

# The Year of Reading

## GET LOST IN BOOKS...

Welcome to this special edition of our newsletter, designed to share a little more about 'The Year of Reading' here at Bradfield.

As you know the development work of our school is evidence-led and based on latest research in many areas of education, and reading is no exception. We now have a much greater understanding of the staggering impact that reading for pleasure has on children's attainment, both in reading and across the wider curriculum.

In addition, the Department for Education's most recent reading review, published during the summer, made

some extremely useful and welcome suggestions around closing reading gaps, developing fluency and prioritising the enjoyment of reading in primary schools.

What follows in today's newsletter is a snapshot of the ways in which we are teaching and promoting reading this year. As always, we would be delighted if parents or grandparents would like to get involved in the work of the school, so do reach out if you are interested in volunteering to listen to readers,, sort books or even pick up a paint brush for an hour - every little helps!

I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

*Miss Davies*





# Reading Boxes



## ANNING & NIGHTINGALE

Today, we have introduced our beautiful new reading boxes to Anning and Nightingale classes (the new names for Oak and Hawthorn, as chosen by the children!). There are three boxes; the Poetry Box, the Story Box and the Knowledge Box, each designed to be shared at home with the family. Each box will go home with a child on a Friday to be returned the following Tuesday. Inside you will find a book, a teddy and a little hot chocolate treat. Some pens and a sketchbook are also provided so that the children can draw and even write about their favourite parts of the books. We hope you enjoy sharing these boxes with your children and would love to hear your feedback!





# Reading Scrapbooks

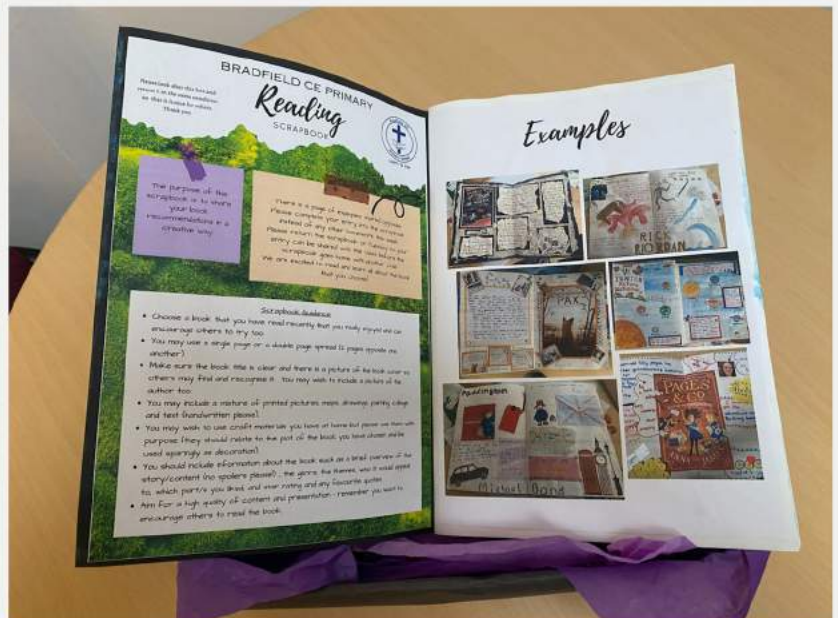
## YEARS 2 TO 6

Did you know humans prefer recommendations from peers? We listen to them more because we think 'they're like me'. Building on this basic psychological principle, today we have introduced 'Reading Scrapbooks' to the children in year 2 - 6, and we hope they will be a powerful way to get children reading for pleasure!

Every Tuesday, a child from each class will take the book home, along with some basic art supplies and a hot chocolate treat. We ask the child to choose a book that they have really enjoyed reading and that they would recommend to their peers. They can then complete a single or double page spread with some information and artwork about their book. Then, the really important part, they will share this with their class!

We have included a page of instructions and examples and, don't worry, no other homework will be expected on the week your child has the scrapbook.

It is safe to say the children were exceptionally eager to get going on these when we introduced during today's celebration assembly!





# Reading Scrapbooks

## RASHFORD CLASS

Previously known as Horse Chestnut, the newly named Rashford class have an excellent example spread created by Miss Bisely. She chose the fantastic 'The Boy At The Back Of The Class' to start the Year 6 scrapbook off.



