

Welcome to the third edition of our Brampton Bookworms newsletter this academic year. This newsletter is designed for both parents and children and we hope you enjoy sharing it. Our aim is to keep you up to date with what is happening with regard to reading at our school. You will find lots of information here about what we are doing to promote reading for pleasure, as well as a round-up of favourite books and new releases.



Our reading ambassadors have been lucky enough to have another one of their favourite authors answer their interview questions. The very popular Liz Pichon.

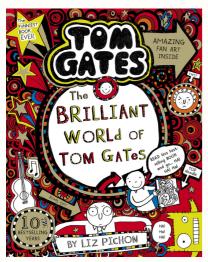


Liz Pichon is the author of the best selling TOM GATES series, which has sold 5,000,000 books in the UK. Tom Gates has been translated into 44 languages and has sold over II million copies around the world.

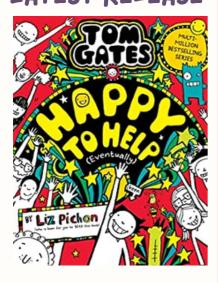
The first book in the series, THE BRILLIANT WORLD OF TOM GATES, won the Roald Dahl Funny Prize, The Red House Book Award Best Book for Young Readers and the Waterstone's Best Fiction for 5-12-year-olds Prize.

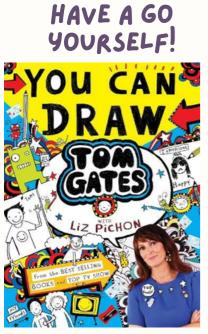
The fourth book in the series, TOM GATES: GENIUS IDEAS MOSTLY, won the Blue Peter Award for Best Story.

#### THE FIRST BOOK IN THE SERIES:



LATEST RELEASE:





#### READING AMBASSADOR INTERVIEW WITH LIZ PICHON

#### What inspired you to become an author?

I started illustrating other peoples' books. Some were funny ones but I didn't laugh a lot so I decided that maybe I could try writing myself, even though I'm dyslexic. My first published book was Squared Eyed Pat and then came My Big Brother Boris. Then I came up with the idea for Tom Gates (based on myself as a child).

#### What inspired you to write the Tom Gates books?

My mind is always full of ideas. I write down anything and everything that I think of and some of the ideas will be used in my latest book while others appear in other books later. I also collects (writes down) snippets of conversations I hear that make me laugh. I did get lots of my ideas from things that happened to me and the other children when I was at school and of course I did have one or two teachers who gave me ideas for characters (Mr Fullerman and Mr Keen).

Which book that you have written is your favourite? I always say that the book I've just written is my favourite!

At what age did you know that you wanted to be a writer? I never thought I could be a writer because I am dyslexic and have always struggled with spelling. I'm a very visual person so I draw and write at the same time. But I never let my difficulties with spelling or reading stop me from writing stories and drawing little pictures to go with them, even at school.



## World Book Day



### Brampton Bedtime Stories!

(Thursday 2nd March 2023)

This year Brampton will have a whole-school theme for World Book Day: Bedtime Stories.



We have lots of fun activities planned for the children and are asking them to come to school dressed in pyjamas or comfortable loungewear (e.g. leggings, jumper, joggers) for the day! You may also like to bring a named dressing gown or a teddy (for indoors use only).

(Pyjamas should be appropriate for school and not make the child too hot or cold)

To help raise funds for new books we are asking for a £l donation on the day or a book donation from one of our Amazon Wish Lists:

