

# B.O.T.B.

Bring. On. The. Books.

Find out what is  
happening in our School  
Library Community  
June 2020

## Dear Library Friends,

Our office support staff are now back to normal working hours and with more pupils and staff in school, it is good to feel in touch with the real world; hence this bumper edition.

Zoom meetings moved to the next level; our Shrewsbury Morris 'went for it' with a Zoom ceilidh. We decorated our Zoom rooms and dressed to impress. Hazel (our Labrador) joined in with the dancing in our conservatory...



A quick reminder about our Wellbeing activity this half term. There is a first aid skill to learn each week with a quiz at the end. Pupils who successfully complete the quiz will be awarded a Red Cross First Aid Champion certificate. All the resources can be found at <https://firstaidchampions.redcross.org.uk/secondary/first-aid-skills/>

Best wishes 

Mrs Brett

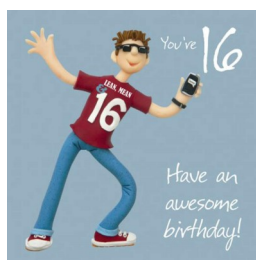
## LIBRARY NOTICEBOARD



### LIBRARIAN BIRTHDAYS



Eleanor Sturgess



Matthew Squire

Emily Kovach



## Our School Library NEW Click and Collect Service

We have held a successful trial run with a view to launching this service when everyone returns to School. Watch this space for further details!

### SUMMER READING CHALLENGE ENTRY FORM

Tick the boxes as you complete each challenge and give details on the dotted lines

☐

I re-read my favourite book.

Title and author .....

☐

I taught myself a new skill.

Instructions from .....

Skill .....

☐

I read a news article and learnt more about the world around me.

News source .....

Subject information .....

☐

I read a book borrowed from a library using their click and collect / online service.

Library used .....

Title and author .....

☐

I discovered an author whose books I am enjoying.

Author and titles .....

NAME ..... SEPTEMBER TUTOR.....



## 2020 SUMMER HOLIDAY READING CHALLENGE Part 1

Every year I devise a new reading challenge to encourage pupils to borrow and read our School Library books over the Summer Holidays. For obvious reasons, our 2020 challenge is designed to encourage reading from different sources.

Please email Mrs B for an entry form. Good luck!



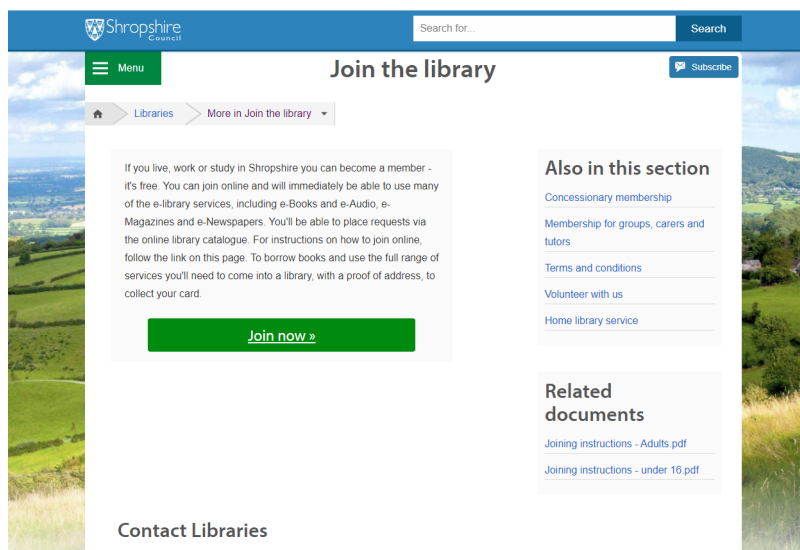
**jackie.brett@corbetschool.net.**

## 2020 SUMMER HOLIDAY READING CHALLENGE Part 2

This is one to think about. When you return to School, Mrs Brett will be asking you to nominate your 'best read' of the Summer for our Library's top ten and for our next balloon debate...



**Shropshire libraries** have reported a 73% increase in the borrowing of e-books and e-audio during the first few weeks of Lockdown. Have you taken advantage of this service?



Sadly, our School Library has been unable to offer an online service but I am sure that many of our keen readers have been using e-books.