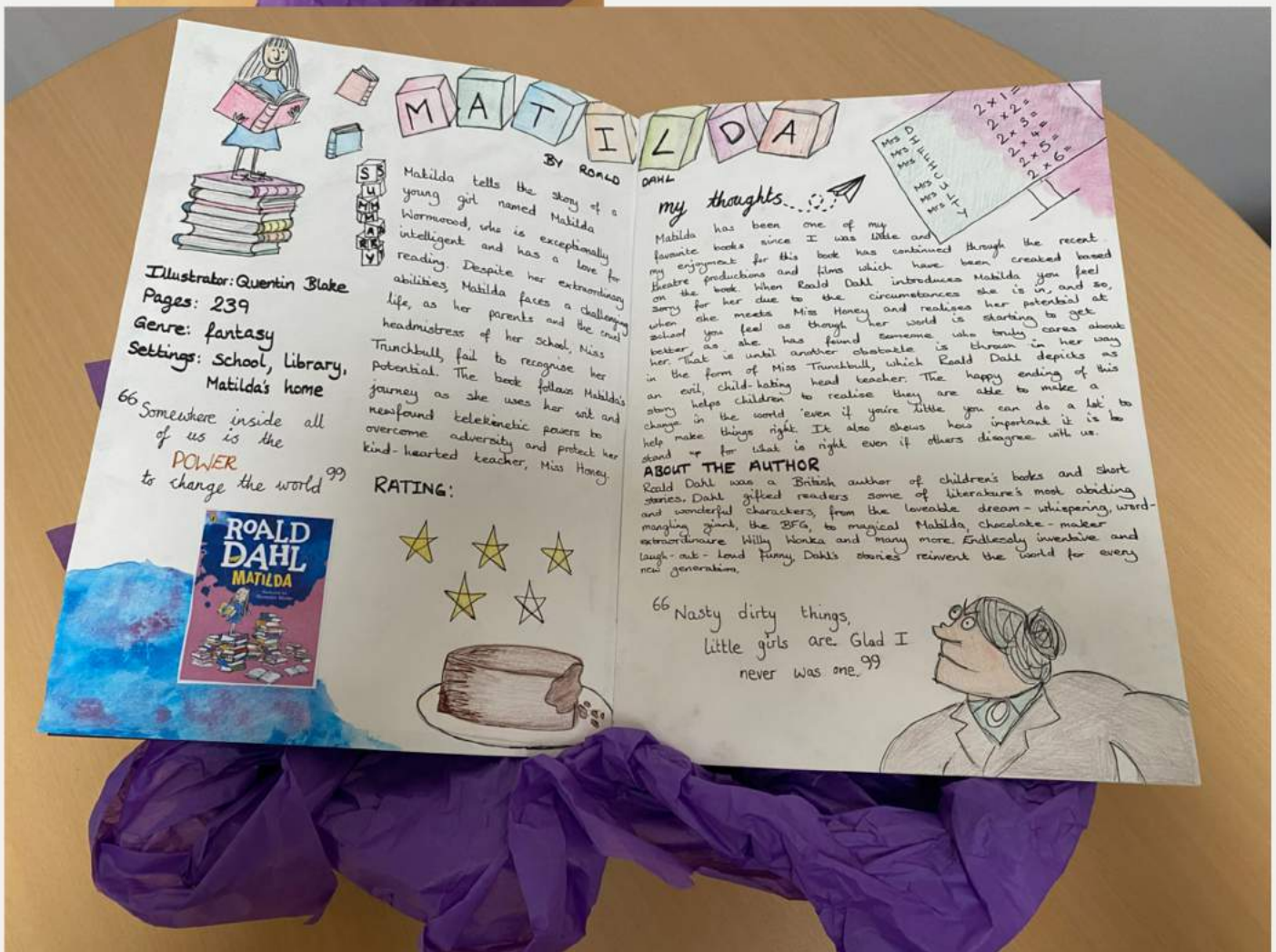


# Reading Scrapbooks



## LUTHER-KING JR

Previously known as Willow, the newly named Luther-King Jnr class, have a stunning watercolour example spread created by Miss Webber. She chose the classic Roald Dahl book 'Matilda' to start the Year 5 scrapbook off.