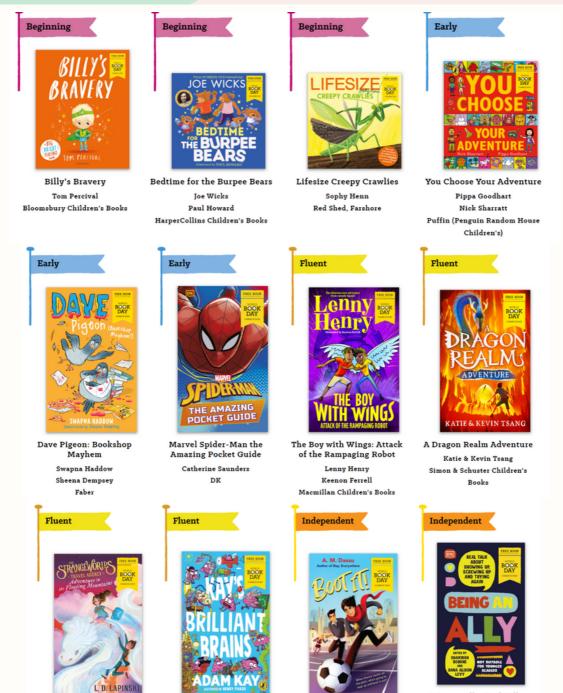
Reception wish list:	https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/IOLU30QF70UYI?ref_=wl_share
Year   Wish List:	https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2KHCSFQTH7C2l?ref_=wl_share
Year 2 Wish List:	https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/169J0SH6FE3ZR?ref_=wl_share
Year 3 & 4 Wish List:	https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/IYHR3R46ELW8?ref_=wl_share
Year 5 & 6 Wish List:	https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/93BJ3UFTBXH4?ref_=wl_share



### **World Book Day**



### World Book Day's £1 book vouchers are back again this year. Check out these fl book releases especially for World Book Day...



The Strangeworlds Travel Agency: Adventure in the **Floating Mountains** L.D. Lapinski Hachette Children's Group





Boot It! A. M. Dassu Zainab 'Daby' Faidhi Old Barn Books

Being an Ally: Real Talk About Showing Up, Screwing Up, and Trying Again Shakirah Bourne (she/her) Dana Alison Levy (she/her) (Coeditors) DK

### Reading Ambassadors Finding out about Brampton Bedtimes!

The Reading Ambassadors interviewed their own classes about their bedtime routines and then headed out onto the playground to find out what KSI loved about getting ready for bed. They were really interested in some of the similarities in the responses between Reception, KSI and KS2, as well as the differences. They selected four comments from each Key Stage that fairly represented the majority of the responses collected and then thought about why these routines were the most popular...

#### <u>Reception & KS1</u> Responses

"My favourite thing about bedtime is having a bath and being warm before bed."



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"My favourite thing to do before I go to bed is cuddle my parents!" Roezia, 2 Willow



"My favourite thing to do before bed is drawing pictures of nice things." Aria, Rec Beech

"I always take my fluffy blanket to bed with me. It makes me feel warm and cozy." Taylor, Yl Maple

#### KS2 Responses

"Before bed, I love to put my PJs on, get my book and cuddle with my dog."

Millie, 3 Beech

"My favourite part of my bedtime routine is having a snack in bed!" Sid, 5 Beech

"My favourite bit of my bedtime routine is reading with my Mum or Dad."

Claudia, 4 Willow

"I like to listen to audiobooks while I lie in bed."

Abi, 6 Beech

### Reading Ambassadors Finding out about Brampton Bedtimes!

From the comments collected on the playground, it was clear that some elements of bedtime routines stayed consistent throughout all year groups: reading in bed, a snack, a warm bath, music and either a teddy/doll or special blanket. However, the Reading Ambassadors noticed that fewer children in KS2 mentioned reading with an adult and so they decided to do a poll. The results:

- 82% of all KS2 children said that they read a book before bed.
- Of those children, only 21% read with an adult at bedtime.
- 78% of the children read a different book at bedtime than they do during the school day.



# The Year 6 Ambassadors did some research into why so many of our bedtime routines are similar. These are their top tips for a good night's sleep!

- I. Having a warm bath or shower before bed can help you get to sleep. It's not the rise in body temperature, but the cooling down afterwards! This cools your body down enough ready for night-time and helps you to nod off more easily.
- 2. A special object (a blanket, teddy, etc) provides a sense of security that helps relax your body ready for sleep.
- 3. Having screen time before bed can stop you sleeping. Melatonin is a hormone that promotes feelings of sleepiness, and the blue light from electronics suppresses the production of melatonin (twice as much in children as in adults!). Exposure to blue light during the day from sunlight or other sources is a healthy promoter of energy and concentration. However, at night, this disrupts our natural sleep-wake cycle by tricking the brain into not producing melatonin before bed. This causes us to feel less sleepy than we should at bedtime and this is why most people choose to read or do something relaxing like colour before bed.
- 4. A light snack before bed is fine but you need to be careful what you choose to eat! There are some great snacks that actually help us to sleep. For example, bananas and dairy products contain an amino acid called tryptophan that has been shown to reduce the time it takes you to go to sleep. Make sure that you don't eat anything too heavy and it's also best to avoid too much sugar!

