

Bredon Hill Academy Reading Newsletter Summer Term 1

Welcome to the Summer Term 1 Reading Newsletter.

Spotlight on Tom Palmer

Tom Palmer is a children's author who has written over 50 children's books that cover ranges of genres including football, rugby and World War Two.

At school, Tom was a reluctant reader until his mum encouraged him to read about football in magazines, newspapers and books. After graduating, he worked in a bookshop and then a library.

One of his most well-known series is *Roy of the Rovers* (adapted for modern times from the classic comic strip hero). More recently, he has created *Rocky of the Rovers*, a female version of Roy who is in charge of the women's team.

Other favourites include titles from his historical fiction range such as *D-Day Dog* and *Armistice Runner*. Tom has also written books about rugby, including a range of dyslexia-friendly books and graphic novels.

Women's Euro Reading Challenge

This July, England is hosting the UEFA Women's EURO 2022 football tournament. The National Literacy Trust has worked with the UEFA Tournament Team to encourage pupils to get involved in the tournament, whilst also boosting their reading skills. There are three ways to get involved:

- Follow a brand-new Rocky of the Rovers story that will be published in instalments every Wednesday and Friday morning, starting on July 6th.
- Online events, including quizzes and interviews with top women footballers.
- Take part in the Reading Challenge wallchart that will be run through the P.E. department.

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/uefa-womens-euro-2022/>

Parenting tips for making reading fun:

Choose a special place in your home to turn into a reading corner or, now the weather is getting better, take your reading out into the garden!

Encourage your child to start a mini book club with some of their friends. They would read the same book and then discuss it. This could be done at home or online (younger children may need adult supervision).

Listen to audio books. This can be done anywhere and may take the stress out of reading for reluctant readers. If you want to take it a step further, encourage children to read the book as they listen to it.

Recommended Websites:

<https://www.mrdilly.com/mr-dilly-meets>

A monthly show that has interviews with authors and artists.

<https://tompalmer.co.uk/?scrlybrkr=58bb52ef>

Our featured author this term. Describes his books and there's a "Free Reads" section where you can try before buying!



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Book Reviews

The Red Queen Series by Victoria Aveyard



This is a series of four books set in a dystopian world. It is ruled by the Silvers, a race of people who have special abilities such as controlling water, fire and metal. Set against them are the Reds (named for the colour of their blood) who do not have supernatural powers and are therefore subservient to the Silvers.

As the story unfolds, we follow the fortunes of Mare, Cal and Kilorn as they try to right wrongs and make their world a fairer place for all.

I very much enjoyed the dystopian twist to these novels in that people are labelled for the colour of their blood: red, silver and newblood (a mixture of both). There is a lot of new vocabulary but it often relates to something in our world so it is easy to work out what they are describing. For example, The Bowl of Bones is the name given to the arena in which prisoners are sent to fight for their lives. It mimics a Roman Coliseum in the way that it is described.

I would recommend this series for KS3 pupils.

Mrs Oakley



Ultimate/Classic Football Heroes Series

By Matt Oldfield and Tom Oldfield

These are true stories about professional football legends. Some of them are still playing today but some of them have retired. They are from all around the world. They are mainly about male football players but there are one or two about women players. There are several series.

Each book takes you through their journey from when they started playing as a child, through becoming a professional player, and onto them becoming a legend.

I like the fact that the books show how you can go from being a player as a child to being a professional player. They are inspirational stories that show what you need to do to become a good footballer.

My favourite book is probably Ronaldo because he had a tough childhood and so the book shows that, however you live your lifestyle, you can still become a good player.

I would recommend these books to people who enjoy playing football and who would want to be a footballer one day but they would also appeal to people who enjoy watching football as well because they show the lifestyle of a professional player.

George Year 6