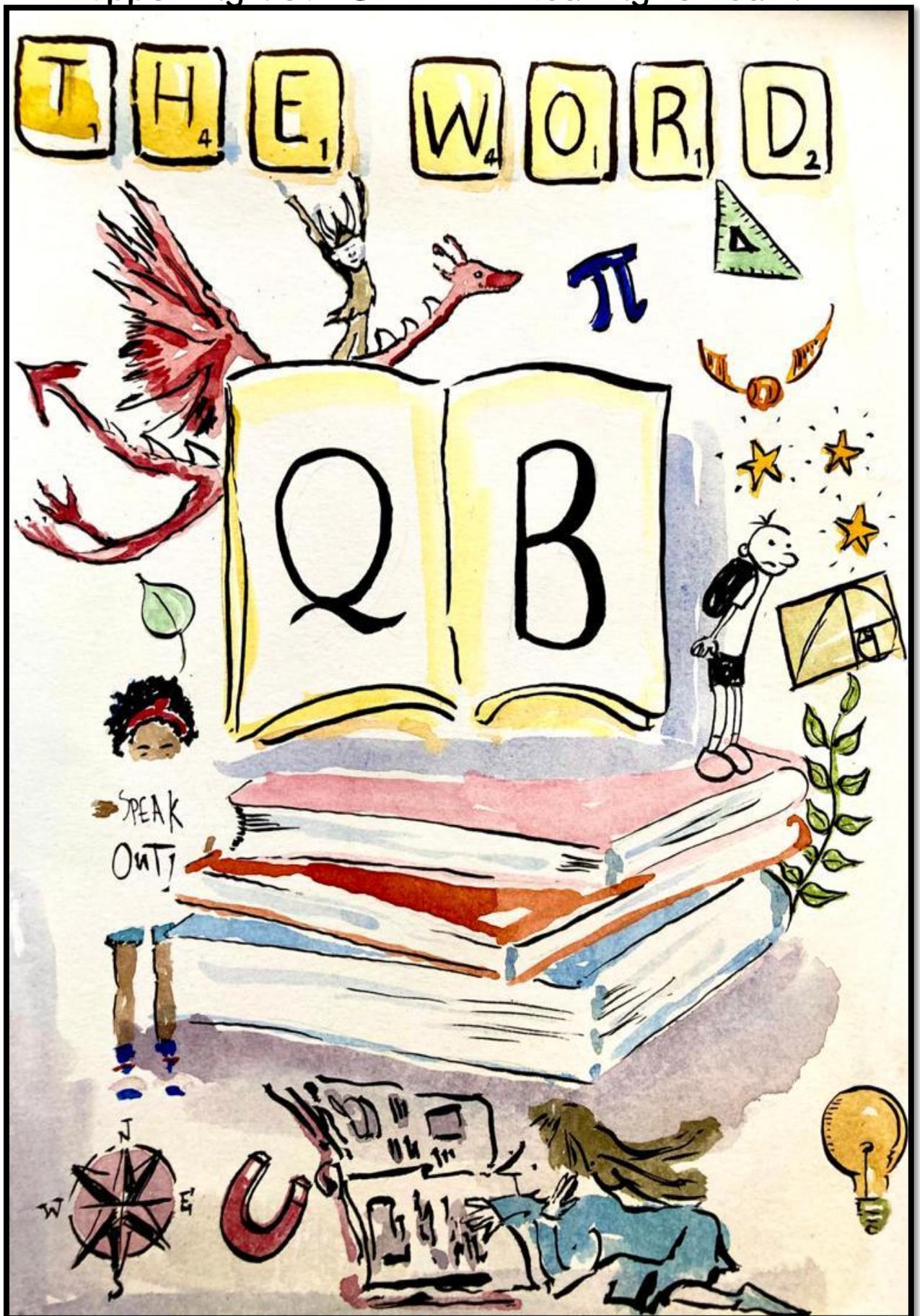


Supporting Your Child with Reading to Learn



February 2021

Welcome to the first edition of **The Word**.

In this monthly bulletin we will share **top tips** for encouraging your child to read at home, as well as some of the latest **research** into why this is such an important daily habit to develop. Every month we will **suggest** some irresistible titles for KS3, KS4 and parents/carers, as well as interesting **news** from the world of reading.

Monthly Features

1. Top Tips
2. Expert Opinions
3. Reading Recommendations
4. Reading News

Remember that all pupils have 1000s of eBooks and audiobooks at their fingertips, for free, through SORA.



If you need any further support in reading with your child, please don't hesitate to get in touch:

apaetel@queensbridge.bham.sch.uk

jhowe@queensbridge.bham.sch.uk

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Top Tip #1

Let your child feel in charge of their reading.
Encourage them to read daily, but other than this,
let them make the decisions.

The Rights of the Reader

by Daniel Pennac
illustrated by **Quentin Blake**



1 The right not to read.



2 The right to skip.



3 The right not to finish a book.



4 The right to read it again.



5 The right to read anything.



6 The right to mistake a book for real life.



7 The right to read anywhere.



8 The right to dip in.



9 The right to read out loud.



10 The right to be quiet.

10 rights — 1 warning
Don't make fun of people
who don't read —
or they never will.



Expert Opinions

“Reading for pleasure has more impact on success than socio-economic background”

OECD – Reading for Change (2000)

An extract from 'Having a choice and how it relates to personal responsibility, achievement and effort,'

National Literacy Trust, July 2008

The logo for the National Literacy Trust, featuring the text "National Literacy Trust" in white on a dark red background, with a white horizontal line underneath. The logo is set against a background of overlapping, semi-transparent colored squares in shades of purple, pink, and yellow.

