

Bredon Hill Academy Reading Newsletter Spring Term 1

Welcome to the Spring Term 1 Reading Newsletter.

Spotlight on Jane Austen



Jane Austen was an English novelist known primarily for her six major novels, which interpret, critique and comment upon the British landed gentry at the end of the 18th century. Austen's plots often explore the dependence of women on marriage in the pursuit of favourable social standing and economic security.

Jane Austen was born in the Hampshire village of Steventon, where her father, the Reverend George Austen, was rector.

Her earliest known writings date from about 1787, and between then and 1793 she wrote a large body of material that has survived in three manuscript notebooks: 'Volume the first', 'Volume the second' and 'Volume the third'. These contain plays, verses, short novels, and other prose and show Austen engaged in the parody (mockery) of existing literary forms, notably the genres of the sentimental novel and sentimental comedy.

Ella 7C

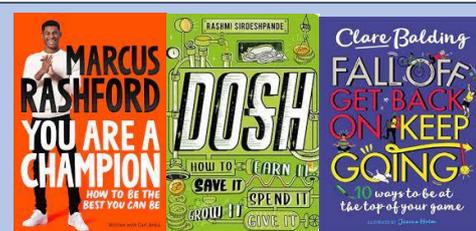
This term's class readers are all non-fiction:

Year 6: *Fall Off, Get Back On, Keep Going* by Clare Balding

Year 7: *You are a Champion* by Marcus Rashford

Year 8: *Dosh* by Rashmi Sirdeshpandi

It is important that your child reads a wide range of books including both fiction and non-fiction.



Parenting tips for encouraging your child to read non-fiction:

1. Pick a subject you think they'll be interested in
2. Children may prefer to dip in and out of non-fiction books – that's fine!
3. Identify key ideas in the text and ensure your child has understood them
4. Encourage them to ask questions – hopefully, the answers will pop up later!
5. Talk about how the text is structured and how it is different to fiction



Dates for your Diary:

14th February 2022: International Book Giving Day
<https://bookgivingday.com/about/>

3rd March 2022: World Book Day
<https://www.worldbookday.com/>

In school, the English department will be running a journal-based competition for World Book Day. Prizes will be available!

21st March 2022: Shakespeare Week
<https://www.shakespeareweek.org.uk/>

Recommended Website:

<https://www.waterstones.com/category/childrens-teenage>

Waterstones is great if you are looking for books suitable for a particular age group or recommended reading lists. They also highlight the latest books to be published. In the podcast section, there is always a children's book featured.

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Book Reviews

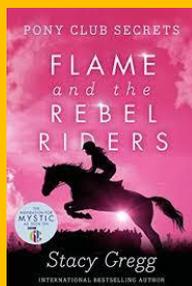
***Flame and the Rebel Riders* by Stacy Gregg**

This book is about Izzy who is looking for a summer job and a well-known trainer offers Izzy a job at her stables. Whilst there, Izzy learns lots of professional techniques about show-jumping. She meets a horse called Flame who is very wild. Izzy gets chosen to ride him as she is better than Natasha, a rival at the stables. During a competition, at which a wealthy horse owner is present, the riders are keen to show off their skills but sadly things go badly wrong for Flame.

I enjoyed this book because I learned what professional show jumpers do (both good and bad) to enable them to win. I liked the fact that Izzy returned to her old instructor for help as they had quite a close relationship.

This book is one in a series of stories that follows the same main characters. It is suitable for ages 10 - 13 and is not a difficult read. If you like horses, these adventure books are for you!

Chloe (8V)



***A Teenager's War* by James Brearley**

This is a true story about a seventeen-year-old boy from Huddersfield who goes off to war. He travels across many countries and fights in many different battles. He is part of the Fifth Black Watch. It's written in the first-person narrative, which is good because it makes it seem like you are actually in the story. I liked how his concept of war changes throughout the book from thinking that war was an adventure to being horrified by the violence. All his mates are killed – he's the only one of his group left. Towards the end of the story, he wonders if war has taught him to be gentle and caring or if he will be tormented by what he has seen for the rest of his life...

I rate this book a 4.5 out of 5 because it is very emotional, and it makes you feel like the soldier is talking to you, like you are his best mate. He tells you all the battle plans and all his missions. The book includes very interesting and detailed pictures of what really happened in the war.

This was a book borrowed from Mr Pearce who runs a History Book club on Wednesday lunchtime.

Ieuan 8H