For under 16s, joining instructions for online services can be viewed on: <https://shropshire.gov.uk/media/14733/joining-instructions-under-16.pdf>

**Please make sure to record your Account ID and your PIN number as you will need this information to log onto e-library service.**

As well as e-books there is access to e-audio, e-magazines and e-newspapers through <https://shropshire.gov.uk/libraries/find-a-book/e-library/>

A wide range of links, quality resources and activities for all ages and interests can be viewed on the 'Libraries From Home' page on <https://shropshire.gov.uk/libraries/libraries-from-home/>

Public Libraries currently remain closed in line with national guidance, but for **one week beginning 29<sup>th</sup> June** the six largest libraries, **Shrewsbury, Oswestry, Ludlow, Bridgnorth, Whitchurch and Market Drayton** will be accepting **returns** of books and other library items that have been out on loan.

**Book returns will be accepted between 10am and 2pm from Monday to Friday** (Not Wednesday at Whitchurch. Not Thursday at Market Drayton, Ludlow and Bridgnorth). Social distancing measures will be in place and there will be no access into the library buildings.

The latest Government guidance indicates that Public Libraries will be allowed to start reopening in step 3 of the lockdown easing plan from July 4<sup>th</sup> at the earliest.

As a further stage of the phased reopening, from week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> July a '**Ready Reads Collect**' service will be offered from the foyers of **Shrewsbury, Oswestry and Ludlow libraries**.

Although there will be no access to the libraries themselves this will be a '**click and collect**' style arrangement offering individually tailored book choices selected by library staff.





By Rowan Hall    June 19, 2020



## Shropshire's libraries keep up their online presence during COVID-19



The UK has been in lockdown since March and Shropshire's libraries have been physically closed since then as well. However, bookworms should not fear too much as Shropshire's libraries are keeping up an online presence, including a free e-Library and a new reading challenge.

Libraries can play an important role in people's lives, as Councillor Lezley Picton, Culture, Leisure, Waste and Communications Cabinet Member, understands: "...people desperately miss being able to visit their local libraries, whether that be for borrowing books, using the IT facilities, attending events and activities, or just having a chat with library staff".

Planning is now underway for the phased reopening of both library buildings and mobile libraries from the beginning of next month at the earliest, with more news to come about that over the coming weeks and the priority being safety.

Still, for now at least, some online services are available, most impressively an e-Library, available for free for those with library cards.

**People who live, study or work in Shropshire can sign up for a free library card online at: [www.shropshire.gov.uk/libraries/join-the-library](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/libraries/join-the-library) and immediately be able to use many library services, including e-Books.**

### Shropshire Summer Reads

Shropshire's libraries have also recently launched Shropshire Summer Reads. In this new challenge **for adults**, contenders who submit reviews of four books over the summer will be in with the chance of winning book vouchers to spend in local independent book shops.



“It’s up to you which books you read – we suggest you choose from your own shelves, download titles from our e-Book and e-Audio library, or come and borrow again when we reopen,” says Mirka Duxberry, Library Development Manager. The challenge is running until the 12 September 2020.

So with these and more online resources available, readers should be able to enjoy many of the services of Shropshire’s libraries in the comfort and safety of their own homes at least until they physically reopen, if not afterwards as well.

**The e-Library is available at:**  
**[www.shropshire.gov.uk/libraries/libraries-from-home](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/libraries/libraries-from-home)**

Read the full article via Shropshire Live at: <https://www.shropshirelive.com/features/2020/06/19/shropshires-libraries-keep-up-their-online-presence-during-covid-19/>



### **Rowan Hall**

Rowan contributes articles to Shropshire Live. A Law undergraduate who lives in the county. He is currently studying Global Law at Queen Mary University of London and has a particular interest in writing about local government.

### **POSTSCRIPT:**

Mrs B was thrilled to learn of Rowan’s latest success. A very talented young man, it is nice to see that Rowan is trying his hand at journalism and still promoting the value of libraries. For those of you who do not remember, Rowan was our first Librarian to progress from a trainee in Year 7 to Mrs B’s Deputy in 2017. He still holds the record for the highest number of Library books put away on our shelves; 1,821 books over five years. Congratulations Rowan, you are a credit to our School Library.



# READING Recommendations

This month I thought I would take a look at Amazon's and Waterstones' 2020 best sellers (so far). I think the selection below is an interesting reflection of the impact of Covid-19 and lockdown. Do you agree?



We have just one of these books - 'The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes'. Would you like to see some of the other 'best sellers' in our School Library? Please let me know your thoughts on this.

## Corbet Staff BOOKCLUB

Our next Zoom meeting is provisionally scheduled for Thursday 9th July at 1.30pm (subject to school re-opening times). Feel free to join if you can, even if you have not read all the books!

