



Tring School

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Dear Parents/Carers

Reading for pleasure is one of the most rewarding and impactful activities your child can do during the half-term holiday. Tring School is dedicated to improving the life chances of all our students and that's why we place such emphasis on reading for pleasure. The National Literacy Trust makes it clear that:

Lacking vital literacy skills holds a person back at every stage of their life. As a child they won't be able to succeed at school, as a young adult they will be locked out of the job market, and as a parent they won't be able to support their own child's learning. This intergenerational cycle makes social mobility and a fairer society more difficult.

As children get older, with many other activities competing for their time, here are some suggestions from Booktrust about encouraging them to make time for reading:

- Read yourself! It doesn't matter what it is – a newspaper, magazine, recipe etc.
- Give books as presents and encourage your children and their friends to swap books
- Visit the local library together
- Encourage children to carry a book at all times
- Have a family bookshelf. If you can, have bookshelves in your children's bedrooms, too

Here are some book suggestions and recommendations:

- In our LRC Assembly this week, we promoted our NEW **Battle of the Books** competition. We're asking students to read, or re-read *Code Name Banana* by David Walliams and then a Kahoot! Quiz will be shared with students w/c 22 February.
- The **CILIP Carnegie Medal Longlist** will be announced on Thursday 18 February. This is the most prestigious award for writers of children's and young adult fiction and the Longlist will contain 20 of the very best titles for young people.
- Take a look at this year's **Blue Peter Book Awards Shortlist**. The winner will be announced on Thursday 4 March 2021, World Book Day.
- Many of our Year 7 students have been reading **Coraline** by Neil Gaiman this term, so if your child enjoyed that, here are some suggestions of what to read next:
 - Neil Gaiman's award-winning *The Graveyard Book*
 - *Seven Ghosts* by Chris Priestley
 - *Jigsaw of Fire & Stars*, by Yaba Badoe

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- *the Summoner series* by Taran Matharu
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- **Our Book of the Month** is *Beverly, Right Here* by Kate DiCamillo

- **Other Books We Love for:**
 - *Where the World Turns Wild* by Nichola Penfold - ebooks
 - *Look Both Ways* by Jason Reynolds
 - *Clean Getaway* by Nic Stone
 - *100 Things to Know About Saving the Planet* published by Usborne Books
 - *Everything All At Once* by Stephen Camden
 - *Fearless* by Liam Hackett
 - *Unlocking the Universe* by Stephen & Lucy Hawking

There is also a broad range of reading suggestions to support your child's learning on the Tring School Website <https://www.tring.herts.sch.uk/2774/super-curriculum>.

Yours faithfully

Mrs S Watkins
Manager Learning Resource Centre