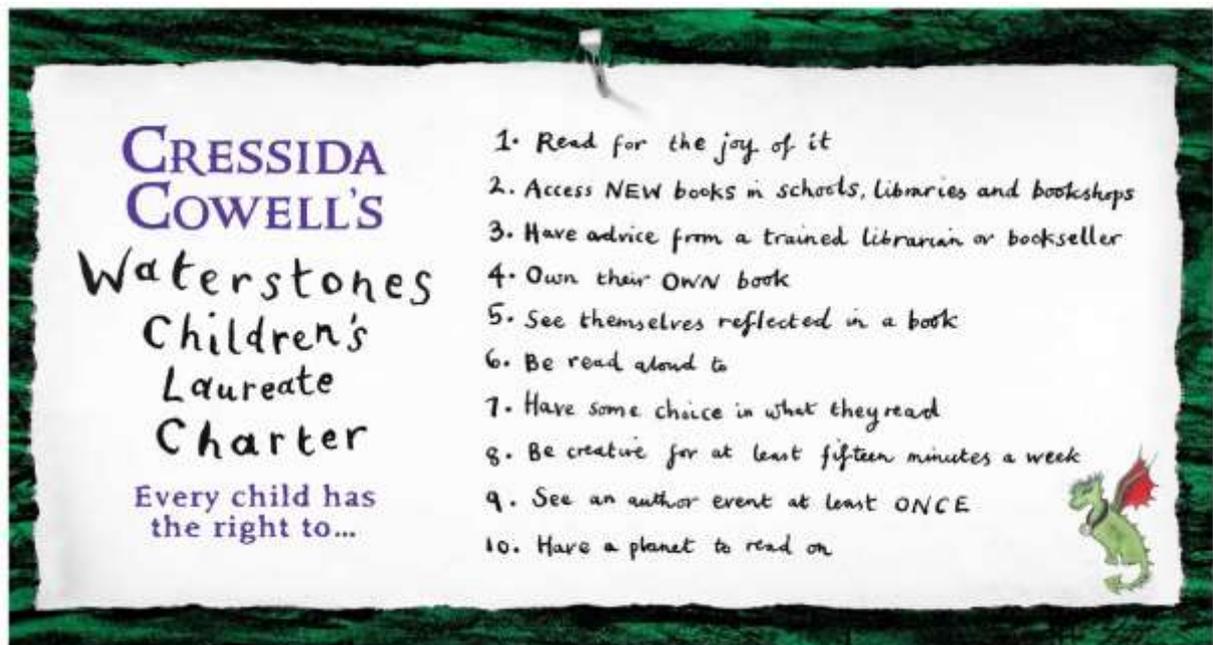


Hello! Welcome to our first reading for pleasure newsletter of the new school year. I hope that everybody had a good summer and found time to enjoy the sunshine with a good book or two. When Cressida Cowell ('How To Train Your Dragon', 'The Wizards of Once') took up her appointment as the current Children's Laureate, she published the charter that you can see below. I think it provides a really good reading for pleasure focus as we prepare to welcome the children back to school.



LoveReading4Kids: As many of you will know, this is a great website. Once you've registered (it's free), you can download opening extracts of virtually all of the titles featured. The site covers fiction and non-fiction and you can browse by genre or age group. There are weekly staff picks, books of the month, debuts of the month, a section on book awards, there are competitions, a kids' zone and lots more. Well worth having a look. Go to: [www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk](http://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk)





Esme's Lock Down Reading: Esme will be in 4CF when she returns to school next week. She sent this fab photo to me towards the end of May! I'm sure that her pile of 'books read' since the start of lockdown is now taller than she is. Our school community has done lots of reading since March 23<sup>rd</sup> and we've tried to capture this on our website. If you haven't had a look, please visit the Malvern website and click on Curriculum / Reading / Book News / Lock Down Reading. Well done, Esme!

Malvern Community Book Club: Our monthly book club for members of the school community has been rebranded! The 'Adult Book Club' was causing a few raised eyebrows! Our first meeting of the new school year will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September - venue TBA. New recruits are always welcome. Members are currently reading one or two titles from the long list for the 2020 Booker Prize. I've read 'How Much Of These Hills Is Gold' by C. Pam Zhang - set in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century in gold rush California - a great book. And at the time of writing, I've just finished reading 'Such A Fun Age' by Kiley Reid.