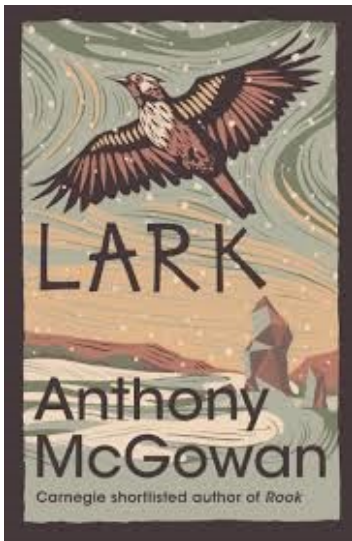


Feedback so far: Three books was quite a challenge but everyone - apart from Mrs B - likes 'The Light Between Oceans'. 'Me Before You' has received mixed reviews with one reader feeling it lacked authenticity. Several of us are reading to finish 'The Rosie Project' so the jury is still out on this one.

We have already received suggestions for the next 'set' of books (not quite sure where one changed to several...) 'Framed' by Frank Cottrell Boyce and 'The House With Chicken Legs' by Sophie Anderson.

## CILIP Carnegie & Kate Greenaway Medal Winners 2020

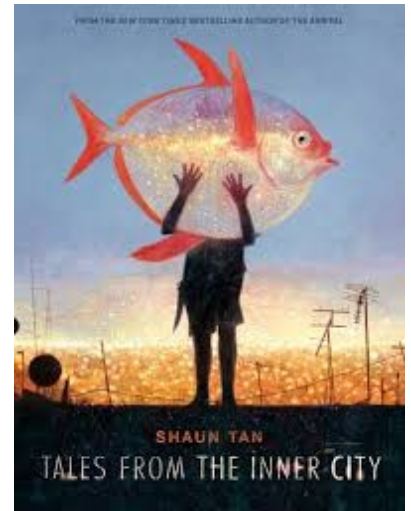
On Wednesday 17th June the winners of the UK's most prestigious book awards for children and young people were announced.



**Lark by Anthony McGowan** scooped the Carnegie Medal for writing and **Tales from the Inner City** written and illustrated by Shaun

**Tan** won the Kate Greenaway Medal for illustration.

Both books explore human-kind's relationship with nature, alongside themes of survival.



Australian author and illustrator Tan, who is of Australian, Chinese and Malay heritage, is the first illustrator of colour to win the Kate Greenaway Medal. *Tales from the Inner City* is a sister volume to Tan's 2008 anthology, *Tales from Outer Suburbia*. He has worked as a theatre designer, a concept artist for animated films including Pixar's *WALL-E* and directed the Academy Award-winning short film, *The Lost Thing* in 2011. In the same year, Tan received the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award, honouring his contribution to international children's literature.

*Tales from the Inner City*, a collection of 25 illustrated stories, was born out of Tan's life-long love of animals and deals with the separation and tension between the natural and artificial world. Tan believes that many of the problems we face today may have something to do with the distance from nature in a post-colonial and post-industrial world, especially within urban spaces. Throughout the book, Tan reminds readers that we are all interconnected with nature.

*Lark* tells the story of two brothers, Nicky and Kenny, who set out for an adventure in the North Yorkshire Moors only to be caught in a precarious blizzard when weather conditions take a turn. Throughout the book, the brothers display a deep respect and understanding of nature, which ultimately grants them consolation as they wait to be rescued. McGowan's prose paints nature as a source of wonder and joy, but also peril.

These books will be available to read once our school library re-opens!



## In June, Mrs Brett read...



### Secret Breakers by H.L. Dennis

So sorry Amy, I abandoned this series at the end of Book 3. I skipped the code breaking explanations (too difficult for me to fathom) and was really annoyed by Hunter's continual food related expressions which reminded me a little of Enid Blyton. The plot became more and more unbelievable. I think I might just be too old for this series. LOL.

### There's Someone Inside Your House by Stephanie Perkins

Many of you will know Stephanie Perkins as a writer of Teen Romance; who doesn't love **Anna and the French Kiss**? She is also a brilliant writer of Teen Crime stories. I thoroughly enjoyed her latest and read it from cover to cover in two sittings! Highly recommended.

