



**Year 6 Reading
Olympiad
2012 – 2013**

A guide for parents &
students

The Value of Reading

During Year 6, we want to encourage students to read as often and as widely as possible. Research tells us that children who are very good and confident readers by the age of 15 are most likely to go on achieve well at high school, college and university. We also know that students who read for just half an hour a day can be up to a year ahead of those who don't by the time they turn 15: Reading is a vital skill!

To encourage students to read more often, we are launching the reading Olympiad. We want to encourage every student to read more often, to read more widely, and to find something to love reading. We also want to encourage parents to engage with the Olympiad, both by helping their child to find and read good books, and by reading themselves.

So take up the challenge – and become a reader!



The Reading Olympiad

To encourage frequent reading, we are setting some challenges to Year 6 students, with Bronze, Silver & Gold Awards for those who do well. The challenges are set out here, and also in the reading Olympiad card that all students have been given:

2 Point Challenges

- Read a book someone else has recommended
- Recommend a book that someone else then reads
- Discuss a book with someone else who has read it
- Read a book to someone else (e.g. brother or sister)
- Write a book review

02

3 Point Challenges

- Learn a favourite poem by heart
- Read a 'gift' book from the wrapped selection
- Read a sequel to a book you've already read
- Read a book from the Key Authors list on page 6
- Read a book and watch the film that goes with it

03

5 Point Challenges

- Read a book from the Top 20 booklist on pages 4 & 5
- Read your parent's favourite childhood book

05

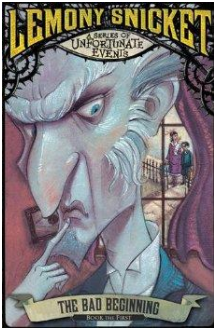
10 Point Challenge

- Read a book from the Classics list on page 6

10

There may also be additional challenges through the year with bonus points awarded.

Top 20 Reading



A Series of Unfortunate Events

By Lemony Snicket



Stoneheart

By Charlie Fletcher



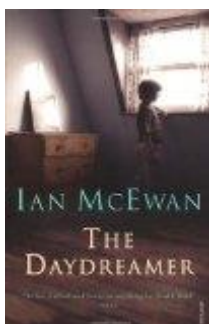
Carrie's War

By Nina Bawden



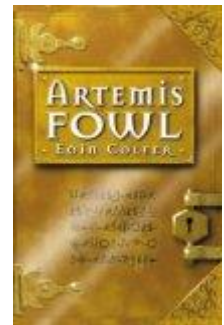
The Owl Service

By Alan Garner



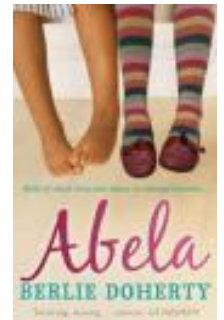
The Daydreamer

By Ian McEwan



Artemis Fowl

By Eoin Colfer



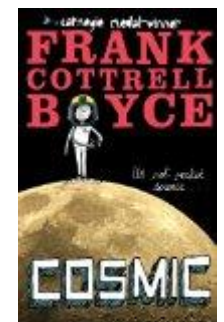
Abela

By Berlie Doherty



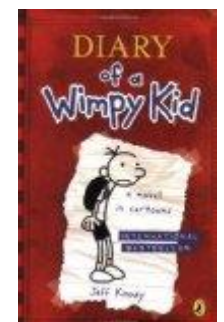
Charlotte's Web

By E. B. White



Cosmic

By Frank Cottrell Boyce



Diary of a Wimpy Kid

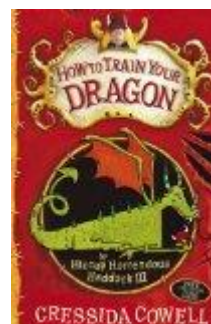
By Jeff Kinney

Recommendations



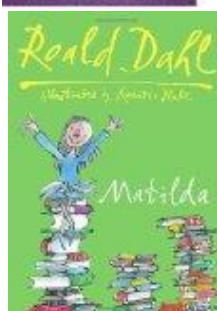
Goodnight Mister Tom
By Michelle Magorian

