

B.O.T.B.

Bring. On. The. Books.

**Find out what is
happening in our School
Library Community
MAY 2023**

Dear Library Friends,

Reading is alive and well!!!! In spite of partial closure for exams, we loaned out nearly 300 books in May. We received fantastic support for our Scholastic half-price book fair (many of our students preferring to own their own copies of favourite novels) and sales of £740 ensured our Library benefitted from free books to the value of £148. Special thanks to Mrs J Jones (history) who bought books to read and then donated them back to our Library.

Our number of overdue books are back into double digits and 7R were the winners of the edible treat for their outstanding effort, achieving a 'clean slate' before the half term holidays. 7E also received a bag of sweets for having no overdue books at the end of May.

HAPPY READING!

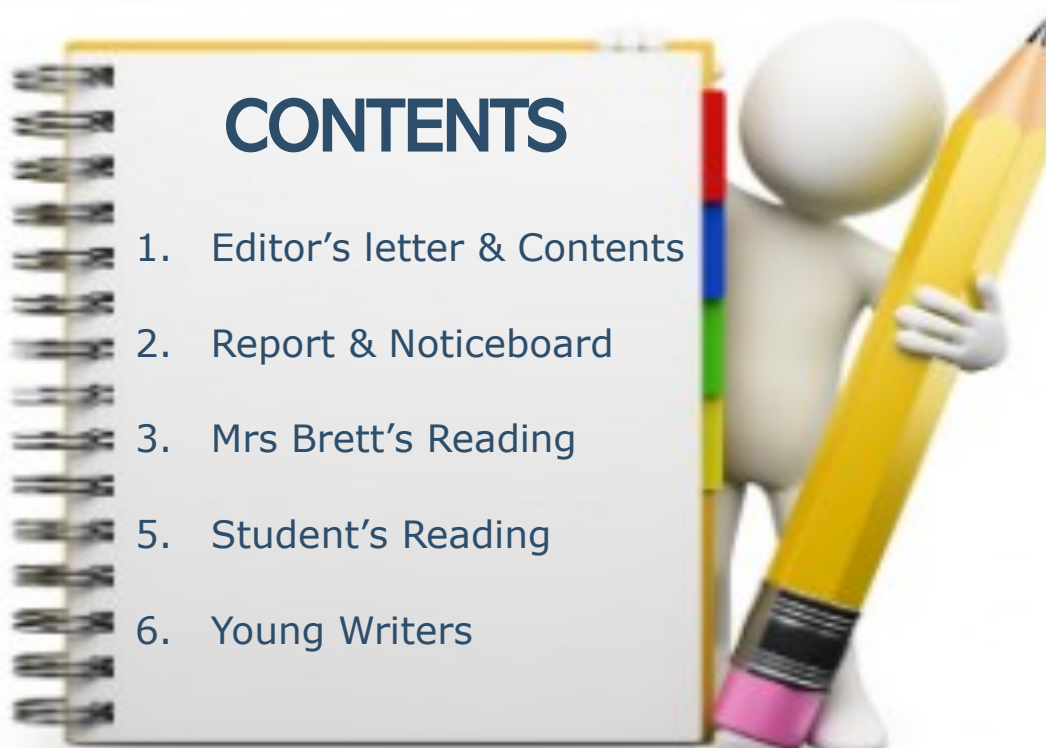
Mrs Brett

Library Co-Ordinator



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Mrs Brett's Library Report

STATISTICS for MAY 2023

Books borrowed	280
Books shelved by the Library Team	335
Number of overdue books	97

TASKS

1. Focus on the return of overdue Library books.
2. Running the Scholastic half-price book fair.
3. Processing free books.
4. Library review (ongoing research).
5. Library Newsletter.
6. Scribing for GCSE Examination Access Arrangements.



Library Noticeboard

CONGRATULATIONS to:

Lowri : our new blue badge trainee

Millie and **Francesca** who have been 'trained up' by Amy and Morgan and are now able to work behind the Issues Desk.

Thanks to Oscar for designing the labels for our 'free' Library books.



Thanks to Bethany who has agreed to write a monthly article recording her progress with her 23 book reading challenge.