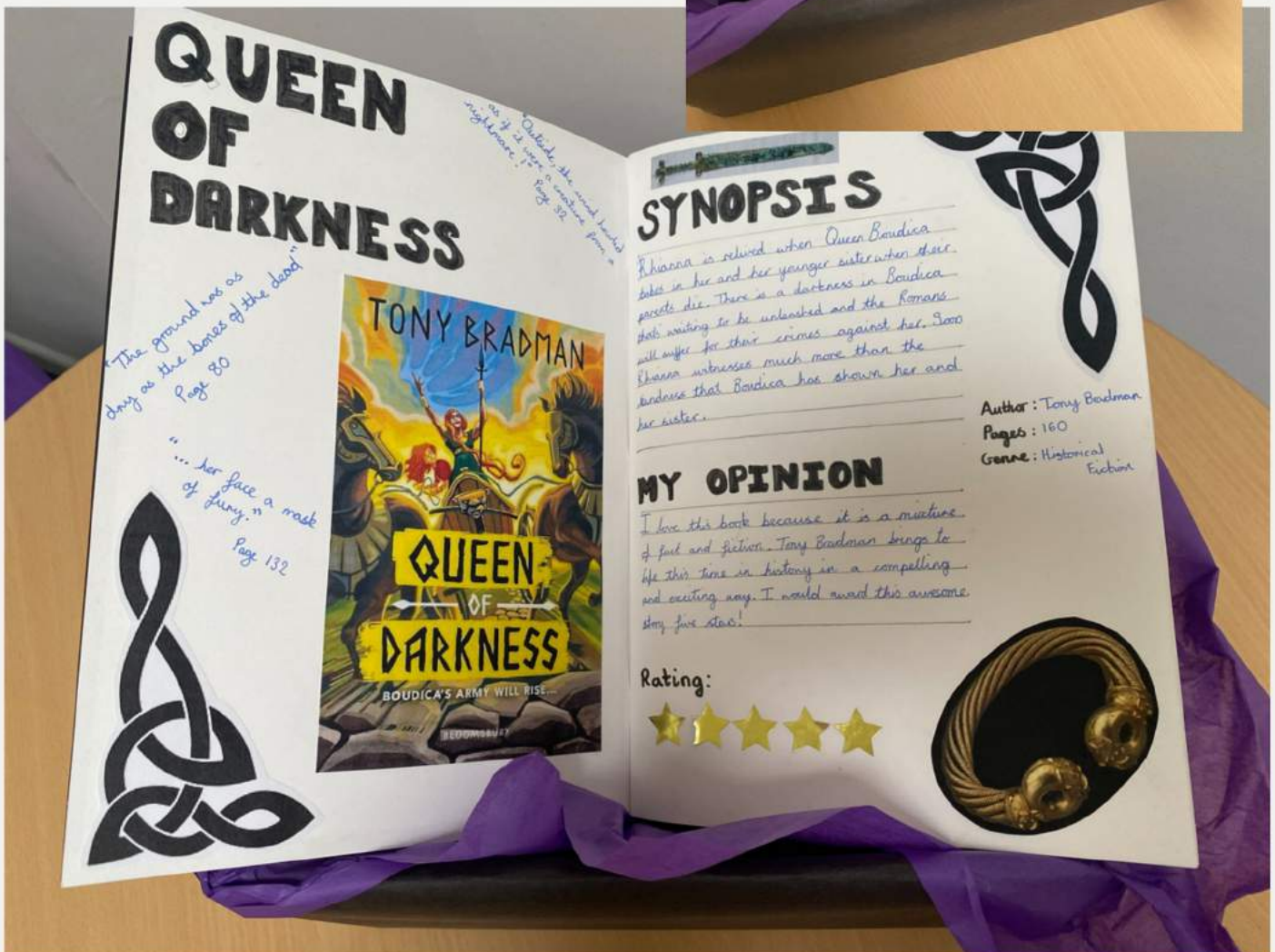




# Reading Scrapbooks

## ELIZABETH CLASS

Previously known as Rowan, the newly named Elizabeth II class have a fantastic example spread by Mr Millward, focusing on one of his favourite children's books, 'Queen Of Darkness'.