How to Train Your Dragon
By Cressida Cowell



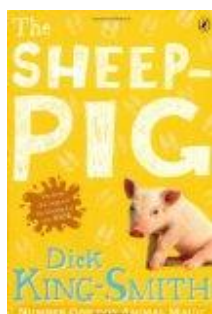
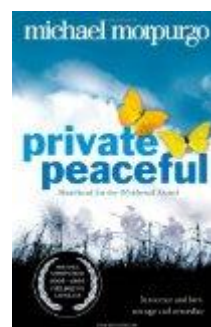
Wolf Brother
By Michelle Paver

The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe
By C. S. Lewis



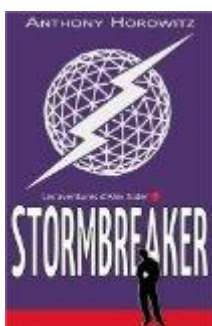
Matilda
By Roald Dahl

Private Peaceful
By Michael Morpurgo



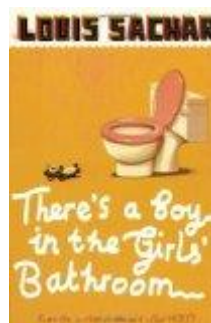
The Sheep-Pig
By Dick King-Smith

Skellig
By David Almond



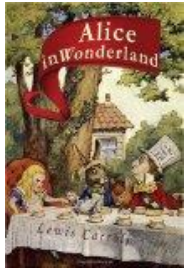
Stormbreaker
By Anthony Horowitz

There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom
By Louis Sachar



Classics

Why not try something different and go for one of these older 'classic' texts? Or one of the recommended authors below?

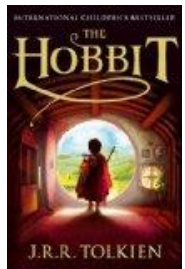
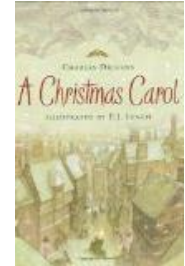


Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

By Lewis Carroll

A Christmas Carol

By Charles Dickens

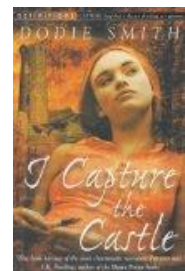


The Hobbit

By J. R. R. Tolkien

I Capture the Castle

By Dodie Smith

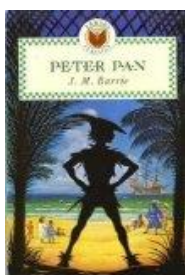


Just William

By Richmal Crompton

Mary Poppins

By Pamela L. Travers

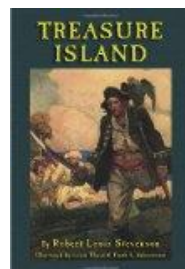


Peter Pan

By J. M. Barrie

Treasure Island

By Robert Louis Stevenson



Authors

- Malorie Blackman
- Judy Blume
- Roald Dahl
- Anne Fine
- Nigel Hinton
- Anthony Horowitz
- Michael Morpurgo
- Robert Swindells
- Robert Westall
- Jacqueline Wilson

What else can we do?

There are lots of things that families can do together to support the improvement of reading ability and enjoyment – and not all of them require a book!

Talk as a family about reading

By Year 6 most students are competent readers and are less likely to read aloud to an adult. That's a natural progression, but it doesn't mean that parents don't have a part to play. The higher level skills of inference and understanding the craft of an author can be supported by talking about what has been read.

Share a book

Just because you don't necessarily read together doesn't mean that parents and children can't share a book. Young Adult fiction is excellent and well worth a read as a parent. Why not both read the same book?

Model what it is to be a reader

Many parents will read, whether it be fiction, newspapers, online or in any other context. Get in the habit of being seen to read, and valuing reading.

Join the library – and visit!

Library membership is free, and Cirencester library is just a short walk from the Parish Church. That opens up a whole range of reading opportunities!

Good & Bad Reading

Fiction books aren't the only sort of reading material that will help you improve your reading ability.

Reading these will help:



Newspapers



Websites



Non-fiction



Magazines



Graphic Novels



Audio books

Reading these won't!:



Palms



Tea Leaves