

@ the library

WELCOME TO THE FIRST ISSUE

Dear Readers

Welcome to the first issue of **@ the library** - the Library Newsletter. Due to be published each term, the newsletter is a platform to showcase the students' talents, their commitment to their Library as well as the many ways that the literature, library stock and services can help develop each individual.

There is a great love and passion for reading within the school library and the newsletter not only demonstrates this through the students' contributions but also is a reflection of how much they want to share this with those pupils who have not yet discovered the library.

We hope you enjoy reading the articles which include an interview with Ms Cusack, Reading China, the art of Graphic Novels, poetry and plenty more!

Thank you very much to everyone who has helped with this issue. Contributions for future issues are welcome from all students so if you wish to be involved please come and speak to us in the library.

Mrs Creese Librarian

Ms O'Brien Careers & Library Assistant

ALL CHANGE IN THE LIBRARY

Change has come to the Library! After 10 years, there is now a new layout for the shelving and the library desk has moved. Both of these alterations have resulted in a feeling of more space. Books along the back wall can now be reached easily without the previous bottleneck problem.

But some things stay the same—Dewey, the Library mascot is still here!



The Look up Point has temporarily been removed before returning soon in its new space so that you can once again use the library catalogue for searching and checking availability of items.

Manga and Graphic Novels have a new home now with more space for new books in the future!

There has been lots of talk about all of this in the library over the past few weeks. Owen in Y7 says **'It makes it easier to find books, I like it'** and Annette Y11 thinks that the changes **'make it more inviting and really opens up the room.'**

What do you think?



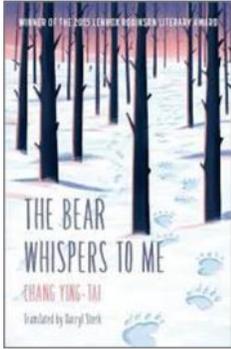
*Merry
Christmas from
the Library!*



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JOIN THE 'READING CHINA' GROUP



The 'Reading China' book group is now in its second year. Each term, the club chooses a book written by a Chinese writer and translated into English.

Last year, one publisher was so impressed by the video film made of one of our discussions that they are now sending books to us free to review.

This term's book is *The Bear Whispers to Me* by Chang Ying-tai.

Chang is a writer from Taiwan, a large Chinese speaking island in the Pacific Ocean. Taiwan has some ethnic groups

who still live very simple lives in the forests and this novel is based in one of those communities. It is a strange and enchanting tale of a boy, a bear and a 'wild child' lost in the forest.

If you enjoy reading and enjoy learning about different countries, why not borrow the book, read it and come along to the discussion. We will meet one lunch time in January to talk about this book. The date will be arranged later.

Dr T Munford
Teacher of Mandarin

Doctor Who: "You want weapons? We're in a library. Books are the best weapon in the world. This room's the greatest arsenal we could have. Arm yourself!" (from Tooth and Claw in Season 2) – Russell T. Davies

AT THE LIBRARY

As I open the door, the Library comes to life.

You see, I wasn't a keen reader until this delight.

Picking from a palace of books, I wonder which will lure me in?

Will it be a Horror or a Comedy, a fiction or not???

I've sat with a book that I've picked out

On those comfy sofa's that will never let you out.

The book is open and I'm already in

I see a Matilda dancing and Harry fighting

I wonder what will happen next?

The bell's gone now, but I can't escape the book I've lived

I can't wait till next time,

I wonder what books await?....

By Nicole 8K, 8JP



WORKING IN THE LIBRARY

Working in the library is so fun doing the shelving and meeting new people and it keeps me out of trouble. Some say that helping in the library is boring but

it is not, I like helping people. You can do your homework and you can read in the library. If you want a book then you can get one here.

Working in the library has taught me where all the books are.

Carl 8L



My name is Hayden and I work in the library. What I like doing in my time in the library is helping people find their book that they want and shelving. Sometimes it is quiet in the library and you can revise and stay away from the noise in the playground. If I had to give the library a rating it would be 5 stars because it's a lovely place where it's full of books so you can read and get some movies that you've never seen and it's a wonderful place to work. Some people think it is boring but it is a wonderful place to be.

Hayden 8JP



Ms Cusack being interviewed by Madison , Eloise and Lucy-Lou

MS CUSACK ON LITERATURE



A few pupils were lucky enough to get an interview with our Head Teacher this term. We asked Ms Cusack several questions about teaching as a career and her opinion on reading.

The first question asked was 'What was your favourite childhood book?' Ms Cusack replied 'I used to read so much that I had lots of favourite books'. In primary school I particularly loved 'The Silver Sword' by Ian Serraillier. Ms Cusack likes books with adventure and strong characters.

Ms Cusack also enjoys historical fiction, and when we asked her what is she currently reading, she said a book called 'The Vatican Pimpernel' by Brian Fleming which is a true story set in Rome about Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty who was instrumental in saving the lives of many Jewish people during World War II.