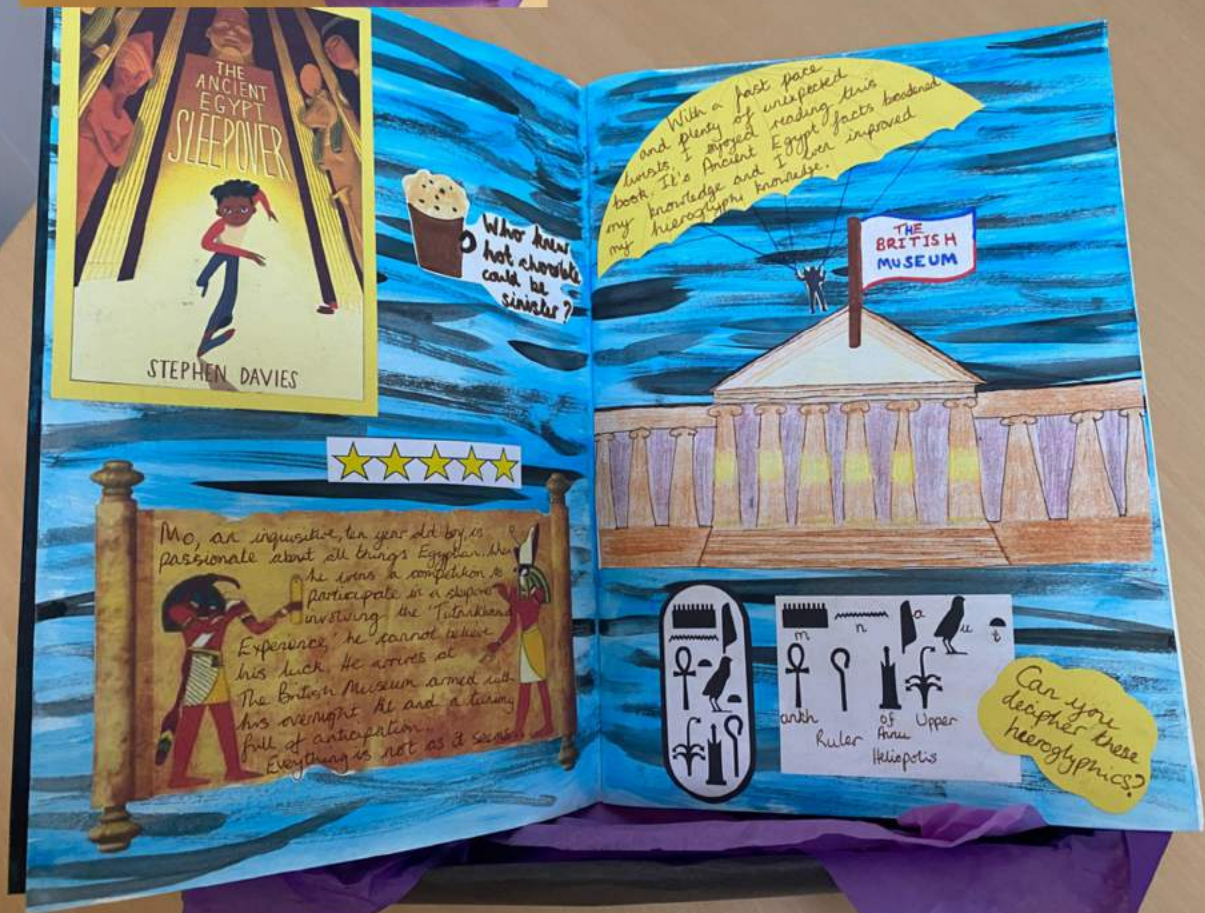


# Reading Scrapbooks



## ROWLING CLASS

Previously known as Sycamore, the newly named Rowling class have a super creative watercolour example spread created by Mrs Peters and Mrs Hinkley. They chose the brilliant book 'The Ancient Egypt Sleepover' to start the Year 3 scrapbook off.

