

Read All About It 2009

Welcome to the latest edition of "Read All About It" and many thanks to the children who have taken part in this edition.

If you would like to review books with your class or with a reading group you have set up in school please contact Wakefield Schools Library Service on 01924 302238 for details. All subscribing schools are welcome to take part. Participating schools will go into a prize draw with the chance to receive books for their school.

THE BATTLE FOR GULLYWITH

Author: Susan Hill

I would recommend this book to adults and children. This book contains magic and excitement for anyone who reads it. For example, there are many ancient moving stones and houses on stilts! The main character Olly Brown is a boy from London, until his mother and father decided to move to Gullywith. When he got there, he met a girl called KK and from there, they went on many adventures! I would rate this book 4 stars out of 5.

By Georgina, Fitzwilliam Primary

ALIENS DON'T EAT DOG FOOD

Author: Dinah Capparucci

I would recommend this book because Jordan, Ryan and Boy Dave go to school one morning and get introduced to a woman called 'The Agnatha!.' She wants to make a video of all the children but Boy Dave, Jordan and Ryan don't.

By Lucy, Fitzwilliam Primary

SKY WOLVES

Author: Michael Livi

I liked this book because of the cool words it used, like swirling and mist, and then put them into a great sentence to catch the reader's attention. I also thought that the character Jenny (the dog) is described lovely because I also think she is cute with those little black, beady eyes.

By Dulcie, Fitzwilliam Primary

THE LAST FREE CAT

Author: Jon Blake

I thought this book was quite good, only I didn't quite understand the storyline because it's just one of those books that is talking about one thing and then suddenly changing to another. I thought the story was quite strange, but other people might think it good, so I will recommend it to others.

By Claire, Wrenthorpe Primary

BLACK AND WHITE

Author: Rob Childs

I really enjoyed the book called 'Black and White' by Rob Childs, because it was about a boy called Joshua, who loved playing football. Joshua was new at Westgate School and he wanted to show off his football skills to his new classmates. He had a nephew called Ossie Williams so, no wonder, he loved football. My favourite bit of the book was when Joshua got player of the tournament. This book is really good for people, aged 10, who love football, like me. I really enjoyed this book and I hope you will too.
By Thomas, Wrenthorpe Primary

ROAD TO WAR

Author: Valerie Wilding

I thought the book 'Road to War' was a great book and it made me feel like I was the girl in the story. I liked that it was written as a diary because I haven't read many books like that. I think the author has written a very, very good book and I would like to read some more of Valerie Wilding's books. I would like it if the school library got some of her books.

By Georgina, Wrenthorpe Primary

RAMPAGE

Author: Ann Evans

I really liked 'Rampage' because of the prehistoric creatures that are involved. The characters are Cameron, Jack, Mum and Dad. 'Rampage' is about

creatures being found along with their bones, but their parents don't believe them, so they try to prove it. They do so, by showing them the bones.

By Bryn, Wrenthorpe Primary

SHOOT TO WIN

Author: Dan Freedman

'Shoot to Win' is good if you like football because it is about Jamie who wants to be a footballer. He went to a school and he played for the team. Then they went into a tournament and they got to the final, but his Mum kept saying that he wanted to be a footballer. Then his Dad asked a scout to come to the match. I recommend it to people who like football.

By Adam, Wrenthorpe Primary

DAVEY SWAG

Author: David Grimstone

I've just finished reading a book called 'Davey Swag' and found it very interesting. The story went like this. Well, Davey Swag wanted to be a pirate, a real pirate, so he tries to join in a crew and finally he joins a crew called the Rogue Herring and has to learn to be a real pirate. He meets a zombie called Threeday and they go on an adventure to find the voodoo ostrich, to free the man called Paprika, who had drunk the blood and so he got eternal life. Then Davey Swag got to be a real pirate. I really enjoyed it. I loved the characters and the storyline. I also thought that it was really

different but I loved it. I recommend it to other children and adults.