Whilst enjoying the classics and historical fiction, Ms Cusack believes 'everyone should read to younger children' and that everyone should read a Roald Dahl book; The BFG and The Fantastic Mr Fox being two of her favourites. She also enjoys books by Charles Dickens, especially Oliver Twist, because she

'loves the fact that he was writing to raise awareness of the impact of poverty and the conditions in the workhouses in Victorian England.'

In the school library, there is a range of classics available to borrow, including the works of Charles Dickens, Charlotte Bronte and Victor Hugo.

The next question was, 'Have you ever thought about writing your own book?' Ms Cusack told us that whilst she is good at making up and telling stories, and loves the idea of being able to write a book, she doesn't have the time! She went on to say that she is amazed at the research that goes into writing a book and thinks you have to be very talented and gifted in order to write.

Perhaps some of you who are reading this article have the desire to write books or stories yourselves. There are often different competitions and opportunities to join in at school and in the library, so just ask one of the Librarians who would be happy to help.

Onto the next question which was 'Have you ever been inspired by a book?' Her reply was that it would be extremely hard to choose just

WINTER'S GRIP

It is peculiar to see the stars again
After so many days,
Of melancholy banks of dusk,
I breathe in the smoky air
I breathe in the season
I breathe in the life
The misty cloak in the valley
Lingers on the surface of my skin
It grips strongly to my lungs,
as if to tell me either to breath in
or just stop

By a KS4 Student



one book and that books are inspiring for lots of different reasons.

We wanted to know why Ms Cusack decided to become a teacher, so she explained that she enjoys working with young people but when she was younger she did want to be a Blue Peter presenter. Ms Cusack has been a teacher for 25 years. Before that she was an Arts and Crafts Co-ordinator and an archaeologist. 'I love teaching and I really enjoy working with young people and watching them grow both academically and socially.'

The final question was 'Why should people read books?' Ms Cusack believes that 'everyone should read for pleasure' and that 'reading is a magical experience that can transport you to a different time and place. It fuels the imagination and feeds the mind. Everyone should read!'

Madison 9P

Photography by Emily 10L

If you want to read thrillers in the library, look for books with the red genre stickers on the book spine.



You can borrow DVDs for 1 week from your school library. New titles this term include **Inside Out**, **The Truman Show**, **The Jungle Book**, **Suffragette** and **I am Malala**.

There has been excitement in the Library this term. The Boobuzz books arrived early this year and the Y7s are busy reading them!

It has 'created a buzz in the classroom' says Mrs Parker, English Teacher.

Alexy in 7C commented that 'Bookbuzz is amazing; it enables children to read more books and improves your vocabulary. It motivates you to read more'. Ella, also in 7C, added 'I love Bookbuzz because you can't beat free stuff and books are usually expensive so how awesome is it that you can get *free books*?! With no conditions!!

Each student in Y7 was gifted a free book by the school from a selection of 12 great titles. The most popular book this year is

called **13 Hours by Narinder Dhami**, which is a thriller.

All the titles in this year's Bookbuzz are available to borrow from the school library.

There is still time to enter the competitions on the Bookbuzz website or you can review your book there too –

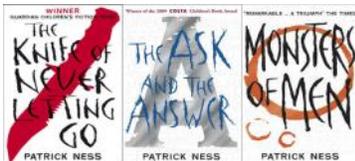
www.bookbuzz.org.uk



Y7 collecting their books

THREE SERIES THAT SHOULD HAVE FILM ADAPTATIONS

Chaos walking



This powerful trilogy is about redemption and there being no such thing as silence. Every living thing has a visible, mental voice called 'Noise' which can take the form of colours or words. Todd is a boy on the verge of 13 when he finds silence. But that's impossible...

Apparently there's a film coming soon but until then... **READ THE BOOKS!**



The Last Dragon Chronicles

This is even more of a fantasy series, with cats, dragons, and an unsuspecting lodger.

David Rain is a college student at Scrubbley so when he finds a place to stay there, he is relieved. But the house is overrun by dragons so David, giving in to temptation, explores the only place he's not allowed to go: The Dragon's Den.



His Dark Materials

This is a very highly recommended trilogy, but only one book has been made into a film in 2007, so I think there should be some sort of better, recast reboot of it because the film was okay, but for it all to make sense the rest of the films **HAVE** to come out and I have a feeling it's a bit late now. So everyone has an animal who is part of them, called a dæmon, and as you follow Lyra, with a dæmon named Pantalaimon, she makes her way through a series of unfortunate events which causes moving between worlds, a boy named Will, and a celestial substance called Dust.

These wonderful series are all available to borrow from the school library.

Alanis 8C

ART MEETS WORDS: SAY HELLO TO GRAPHIC NOVELS

Are you slow to pick up a book? Find novels a drag to read? Do you miss times of largely-illustrated fiction? Well, look no further! Graphic novels might be the books for you. And guess what? You can find a great treasure trove of illustrated beauties in the library!