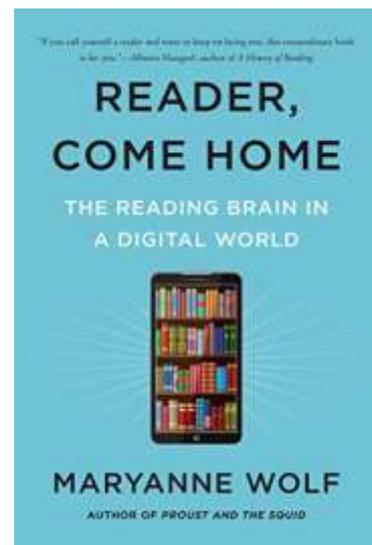
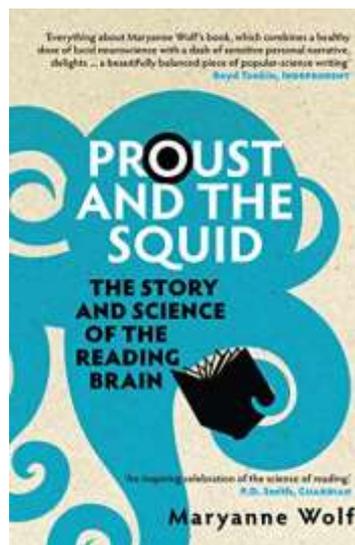
'The Unadoptables' by Hana Tooke: I read this fantastic book a week or two ago. Set in late 19<sup>th</sup> century Amsterdam, the story revolves around Lotta, Egg, Fenna, Sem and Milou and their escape from the Little Tulip Orphanage and their quest to find family and refuge from evil. This is a wonderful mystery and adventure story. For age 9+



**Teachers' Reading Challenge:** Research carried out by The Open University reveals that teachers' knowledge of children's literature and other texts is essential for developing a rich reading curriculum. And when this is combined with the four-fold reading for pleasure

pedagogy, it effectively nurtures the reading habit in young people (Cremin et al, 2014). The Teachers' Reading Challenge invites colleagues to read and comment on six or more children's books. To take part in the Teachers' Reading Challenge, please go to the website: [www.teachersreadingchallenge.org.uk](http://www.teachersreadingchallenge.org.uk) The four-fold reading for pleasure pedagogy encompasses the specific practices of: i) reading aloud ii) informal book talk and recommendations iii) independent reading time iv) a highly social reading environment. (Nothing new here when it comes to our approach at Malvern!) I'll highlight further aspects of Professor Cremin's research in future editions of this newsletter.

**Research:** During the summer holidays, I've been catching up with some interesting reading-related research. Marianne Wolf is the Distinguished Visiting Professor of Education and Director of the Centre for Dyslexia, Diverse Learners



and Social Justice at the University of California, Los Angeles. In 'Proust and the Squid', Professor Wolf examines the near miraculous ability that the human brain has to re-arrange itself in response to external circumstances. She does this in light of the fact that reading was 'invented' only a few thousand years ago – and that this invention changed the very organisation of the brain, expanding the way humans were (and are) able to think. 'Reader, Come Home' considers the future of the reading brain and our capacity for critical thinking, empathy and reflection as we become increasingly dependent on digital technologies. I have both books in school, so please let me know if you'd like to have a read of one or both titles.

# Reader of the Week

Reader of the Week: We'll continue to celebrate our readers of the week on Fridays. (Stickers and bookmarks are ready and waiting!) Nominees from each class can be chosen for one or more of the following reasons: regular reading at home; good reading in class; good progress with reading; attentive listening during daily story time; enthusiasm for books and reading; bringing a book from home to show / share / recommend; producing a good piece of writing linked to a book; improved reading stamina and concentration. With Jodie's help (CLC), I'll keep our website's Reader of the Week page up to date.

Reading Rocks Teacher Book Subscription: My thanks to Jodie Hayes for letting me know about this new subscription service. If you subscribe, you will receive two specially selected and newly published books, emailed Reading Rocks teacher notes and a few extra goodies. The books (RRP £6.99 each) are sent out every two months and there are four different packages available: EYFS, KS1, Y3+Y4 and Y5+Y6. Go to: [www.wherereadingrocks.com/rr-teacher-book-box-subscription/](http://www.wherereadingrocks.com/rr-teacher-book-box-subscription/) for more information. The subscription is £16.50 every two months – this includes the post and packing.



Reading Aloud: I've included this quote from The Guardian in previous editions. I think it bears repetition: 'The best children's books provide a scaffolding for the growing soul. They show us bravery and wonder, and dangers to overcome. To read them aloud makes a bridge between childhood and adulthood, between reader and the read-to...'



## Carnegie & Kate Greenaway Medals:

These were awarded back in June. 'Lark' by Anthony McGowan won the Carnegie Medal and Shaun Tan's illustrations in 'Tales from the Inner City' won the Kate Greenaway Medal. Both books are fab. 'Lark' is published by Barrington Stoke – producers of books for reluctant, under-confident and dyslexic children and teens.

**Please read aloud to the children each day. Happy Reading.....Paul (3/9/20)**

(At home I'm reading 'Dark Matter: A Ghost Story' by Michelle Paver. In class I'll be reading 'The Frozen Sea' by Piers Torday. I'll be reading 'The Legend of Podkin One Ear' by Keiran Larwood to 4PK.