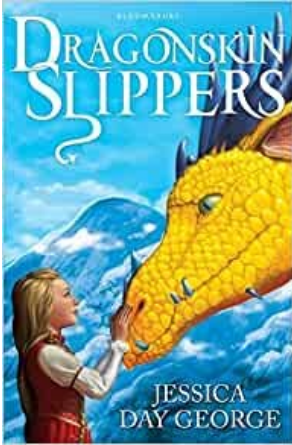
Please check out the World Book Day Library competition entries (published as a separate document with this newsletter).



Mrs Brett's Reading : MAY

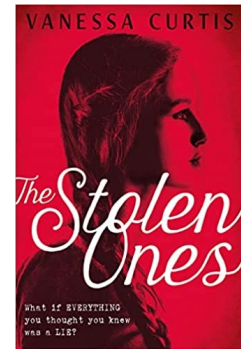
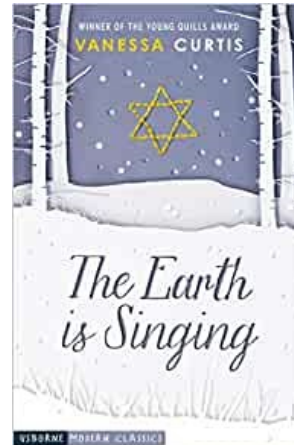


My reading is 'up' for this month partly because of an artistic creative block (I am hating clay) and because I have been lent some 'unputdownable' books.



DRAGON SLIPPERS

Okay, the covers are awful and the first chapter a little slow but then this story takes off. Thank you to Lowri for bringing the first book to my attention and then for lending me the rest of the series too!



THE EARTH IS SINGING

Vanessa Curtis' latest book won the 'Young Quills Historical Novel Award' and she ranks alongside Ruta Sepetys as the best writers of historical fiction for Young Adults. For those who have read 'The Stolen Ones' this latest WW2 story by Vanessa Curtis is just as good. Thanks to Liz D for lending me her copy, I will definitely be buying this for our School Library.

WOLF BY WOLF

Many thanks to Sam's parents for recommending and lending me their copy of **Wolf by Wolf** which I read from start to finish across two days. In this action packed thriller (with a hint of romance), Graudin

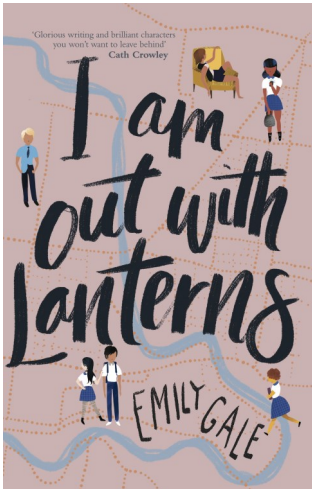


invites us to imagine what the World would be like if Hitler had won WW2. I will be researching this author, we need more books like this for our School Library...



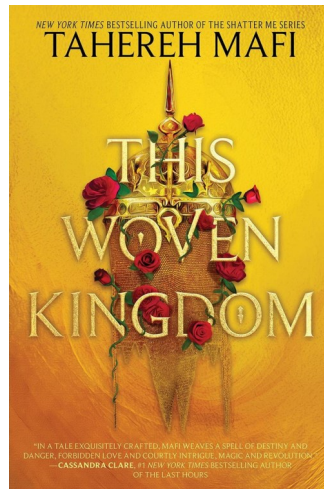
I have struggled to get my hands on this one as Terry is such a popular author. As a fan of **Slated** I am disappointed with this one and am not sure I will be persuaded to read the second in the series. Fortunately, lots of our readers disagree with me.

Mrs Brett's Reading : MAY



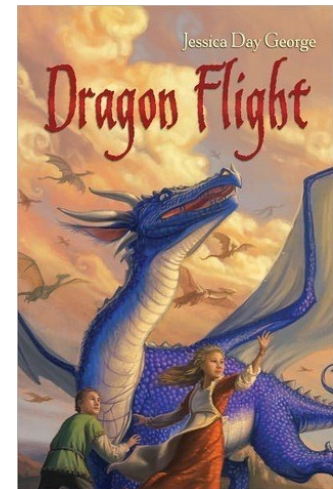
I AM OUT WITH LANTERNS

Just brilliant!
Relevant, well written
and suitable for our
Year 9 readers who are
looking for a teenage
angst romance story.