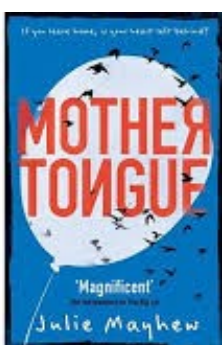


### The Replacement by Brenna Yovanoff.

Horror is not my favourite genre but many of our KS3 pupils are increasingly requesting horror books so I am endeavouring to expand our range. This one is advertised as horror but it did not scare me *that much*. Having said that, this is a good read and will appeal to those who enjoyed the **Twilight** and the **Darke Academy** series. Whilst the content places it in fantasy, the cover definitely implies horror, so this is where it will be shelved...for now..!

### Theodore Boone series by John Grisham

I can remember reading John Grisham's thrillers for adults long before I started work at the Corbet School so I was looking forward to reading his first series for school pupils. I enjoyed the plot but found the books a little laborious with too much repetition of the basic facts. This maybe because I read the series in one go whereas ordinarily we have to wait for the books to be published and so a little recap is useful. I would be interested to find out what Year 7 and 8 pupils make of these books!



### Mother Tongue by Julie Mayhew

I am forever chanting the mantra 'never judge a book by its cover' and then I go and do this myself; I thought this was a Dystopian novel but how wrong can you be? The author was actually inspired by the horrific Beslan school siege in 2004 and consequently, 'Mother Tongue' will be shelved in our Historical Fiction section, under Russian History!!! I cannot decide whether I am left feeling uplifted or depressed by the abrupt ending... KS4 readers, I would like your opinion on this one please.



# Amy's Book Blog

## The Inventory (Andy Briggs)

This series is one of my brother's and not one that I would normally go for but has a good plot with plenty of twists. It is about a secret bunker underground that contains all of the toys, gadgets and weapons that the world consortium (an organisation a bit like the United Nations) believe to be too dangerous with a potential for mass destruction. Dev lives there with his uncle, but when an unexpected visit coincides with an attack on the inventory, things start to get **very** interesting...

*Note from Mrs B. I should have chosen these books from our Scholastic Half Price book fair...*



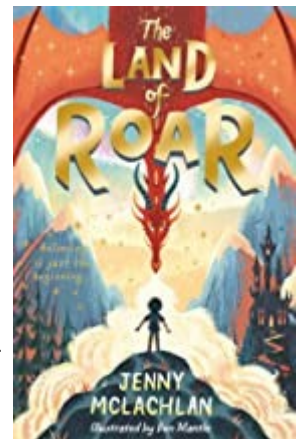
## The Erth Dragons (Chris D'Lacey)

The wearle came to Erth to find out what happened to the wearle before them. Gabriel is a young blue dragon, desperate to earn his place in the wearle. But, when tragedy strikes he is disgraced and dishonoured. But he is not alone. Beyond the scorch line live the hom, an early form of the human race. Ren Whitehair, a young boy, is fascinated by the skalers and when he finds a young drake (baby dragon), his fate and theirs become linked in a way that he could never have dreamed. I have enjoyed this trilogy and it is very interesting with many adventures and a couple of plot twists.

*Note from Mrs B : I loved 'The Fire Within' by Chris D'Lacey and this series was very popular until 2016 when interest waned. I purchased a later series 'the Unicorn Files' but this did not 'take off'. Maybe I should promote Chris D'Lacey again by purchasing 'The Erth Dragons'?*

I tried a new book called The Land of Roar (Jenny McLachlan) too. It is about a pair of twins who have an imaginary world called Roar. They forget about it for many years until they clear out the attic and find it again. There they go on a magical adventure to save their world. It is funny and a good read.

*Note from Mrs B. Amy, we have this book in our Library (a recommendation from Mrs Ashton) and I was unsure whether to buy the second one 'Return to Roar'. I hope your positive review will encourage more pupils to try this series.*



SSSSSHHHHHHHHHhhh, Amy has joined a large group of Librarians who have quietly confessed to reorganising their bookshelves at home with all books in alpha order by author surname. This makes finding books so much easier!

# My Life in Lockdown

Hello! My name is Amelia Brien and at the time of writing, I am currently in Year 8. In this article I would like to give an insight of what Lockdown has meant for someone of my age and year group.

First, I'll start with the moment I got on the bus, it was the last Wednesday of school and there was a rumour going round saying the school might have to shut! It was quite exciting because I had friends whose schools had already shut and at the time, it seemed so fantastic; no school! Then later that evening my parents received an email saying school was to be shut for the next two days and then would reopen on the following Monday. I think everyone was relieved at this point because a few extra days off school sounded extremely welcoming. Then, on the following Friday, it was announced that all schools were to shut until further notice!