In case you have never come across a graphic novel before, this is a quick guide to this genre of book. Firstly, the actual word 'graphic' means 'illustrated', or 'has pictures'. So, a graphic novel is a book made of pictures.

You may have heard the phrase 'a picture tells a thousand words'. Well, there are some graphic novels that use that phrase to the maximum—they don't have words at all! But most have dialogue to fill in the plot, although the pictures tell most of the story (*see illustrations*).



about graphic novels: they are wildly popular in the USA.

I first discovered them when I picked one out in a bookshop there, and I was hooked! My favourite author of graphic novels is Raina Telgemeier, a novelist from the States. She has won the Eisner award and been nominated for YALSA's Great Graphic Novels for Teens for her books, *Smile* and *Drama*. Her new book *Ghosts* came out in the US in early November. I have recently read it through the school library, and I definitely recommend it as a great read, with thoughtful graphics, funny excerpts and a fantastic story about how the relationship between siblings is sustained after a big change.

So, why wait? Pop up today and lose yourself in a brilliant variety of awesome books @ the library!



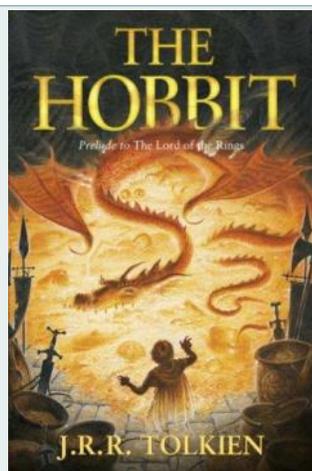
The author of this article is a bibliophile who loves cats, Jelly Babies, laughing, hummingbirds and snuggling up to read. She loves writing poetry, playing music and drawing comics and absolutely thinks that the world would be a very happy place if librarians were in charge.

CLASSICS IN THE LIBRARY

The classics have arrived in the library with a set of some of the best loved tales read and loved by children over the past century. These books, with newly designed covers, are available to borrow from the library. So if you wish to re-read a favourite or maybe find a new favourite pop along to the library.

- A Christmas Carol
- Oliver Twist
- Little Women
- Black Beauty
- White Fang
- Treasure Island
- What Katy Did
- The Secret Garden
- Anne of Green Gables
- The Railway Children
- The Jungle Book
- Alice in Wonderland
- The Wind in the Willows
- Moonfleet
- The Wizard of Oz
- Five Children and It





THE NOVEL VS. THE FILM

The Hobbit:

In the library, I have managed to find the time to both read and watch this magnificent tale. Generally I would say that books are a lot better than films. This is why;

“With films, you are only allowed to see what the Director wants you to see. However, with books, it only describes creatures and scenes partially. The rest is up to you.” -Atticus Lorenzo (me)

However, when they are closely matched, it is hard to perceive. The Hobbit by prof. J.R.R. Tolkien is a tremendous piece of literature without a doubt and The Hobbit featuring Martin Freeman, Orlando Bloom and Ian McKellen is a fantastic movie. They are both amazing but if I was asked to choose between the two, I would definitely choose the novel. This is because it has a marvellous variety of vocabulary and every sentence compels you to read on.

If you have a different opinion or want to suggest another book & film for me to do next time. Come see me in the library on Fridays behind the desk.

Atticus 8L

“With films, you are only allowed to see what the Director wants you to see. However, with books, it only describes creatures and scenes partially. The rest is up to you.”

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Alanis B 8C

Emily C 10L

Madison C 9P

Chris E 11A

Carl G 8L

Atticus L 8L

Ella O 7C

Hayden P 8JP

Treesa R 10B

Lucy-Lou S 9A

Nicole T 8JP

Eloise T 9C

Library Opening Times:

Monday—Thursday 9.00 - 4.30pm

Friday 9.00 -4.00pm

Be like Batman ...

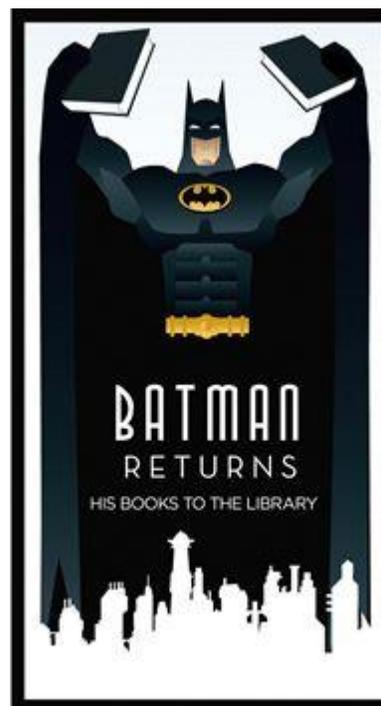


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