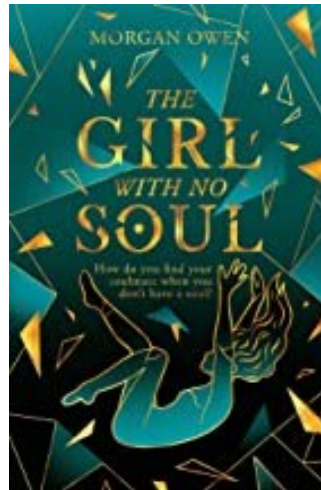
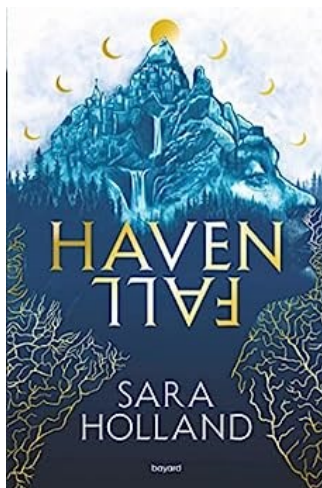
THE WOVEN KINGDOM

Thanks to Mrs Jones
(History) for buying this
from our book fair,
reading and then
donating it to our School
Library. Having read it in
one sitting, I will be
buying the series.



DRAGON FLIGHT

This is the
second book in the
series suggested by
Lowri and it is just as
good as the first. If
only the covers were
better ..!



HAVEN FALL, THE GIRL WITH NO SOUL & GREEN RISING

These are three of the free books from our half-price book fair which we will be adding to our Fantasy Fiction section. **Haven Fall** was a slow read to get into but I was fully invested by the end and will be purchasing the next in the series. I enjoyed **The Girl With No Soul** but one week on I find that I can barely remember the plot. **Green Rising** was a bit of a disappointment. I like the idea of fiction novels exploring climate change, raising awareness and showing how we, as individuals, can make a difference but this book did not inspire me; I am interested to see what our young adult readers make of it.

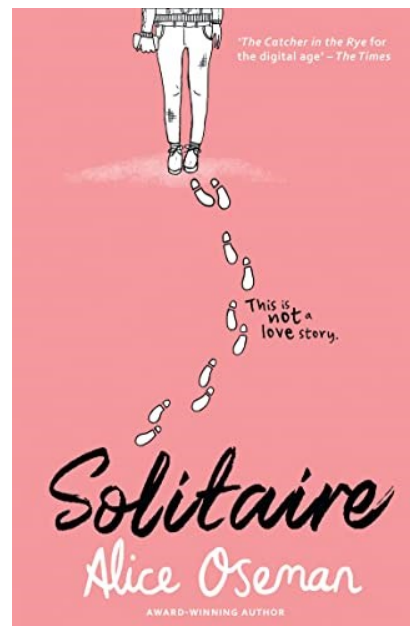


STUDENT'S READING : MAY



This year I have set myself a challenge to read 23 books by the end of the year. I love buying books, but a lot of the time they are second hand from charity shops. If you look in the right charity shops and look well enough, you can find good books in good condition. I love them as they are cheap and help raise money for charity. My reading list for this year is:

1. Solitaire (read)
2. This lie will kill you (read)
3. The book of legends (read)
4. The hunger games (read)
5. The hunger games: Catching fire (read)
6. The hunger games: Mockingjay (read)
7. The fault in our stars (read)
8. Five survive (read)
9. The butterfly summer(reading)
10. The Cornish cream tea summer
11. Super Awkward
12. Around the village green
13. The skylark war
14. Where the world ends
15. The middle of nowhere
16. Once upon a river
17. As good as dead
18. Letters from lighthouse cottage
19. Marley and me
20. Once upon a dream
21. All the bright places
22. An unfortunate Christmas murder
23. Away with the penguins



I have already read nine books and I love them all. So far, my favourite has been 'Solitaire' by Alice Oseman, the author of the 'Heartstopper' series. 'Solitaire' focuses on the story of 'Tori' It was written before Heartstopper and is not a graphic novel, but it is amazing. I highly recommend this one as well as all the books I have read so far.

Bethany (YR 8)

YOUNG WRITERS

As you know, I love to encourage our young writers - we have so many talented Corbet School students - and Maria is my latest discovery. This month I am publishing the first few pages of her story; you will have to wait for the June Library newsletter for the final instalment!