This was exciting news because I had never experienced anything like this; working from home, being off school for this abnormally long time and everything else that comes with it. At first it was great, going to bed late, lying in, doing work whenever you fancied it, but then as the rules of lockdown got stricter (i.e. no meeting friends, no going out, only necessary drives permitted) it dawned on me that lockdown wasn't going to be so easy.

After just a few weeks, I was already getting bored of being cooped up inside of the house and not even being able to exercise with friends. I think that was the thing I was missing most about school: the social interaction. Every day was like Groundhog Day...



## My Life in Lockdown

...The work wasn't too bad, and I feel fortunate to be in Year 8, as I feel that this is potentially quite a 'safe' year to be in during this pandemic. I am not being pressured with the thoughts and work for GCSEs (Years 10 and 11), I haven't had to miss my SATs (Year 6) and I'm not completely new to the school, where I'd have to wait for ages to find out what it is really like.

Recently, the Lockdown measures have been eased and that was music to my ears. This meant I could see my friends, (who I hadn't seen in nearly 3 months), I could go into town - as a choice and not for an essential shop - and I could travel to different places, go on a bike ride or just go for a walk for as long as I liked!

I have also been able to keep up with a few of my clubs online. I attend air cadets and during this lockdown all face-to-face activity has been prohibited, so we turned to online parades (meetings) every Monday and Thursday. We do a range of different activities such as, debating and making our way towards a new badge and learning new skills. Also, each week, there is a challenge set to help keep us busy if we get bored at home. I'm also being taught online Ju-Jitsu (a martial art) through Zoom twice a week.

Lockdown is hard (especially with a 19 year-old brother!) but with measures easing and the opportunities to socialise and return to near normal, it is getting better; just one very slow day at a time!

Stay Safe! Bye!

Thanks for sharing Amelia. Recalling one of our balloon debates, the irony is not lost on me that you were the speaker for the Armageddon effects of a Pandemic. Who would have predicted?

Readers, if you would like to describe your experiences during lockdown, please email Mrs B : [jackie.brett@corbetschool.net](mailto:jackie.brett@corbetschool.net)





# **This month's Gallery...**

## **2020 QUILT**

**As you all know, Mrs Goodridge has set us a challenge to create a small piece of textile work to form part of a larger quilt for display.**

### **Remember:**

- The decorative piece will need to be 18cm x 18cm but the fabric must be 20cms x 20cms so that Mrs Goodridge has a 2cm seam allowance all the way around each piece so that she can sew all the pieces together without hiding any of the decoration!
- Use woven cotton or polyester cotton fabric. Sheet, duvet, pillow case fabric, old shirt, plain tea towel are all suitable as the background fabric if you do not have any other fabric at hand.
- Any colours, patterns.
- It can be decorated in any way you want - patchwork, embroidered, painted, dyed, embellished with beads, buttons, ribbons etc
- It can be based on anything that is relevant to 2020 and important to you, a person, place, occasion, NHS, a loved one etc.
- It can be an image of something or a pattern.
- You don't have to be a brilliant sewer – just willing to have a go.
- Lots of ideas on the internet, Pinterest etc
- **MAKE SURE YOU ATTACH YOUR NAME TO THE BACK.**

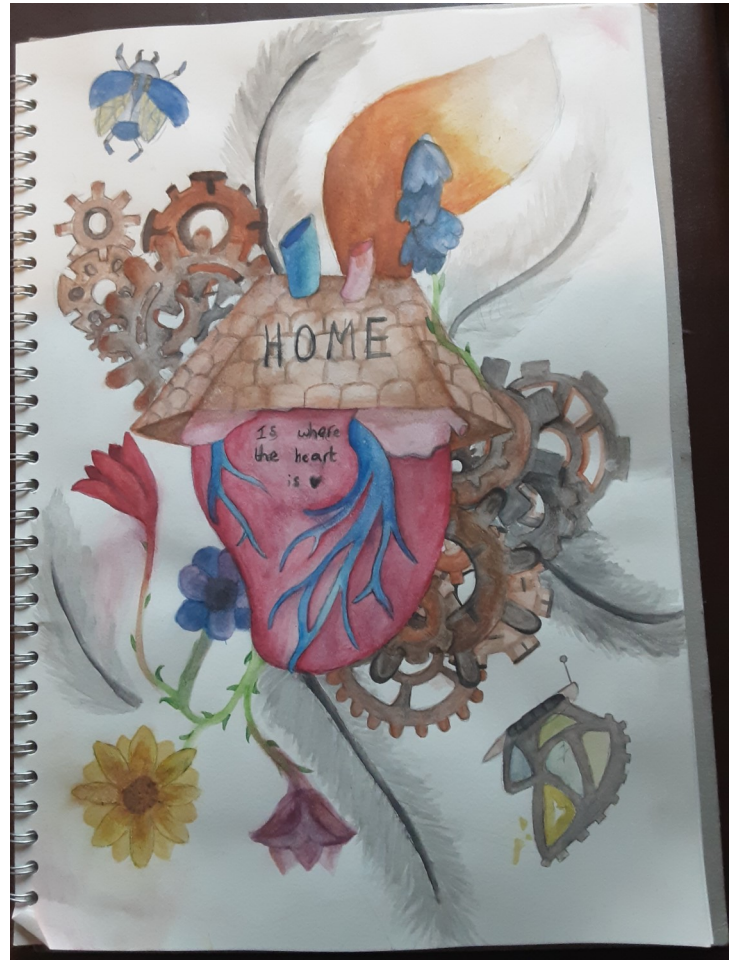
**Please take part and be as creative as you can.**

