, regardless of age.**

We hope you enjoy the Olympiad. Happy reading!

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



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.



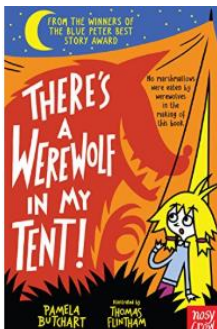
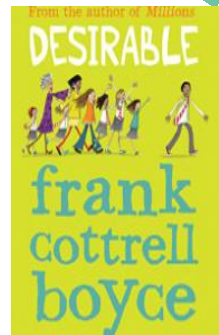


Year Four Top 20



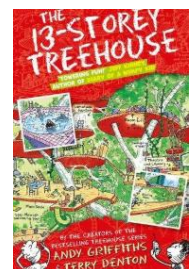
Max and the Millions
Ross Montgomery

Desirable
By Frank Cottrell Boyce



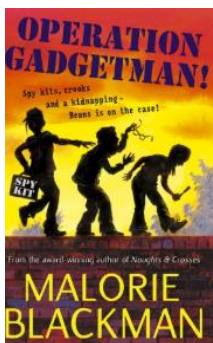
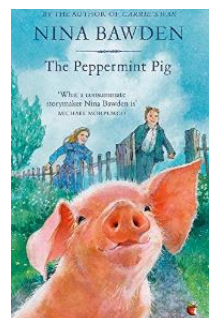
There's a werewolf in my tent!
By Pamela Butchart

The 13-storey Treehouse
By Andy Griffiths



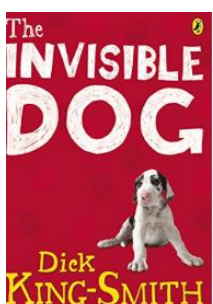
An Edition of First News
Various Authors

Peppermint Pig
By Nina Bawden



Operation Gadgetman
By Malorie Blackman

Toad Rage
By Morris Gleitzman

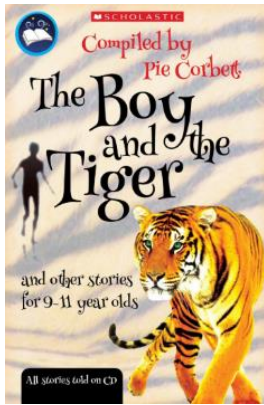


The Invisible Dog
By Dick King Smith

Any of the Curriculum Books in your class

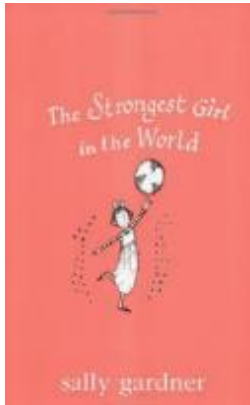
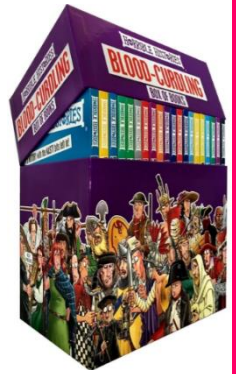
Various Authors





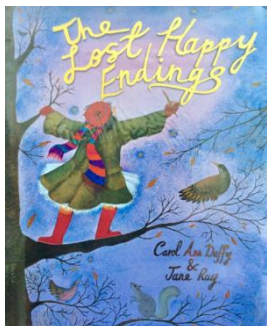
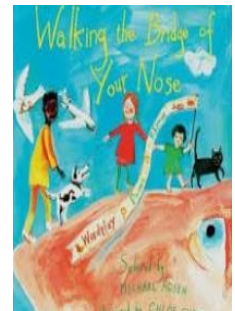
The Boy and the Tiger *Compiled by Pie Corbett*

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



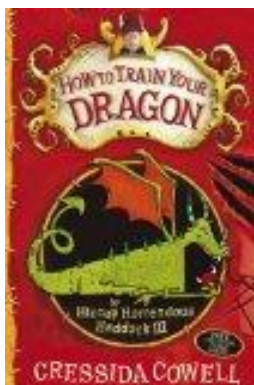
The Strongest Girl in the World *By Sally Gardner*

**Walking the
Bridge of your
nose**
By Michael Rosen



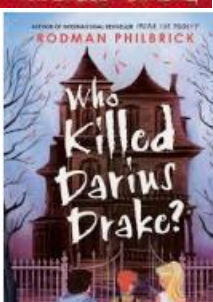
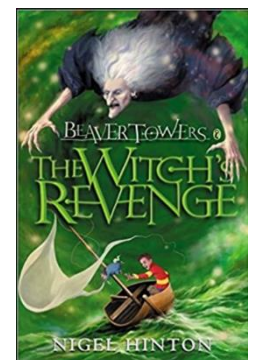
The Last Happy Endings *By Carol Ann Duffy and Jane Ray*

Ice Palace
By Robert Swindells



How to Train Your Dragon *By Cressida Cowell*

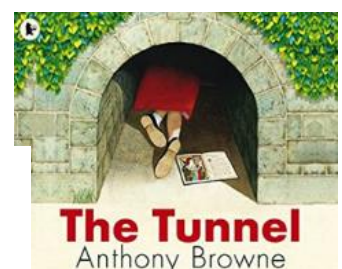
**Beaver Towers: The
Witches Revenge**
By Nigel Hinton



Who Killed Darius Drake?

By Rodman Philbrick

The Tunnel
By Anthony Browne



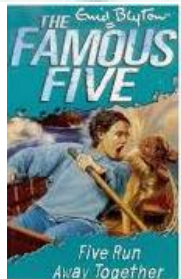
CLASSICS

Year 4 Classics



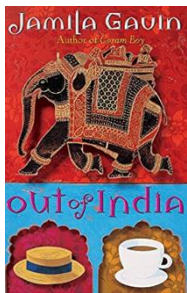
The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe

By C. S. Lewis



The Famous Five

By Enid Blyton



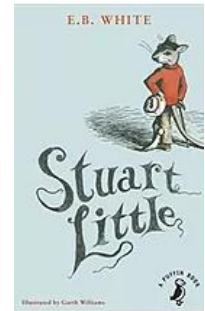
Out of India

By Jamila Gavin



The Secret Garden

By Frances Hodgson Burnett



Stuart Little

By E. B. White



The Secret Seven

By Enid Blyton



Charlotte's Web

By E. B. White



Swallows and Amazons

By Arthur Ransome

Any of the Oxford Reading Tree 'Greatest Stories' Series



Any of the Oxford Reading Tree 'Myths and Legends' Series

