



Bredon Hill Academy Reading Newsletter Summer 2

Welcome back!

Author Pen Pal: [Damaris Young](#)

Over this academic year, we have been in correspondence with author Damaris Young. She has sent us her second letter and set us a new challenge. She enjoyed reading your blurbs and looking at your front covers Year 6. This time she has a new challenge for all students. If you want to have a go, hand in your response to your English teacher or Mrs. Bartlett by 11th June and we will send them to Damaris.

I have a very special writing prompt for you.

If you have read 'The Creature Keeper', you will know that Cora becomes the creature keeper of Direspire Hall and the mysterious animals that live there.

Imagine that you receive a mysterious letter in the post. You tear open the letter and you are astonished to read the words...

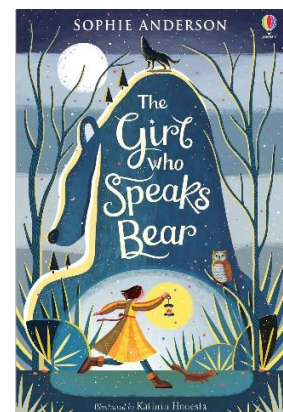
"To my long-lost relative, you have been given the keys to my TOP SECRET ZOO. The animals inside are not what you would expect... Please look after them and don't get eaten!"

What would you do next?

Parenting Tip #2:

Talk about the books.

There is more to being a good reader than just being able to read the words accurately. Just as important is being able to understand what has been read. Always talk to your child about the book; about the settings, the characters, how they think the story will end, their favourite part. You will then be able to see how well they have understood and you will be helping them to develop good comprehension skills.



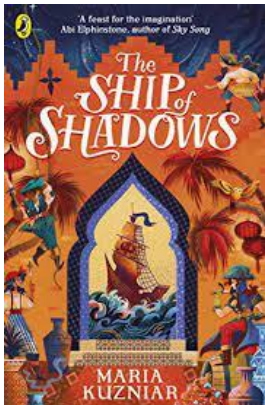
[Book 2](#) from the Carnegie shortlist is:

Website of the week: <https://shows.acast.com/the-scoop>

The SCOOP is a podcast for children and their families which celebrates reading, writing and creativity, brought to you by SCOOP Magazine.



Reviews:



'The Ship of Shadows' by Maria Kuzniar

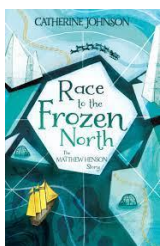
Book reviewed by Mrs Oakley

Forced into fleeing her home city of Seville after being accused of stealing, Aleja finds herself on board the mysterious Ship of Shadows under the command of the swashbuckling Pirate Captain Quint.

The all-women crew, on a quest to find a lost treasure map, face many adventures: an attack by a kraken, a trek across the desert and, of course, the mysteries that their own ship holds for them.

The Ship of Shadows has a unique setting: hidden rooms suddenly appear and disappear; shadows of former crew members manifest themselves at awkward moments; it's as if the ship itself is alive and trying to aid those on board. The main character, Aleja, is a feisty young girl who has always craved adventure but remains worried about the family she has left behind in Seville. Aleja is keen to learn new skills and prove that she is worthy of her place on board the ship but she also has to earn the Captain's trust.

If you enjoy adventure and mystery stories with exotic historical settings, I would recommend this book to you.



'Race to the Frozen North' by Catherine Johnson

Have you ever wanted to know what it would be like to go on an adventure to the North Pole? Me too! Johnson's novel allows the reader to do just that. It is about a boy who doesn't get treated equally and who shows resilience. The story follows the life of Matthew Henson. It follows the challenges and difficulties he faced in his life. I loved the novel. My favourite part of the novel was when Matt was travelling across the polar ice cap. The story was amazing. I would recommend this novel to all children from 11-13. The story is interesting and kept me guessing about what would happen until the end.

Alice Year 6

If you have read a book you have enjoyed and would recommend, why not write a review and give it to Mrs Bartlett to be published in a future edition of this publication?