



Bredon Hill Academy  
— LEARNING TOGETHER FOR SUCCESS —

## Reading for Pleasure Newsletter Summer 2 2024

Our aim is for every student to say: “I am a Bredon Hill Academy student. I am a reader.”

Our focus this term has been: reading to stimulate connections between the reader and the world. Regular reading has been found to sharpen our concentration, increase our attention span and improve our memory. For children, developing positive habits for vocabulary acquisition early on supports them to understand and engage with each text they read, absorb new cultural knowledge alongside learning new words, and continue to expand their vocabulary as they get older by nurturing a love of reading. The more we read, the more we understand, and the more we want to know the meaning of new words as we come across them, because we begin to appreciate just how much the depth of our vocabulary enhances our reading experience. Literacy is the language of learning, both in fiction and non-fiction.

Summer is a super time to relax and concentrate on reading daily. It is a time for students to focus on this very important skill in order to maintain their skills and in order to keep the habit growing. Young minds need the stimulation and they will be acquiring knowledge of the world and how emotions are used. It is a quick and easy way to keep building vocabulary and allowing students to ask questions. Libraries have free events and of course access to a plethora of wonderful reads. Do register for our free summer reading aloud challenge.

**National Read-Aloud Challenge**  
Powered by **Fonetti**

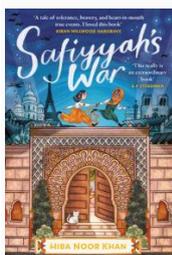
We're reading aloud this summer and competing against schools around the UK

**Bredon Hill Academy**

[readaloudchallenge.co.uk](http://readaloudchallenge.co.uk)  
[#BeProudReadAloud](https://twitter.com/BeProudReadAloud)

## Books to try...

Year 6 9+



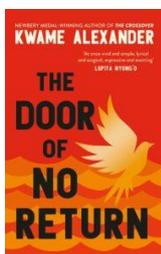
### Saffiyah's War

Hiba Noor Khan

When war arrives in Paris and the Nazi occupation begins, the lives of Saffiyah and her family and friends change forever. Saffiyah lives at the Grand Central Mosque in Paris with her family. This book shines a light on the role the Great Mosque in Paris played in helping the Jewish community, offering an insight into a less known part of World War Two. Drawn into danger, will Saffiyah be able to summon the courage to enter the catacombs beneath Paris and lead the Jews to safety in this daring, exciting and genuinely tense read?

<https://yotocarnegies.co.uk/books/saffiyahs-war/>

Year 7 12+



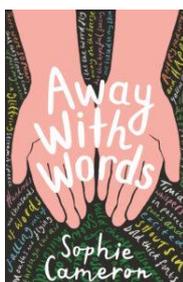
### The Door of No Return

Kwame Alexander

Kofi Offin and his family live in West Africa in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The first half of the book is simply told and there's an everyday quality to the story with childhood rivalries, friendship, practising for swimming contests and love. It details the lives, loves and daily experiences of Upper and Lower Kwanta in West Africa. Kofi's abduction signals a slow journey away from the familiar which makes it all the more shocking and empathic. Themes of war and peace, hate and love, alongside hope and despair are deeply rooted through this heart-wrenching story.

<https://yotocarnegies.co.uk/books/the-door-of-no-return/>

Year 8 13+



### Away With Words

Sophie Cameron

Gala moves from Spain to a remote part of Scotland with her dad and stepdad. Struggling with a new language and with homesickness, Gala becomes friends with Natalie, a girl with selective mutism. The friends collect words and like to create poems using the words spoken by others. They seek to enrich people's lives with the poems made from captured words, but their idea is hijacked and used to cause pain and division.

<https://yotocarnegies.co.uk/books/away-with-words/>

## Graphic Novel 12+



### Sheets

Brenna Thumler

Marjorie, responsible for running the family launderette at the tender age of 13, is trying to hold everything together – her grieving father and younger brother are little help.

School isn't great either, especially with horrid popular girl Tessi Waffleton tripping her up at every opportunity. And with the unpleasant Mr Saubertuck wanting to turn the launderette into a posh yoga retreat, Marjorie doesn't know where to turn for help.

We are always on the lookout for good quality books to boost our stock too. If you have any age-appropriate (10-13) good quality texts that you no longer need, do think about donating them to us. Just drop them off at reception. We would be extremely grateful.

Places to visit for book information:



<https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/>

<https://www.readingrockets.org/topics/early-literacy-development/articles/reading-your-child>



<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/activities/> <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/>

Let Mrs Bartlett know of any good texts you would like featured in these newsletters. Drop her an e-mail [cbartlett@bredon.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:cbartlett@bredon.worcs.sch.uk) or leave her a post-it-note in room 4.

Thank you for your time. Our next issue will be out in November. The English Department.