### **Book Review**

We asked children and staff to tell us about one of their favourite books...

Skandar and the unicorn thief has to be one of the best children's books I have read in a long time, I just could not put it down! The gripping story follows 13-year-old Skandar, a misfit from Margate, as he seeks to leave his ordinary life behind for an extraordinary one and fulfil his dream of becoming a unicorn rider. In this world, unicorns are real and they are only a stone's throw away from mainland UK on a secretive island. But, they are not the sparkly, rainbow-pooping, horse-hybrids we have come to know and love; they're ferocious and powerful. It's only through an age-old tradition, that sees a unicorn united at birth with a human rider, that they can unlock their true potential. Without a rider, unicorns are cursed to be savage and untamable beasts. This story is full of mystery and friendship. I would highly recommend it for a KS2 child. Mrs Slater

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Teacher Review...







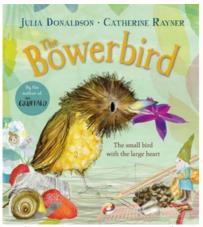
#### Child Review.

I would recommend this book if you like exploring and fun! The main character is called William and he LOVES dinosaurs. He's funny because he tries to be sensible but doesn't always manage it! William follows his stepsister, Brenda, around to keep her safe from danger. There is a great twist somewhere in the book but I will let you find out what that is for yourself. It's a great book, so I really think you should read it! Eve (6 Beech)

### New releases to look out for ...



#### Picture books and early readers....



(Released 3oth March)

Lost is the story of a polar bear who finds himself lost, in a big concrete city. But everyone is too busy to help him, except one little

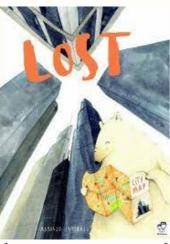
girl.



(Released 9th February)

An adorable rhyming tale of Bert the bowerbird and his attempts to impress the bird of his dreams





(Released 9th February)

Lizzy and the Cloud is a whimsical and sweet tale of a young girl who cares for her pet cloud as it grows



(Released 28th March)

From the creator of Isadora Moon comes a new series set in the same world focusing on Emerald, a reluctant mermaid princess who must learn to do things her own way





(Released 2nd February)

Young and independent readers...

In another riotously funny Dog Man adventure, our canine crusader confronts the dastardly Piggy and his latest plot to sabotage the Supa Buddies and the city





(Released 2nd March)

A hilarious new mystery adventure, Lincoln's pageturning debut centres on a spate of slayings in a very unusual family home and the diminutive detective determined to crack the

case



### **Competition Time!**

www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/bp-competition

# ceeties Bedfime Stories

#### Blue Peter's Amazing Authors competition.

As part of the prize Amazing Author and mega pop star Tom Fletcher will bring the winner's work to life by reading it for a BBC Sounds podcast and on CBeebies Bedtime stories. The winner's story or poem will also be turned into a book AND an animation, how incredible is that!

To enter the Competition entrants must:



Write an original short story or poem in under 400 words, which captures the idea of adventure and features exciting characters.

Use the online entry form to upload your entry, or download and print the postal entry form. Have parent/guardian's permission to enter the competition.

Be aged 5 - 15 years old before the competition closes on Wednesday 8th March 2023.

Make sure to grab a parent or guardian to help you fill in your application form, as they'll need to give us some details and their permission too.

Please make sure your parent/guardian has read and agreed to the Blue Peter Amazing Authors Competition Rules and BBC Terms of Use. Please make sure they have also read the Blue Peter Amazing Authors Competition Privacy Notice.

If you are sending your application by post, please attach the correct postage and make sure your entry arrives with us here in the Blue Peter office before Wednesday the 8th March 2023 at 5pm.

(For more details please visit the Blue Peter website)