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**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

**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

**5 Point Challenges**

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

**10 Point Challenge**

* Read a book from the Classics list on page 6

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

**Top 20 Reading**

|  |  |  |
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| **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\series.jpg** | **A Series of Unfortunate Events***By Lemony Snicket***Artemis Fowl***By Eoin Colfer* | **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\Artemis.jpg** |
| http://images.lovereading4schools.co.uk/books/covers/12/thumb/stoneheart_-_jkt.jpg | **Stoneheart***By Charlie Fletcher***Abela***By Berlie Doherty* | http://images.lovereading4schools.co.uk/books/covers/14/thumb/Abela_jacket.jpg |
| **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\carrie.jpg** | **Carrie’s War***By Nina Bawden***Charlotte’s Web***By E. B. White* | **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\charlotte.jpg** |
| http://images.lovereading4schools.co.uk/books/covers/9/thumb/Owl-Service-jkt.jpg | **The Owl Service***By Alan Garner***Cosmic***By Frank Cottrell Boyce* | **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\cosmic.jpg** |
| **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\daydreamer.jpg** | **The Daydreamer***By Ian McEwan***Diary of a Wimpy Kidd***By Jeff Kinnell* | **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\diary.jpg** |

**Recommendations**

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| **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\goodnight.jpg** | **Goodnight Mister Tom***By Michelle Magorian***How to Train Your Dragon***By Cressida Cowell* | **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\howto.jpg** |
| Wolf Brother: Chronicles of Ancient Darkness Book 1 | **Wolf Brother***By Michelle Paver***The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe***By C. S. Lewis* | **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\lww.jpg** |
| **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\matilda.jpg** | **Matilda***By Roald Dahl***Private Peaceful***By Michael Morpurgo* | **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\private.jpg** |
| **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\sheeppig.jpg** | **The Sheep-Pig***By Dick King-Smith***Skelling***By David Almond* | **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\skellig.jpg** |
| **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\stormbreaker.jpg** | **Stormbreaker***By Anthony Horowitz***There’s a Boy in the Girls’ Bathroom***By Louis Sachar* | **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\theresa.jpg** |

**Classics**

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\alice.jpg** | **Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland***By Lewis Caroll***A Christmas Carol***By Charles Dickens* | **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\christmascarol.jpg** |
| **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\hobbit.jpg** | **The Hobbit***By J. R. R. Tokien***I Capture the Castle***By Dodie Smith* | **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\icapture.jpg** |
| **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\justwilliam.jpg** | **Just William***By Richmal Crompton***Mary Poppins***By Pamela L. Travers* | **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\marypoppins.jpg** |
| **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\peterpanm.jpg** | **Peter Pan***By J. M. Barrie***Treasure Island***By Robert Louis Stevenson* | **C:\Users\Michael\Downloads\9-1-12-files\olympiad\treasureisland.jpg** |

**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:

|  |  |  |
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|  C:\Users\Michael\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\CWSJF84K\MP900314269[1].jpg |  |  |
| Newspapers | Websites | Non-fiction |
|  |  |  |
| http://cehlibrary.ednet.ns.ca/teen_scene/magazinecollageteen.jpg |  | http://static.fastcommerce.com/content/ff80808119dc9afd011b04db11a7199d/mainimages/NanoAudioBook.jpg |
| Magazines | Graphic Novels | Audio books |

Reading these won’t!:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  http://www.fatelines.com/Images/palm_marriage_line.jpg |  |
| Palms | Tea Leaves |