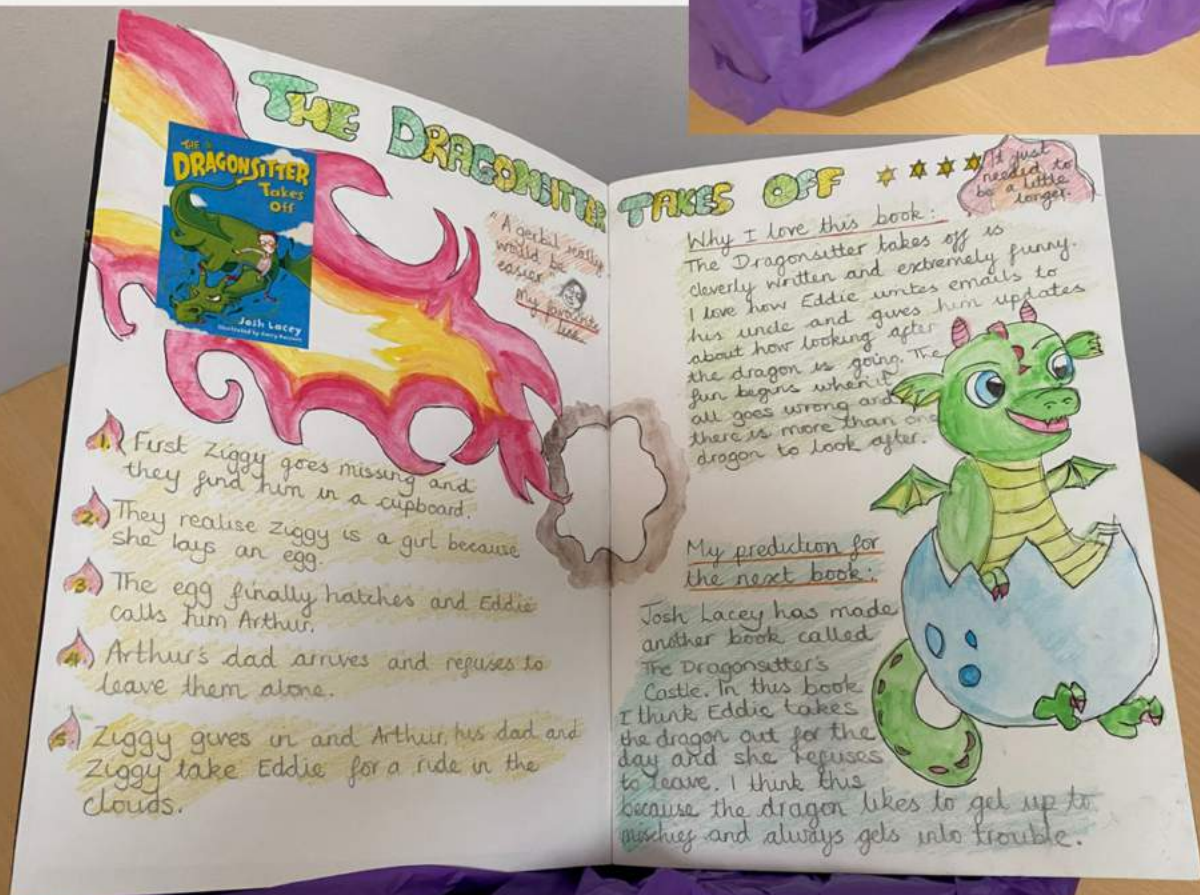




# Reading Scrapbooks

## EARHART CLASS

Previously known as Hazel, the newly named Earhart class have a beautiful pencil sketch example spread created by Miss Harris. She chose to start the year 2 scrapbook off with a spread all about the current class reader, 'The Dragonsitter Takes Off'.





# Phonics Workshop

## OUR FIRST 'SUPER 6' PARENT WORKSHOP

Thank you so much to everyone who came along to our parent workshops this week. As you know, part of our new 'Super 6' termly offering includes a parent workshop each big term. This term we included a phonics workshop, designed to help parents and carers understand how we teach early reading here at Bradfield. For those who couldn't make the event, we do plan to pop all the presentation notes, further information and photos on the website in the next few days, so please do keep a look out for those.





# Reading Lessons



## IMMERSING CHILDREN IN HIGH QUALITY LITERATURE

This half term, we have introduced the children to a new type of reading lesson, which is designed to fully immerse them in the reading experience. We have carefully studied the recommendations of the DFE's new reading framework and are wholeheartedly embracing them! The children in KS2 now enjoy a dedicated half hour every day where they follow along as their teacher reads a whole class text. Not only do the children get to truly lose themselves in the story, they are also watching the teacher fully model the reading process. This modelling includes the teacher 'wondering' aloud about the book's vocabulary, themes and language as well as seeing them actively explore the etymology of words and make links to previous learning and wider literature. KS1 have a similar approach, but for a shorter period of time, as they build their stamina. The feedback from the staff and pupils about these new sessions has been very positive and the sessions I have dropped in on have been a delight to see!



# Library Plans



## OUR SCHOOL IS A LIBRARY

As I mentioned in our previous newsletter, we are delighted that the PTA are supporting the development of our school library this year. We plan to remove all the books from our current library and to audit these while we redesign the space. The traditional library will be overhauled to create a dedicated fiction library, with a real 'home from home' feel. The idea is to create a warm and welcoming space, where the children can come to snuggle up with a book and truly immerse themselves in the story world.

With the library space fiction focused, our non-fiction books will move into the communal areas of our school, where we will be creating curriculum themed displays and adding small 'mini libraries' themed by the areas, alongside them. For example, our history curriculum display will be joined by a mini history library.

In this way, we hope to encourage the children to see our school as one big library, so that they can understand the integral role books play in our lives - both for learning and for pleasure. We will, of course, keep you updated as the project develops!



# Dates for the Diary

## NOVEMBER

Wednesday 8th

Y3/4 Multiplication parent workshop 9am-10am

Monday 13th

Parents Evening 3:30-5:30

Thursday 16th

Parents Evening 4:30-7:00

Friday 24th

Donut and second hand uniform sale 3:10-4:00

Wk/beg 27th

Learning to Learn Week

## DECEMBER

Monday 11th

Christmas Shopping Morning

Wednesday 13th

Christmas Lunch

Thursday 14th

Nativity Play 5pm

Friday 15th

Christmads Fayre 3:10pm

Wednesday 20th

Pupils finish