Photographs of completed pieces to Mrs B please  
for publication in the next edition of B.O.T.B.

**jackie.brett@corbetschool.net**



## This month's Gallery...



Super artwork Mia Armstrong!



We have a number of talented artists in our school. If you would like your artwork to appear in our Library Gallery, please email Mrs Brett. Thank you



Our 2018 Librarian Leaver, Frankie Stevenson, is filling her sketchbook during lockdown as well as working on a watercolour of her grandma's dog to cheer her up. Expressive artwork as always. Well done Frankie!



Inspired by Wendy Sturgess (<https://www.facebook.com/paperflowercompany/>) I am really going for it now! I am creating my own templates for paper flowers mounted on my little clay heart bases.



If you would like to share your arty crafty work with our readers, please email photographs to **[jackie.brett@corbetschool.net](mailto:jackie.brett@corbetschool.net)**. Thank you.





## What is your vision for the World after COVID-19?

The COVID-19 pandemic raises many questions about how our societies are organised, and how public health challenges can be tackled. As governments struggle to protect lives and keep our economies afloat, ambitious ideas that once seemed improbable have suddenly become surprisingly plausible.

Now that everyone is thinking about what our post-lockdown future might look like, openDemocracy and UCL are teaming up to invite young people to have a say. They want to find and shout about the best ideas from the next generation for what should come next. In particular, they are looking for ambitious ideas about how governments, citizens, scientists, artists – or anyone else you think has a role to play – can shape a different and better future.

**This competition is open to students over the age of 14. Only one entry person. This can be a written article, short video or image which describes your vision for the world after coronavirus.**

The **grand prize** includes £200 in book vouchers and a bespoke training opportunity with either Open Democracy or UCL. The **People's Choice winner** will receive £100 book vouchers and **runners-up** will receive £50 book vouchers.

All winners and runners-up will receive a personal mentoring/career advice session with one of our expert judges and their entries will be published on openDemocracy's website.

The closing date for this competition is 10th July 2020. check out the website for full details if you would like to enter.



**<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/world-after-covid/>**

## Books new to our Library

Darkside by Tom Becker (Horror)

A Twisted Tale : Straight On Till Morning by Liz Braswell (Fantasy)

The Ballad of Songbirds And Snakes by Suzanne Collins (Dystopian)

Mother Tongue by Patricia Forde (Historical Fiction)

Theodore Boone series by John Grisham (Crime)

Warrior Cats : Power of Three (Volumes 1-3) by Erin Hunter (Fantasy)

A Twisted Tale : So This Is Love by Elizabeth Lim (Fantasy)

Naruto 3-in-1 edition by Kishimoto Masashi (Graphic Novel)

Lark by Anthony McGowan (Reluctant Reader)

There's Someone Inside Your House by Stephine Perkins (Crime)

The Conference Of The Birds by Ransom Riggs (Horror)

The Rosie Project by Graeme Simsion (Young Adult)

Scars Like Wings by Erin Stewart (Teen)

The Sacrifice Box by Martin Stewart (Horror)

Tales from Outer Suburbia by Shaun Tan (Graphic Novel)

The Haunted by Danielle Vega (Horror)

The Replacement by Brenna Yovanoff (Horror)

*Please email your contributions*

*for our next edition to*

***jackie.brett@corbetschool.net***