National
Literacy
Trust

It is widely accepted in educational circles that providing students with choice and control over their reading material enhances their involvement with and enjoyment of reading. More generally, choice has been linked to increased educational outcomes, such as greater levels of intrinsic motivation, greater persistence, better performance, and higher satisfaction (e.g. Ryan and Deci, 2000).

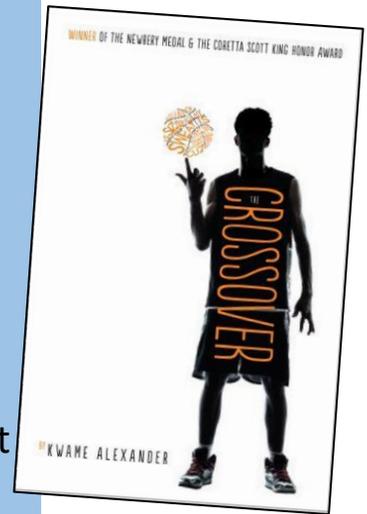
Giving individuals control over aspects of their learning is also believed to lead to independent thinking, greater personal responsibility for the activity and feelings of autonomy (Guthrie and Davis, 2003). Indeed, the power of choice is regularly harnessed by teachers who provide choices because they believe it increases effort and learning (Flowerday and Schraw, 2000).

Regarding literacy, researchers have argued that, “including students in deciding which topics to explore, which texts to read the sequence of texts, and the particular skills to emphasize is empowering” (Guthrie and Davis, 2003: 75). Opportunities for students to select their own reading materials therefore promote positive feelings about reading and improved achievement (Worthy and colleagues, 1998). Pachtman and Wilson (2006) further detail that book choice not only fostered a sense of ownership, but “translated into students reading and enjoying more books” (p. 683).

Reading Recommendations

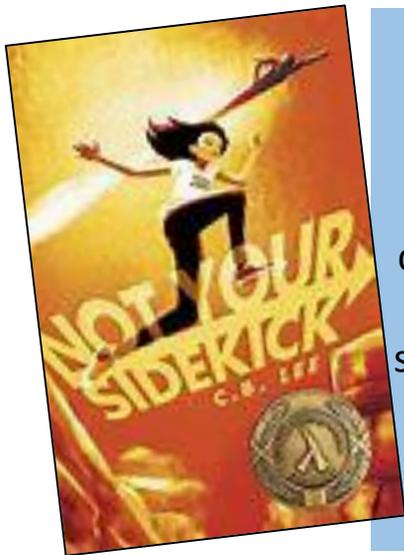
KS3 Recommendation: Crossover by Kwame Alexander

'With a bolt of lightning on my kicks . . .The court is SIZZLING. They're kings of the court, star players for their school team. Both on and off the court, there is conflict and hardship which will test Josh's bond with his brother. In this heartfelt novel in verse, the boys find that life doesn't come with a play-book and it's not all about winning'



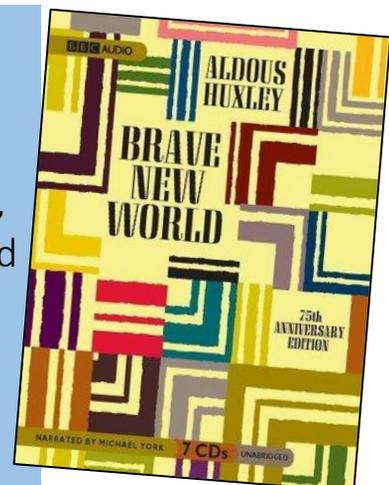
KS4 Recommendation: Not Your Sidekick by C.B. Lee

Welcome to Andover, where superpowers are common, but internships are complicated. Just ask high school nobody, Jessica. Resigned to a life without superpowers, Jess and is merely looking to enhance her college applications. Jess finds the perfect internship- but who is it for?



Parent/Carer Recommendation: Brave New World by Aldous Huxley

Brave New World is a dystopian novel by Aldous Huxley, written in 1931. Set in a futuristic World State, inhabited by genetically modified citizens, the novel anticipates huge scientific advancements. This is about a frightening, dystopian society which is challenged by only a single individual: the story's protagonist.



Give Your Eyes a Break! These recommendations are available on SORA as audiobooks...



Reading News

Access a free weekly book with the Virtual School Library, brought to you by the Oak National Academy, in partnership with the National Literacy Trust: [Virtual School Library | Oak Academy \(thenational.academy\)](https://www.thenational.academy/virtual-school-library)

Every week a popular children's author or illustrator will provide free books, exclusive videos and their top three recommended reads. Having access to a school library is really important for children. School libraries nurture a love of reading that can enrich children's literacy skills, academic achievements and mental wellbeing.



If you're looking for some fun things to do, look no further than the BookTrust website. There are quizzes with prizes to be won and tips for learning to illustrate and design book covers. There are also loads of book recommendations.

More info here: www.booktrust.org.uk



The Book of Hopes: Words and Pictures to Comfort, Inspire and Entertain Children

This extraordinary collection of short stories, poems, essays and pictures is available to read for free on the National Literacy Trust website. With contributions from more than 110 children's writers and illustrators, including Lauren Child, Anthony Horowitz, Greg James and Chris Smith, Michael Morpurgo, Liz Pichon, Axel Scheffler, Francesca Simon and Jacqueline Wilson, this really is a gift!

The collection, published by Bloomsbury, is dedicated to the doctors, nurses, carers, porters, cleaners and everyone working in hospitals.

www.literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/book-hopes/