The Khaleesi Forest

An Audio Research Journal

by Maria Cristinacce (70)

Prologue

In a forest there always has to be the first tree to sprout. The Khaleesi trees are the heart of the forest and if they fall then the whole forest falls with them; that is why the Fatima spirits protect them. When the forests with the healthy Khaleesi's began to fall no one knew what to do, but it wasn't just the trees falling; the spirits guarding the tree went black and hollow. They wandered around the remains of the forest and even humans got confused. This - let us call it an infection - was affecting every species, especially creatures who made their home in the forest.

Day 1: 26/7/2023

Hi, I'm Leaf. I have soil brown hair that reaches my waist and misty green eyes. My Dad says I have a kind face and my mum says my eyes remind her of ivy. My favourite colours are natural shades of green, sky and sea blue. I am a girl of the wild. I spend more time outside than inside. I even convinced my Mum to let me camp in the forest. She says she will visit me every day, but I wish she wouldn't. I love spending time with nature and (don't tell my Mum) I'm actually going to sleep in this cave I found; it's super cool. There's a tree right in the middle which is really useful; I can hang my light on it and my coat too. I think it might be the Khaleesi tree. I swear I keep glimpsing Fatima spirits but it's probably just because I really, really, want it to be a Khaleesi tree... Yesss my bacon's cooked. This is going to be delicious with a spot of ketchup; if I can find it... Whoops forgot to stop recording...

Day 2: 27/7/2023

I have seen Fatima spirits! Yesterday they saw me putting up a calendar that showed every day I was going to be here. After that they realised I was planning to stay awhile and would find them eventually, so they just revealed themselves. They were absolutely beautiful. They glowed bright blue like a sun dappled river, probably because they were made of water. You would think that a spirit that guards trees would be made of bark but they are actually made of water so they can care for the trees whilst constantly reflecting sunshine. I thought this cave was particularly bright. Anyway, you probably want to know a bit more about the individual spirits. The one who appeared to me first is called Copper. He was called this because the sun shining on his water gives a somewhat coppery glow, like a constant sunset. The next one was called Spike because instead of having a wave on his head (like everyone else) he has... you guessed it... a spike on his head. The last two were called Royal and Princess; they are identical twins; literally identical.

Day 3: 28/7/2023

I'm so worried about 'my' tree with the infection that is going round. I think it might catch it although Copper and the others are doing a great job of protecting it. There's now ivy growing over the entrance of the tunnel. Copper says it will help protect the tree and also, I'll get some privacy.

Day 4: 28/7/2023

Ki came to visit our tree today! Ki is the master of protection and has been given immortality so she can pass her skills onto other protectors. She has been mapping out the attacks to see if they have a pattern, but no one can see any patterns so far.

Day 5: 29/7/2023

Two more forests have caught the infection! I'm really starting to worry about Copper. He is the best friend I have ever made, and I never want him to go hollow. I've updated the map, but I still can't see any pattern. I hope I can spot it before it's too late.

Day 6: 30/7/2023

It has just occurred to me. What if there is no pattern or the pattern has got nothing to do with where the trees are positioned? I wonder if all the trees that got ill have something in common? I'm going to research all the forests that caught the infection. Footnote : all the trees that caught the infection were pine trees! I'm so happy that this Khaleesi tree is oak.

Day 7: 31/7/2023

I told Copper about my pine tree discovery but apparently, most people believe that all Khaleesi trees are pine and the trees on the internet are not likely to be Khaleesi! Our tree is still in danger.

Day 8: 1/8/2023

I wish I could show you the map. There's an 'x' over where a tree has been destroyed. There's a kind of 'u-shape' at the edge of the map and an 'n-shape' next to it. Then there's a 'd-shape', then an 'e' and... hang on... it spells out something! What word starts with under? Underneath, understand, underestimate . . . undergraduate? I'll have to tell Copper about my findings.

Day 9: 2/8/2023

I need to hurry up and figure something out. My mum only gave me three weeks meaning I only have twelve days left. I am going to show Ki what I have found. Copper thinks the word might be 'understand' but I think it's 'underneath'. It's just a hunch but I'm pretty sure I'm right.

Day 10: 3/8/2023

Copper and I started the walk to Ki's house. It's miles away so we will be walking for about days. I'm so glad mum sent me out with a tent or else I'd be sleeping out under the stars. Wait! Under the stars! The map could be showing a sentence or a phrase. Mmmmm, no, probably not, there's nowhere near enough room on the map for a phrase...

to be continued...!