By Emily, Wrenthorpe Primary

DEATHWOOD DAMIAN STRIKES AGAIN!

Author: Hazel Townson

I like how the story is told in a series of letters. All the characters intermingle with one another, making it a 'who-done-it' story. It keeps you interested from one letter to another. A great read. Great descriptions of characters and their funny names, brings them to life. What a giggle to read!

By Astasia, St. Austin's Reading Group

THE SHIP'S KITTEN

Author: Matilda Webb

The picture of the kitten first made me want to read this book. I thought this book was sad because all the ships had a cat on. But I thought it was funny and happy in the end because the cat got to be a ship's kitten and he fell asleep in the captain's hat.

By Taylor, St. Austin's Reading Group

I'M NOT SCARED

Author: Jonathan Allen

This book is about a baby owl and his teddy, Owly. They go for a walk in the woods at night-time and while they are on their walk, they meet some other

creatures, such as a bear, a bat and a badger. Is baby owl scared? You'll have to read it to find out!

By Rachael, St. Austin's Reading Group

KEEPING SECRETS - THE PYJAMA GANG

Author: P.J. Denton

This book is really, really good. It is about a group of friends who like to have sleep-overs together. At first, Jo's friends are keeping a secret from her, but they tell her what it is, in the end. I didn't like the bit where they wouldn't tell her what the secret was, but I liked it when they did tell her. I liked Jo and her friends. There were some American bits which made it interesting.

By Rachael, St. Austin's Reading Group

KNIGHT TIME

Author: Jane Clarke

It's a book about a little knight and a little dragon. One night the little knight and the little dragon go into the woods to find their daddies, who have gone hunting. But the little knight finds the daddy dragon and the little dragon finds the daddy knight. I like the pictures, some of them lift up, some pictures are furry and some are shiny. I am 6 and I find it easy to read. My mum liked it too.

By Louis, St. Austin's Reading Group

THE BLACK KNIGHT

Author: Mick Gowar

'The Black Knight' was good because it had fantasy and it had fight pages, but the best thing about this book is that it describes the characters well. 'The Black Knight' is aimed at children aged 7 to 10. The most confusing part of 'The Black Knight' is the beginning and the end, because it is a never ending cycle.

By Matthew, St. Austin's Reading Group

THE MAMMOTH ACADEMY ON HOLIDAY!

Author: Neal Layton

I enjoyed this book because Ormsby fell in love with Gladice. My favourite character was Ormsby, because he was funny. My favourite bit was when fox made a submarine. The author made me feel like I wanted to read it all day. I would recommend this book.

By Eve, Walton Primary

LOST! THE HUNDRED-MILE-AN-HOUR-DOG

Author: Jeremy Strong

I enjoyed the book because it is funny. My favourite character was Daisy-Don't-Dog. My favourite bit was when a woman chased Daisy. The author made me feel happy. I would recommend this book.

By Joe, Walton Primary

TIGER LILY

Author: Maeve Friel

I enjoyed this book because it was funny and action-packed. It was a bit sad, at times, but I enjoyed it. I thought it would have been improved by including more detailed description. My favourite bit was when the boars ran around messing up the town. My favourite character was Rosie the dog, because she has only three legs, also she is very naughty. The author made me feel a bit sorry for Rosie and Lily, but laugh when things went wrong. I would recommend this book to someone who likes lively and eventful stories. I would give this book 9 out of 10.

By Ellie, Walton Primary

THE BARE BUM GANG AND THE FOOTBALL FACE-OFF

Author: Anthony McGowan

I enjoyed this book because, at first, the character had to show their bum if they wanted to be in the gang. My favourite character was Phillip because he always moans. My favourite bit was when Jennifer had to show her bum and they didn't let her in the gang. The author made me feel that I wanted to read more and more each page. I would recommend this book to 7 to 10 year olds because they would enjoy it. I would give this book 10 out of 10.

By Laura, Walton Primary

HUGO PEPPER

Author: Paul Stewart & Chris Riddell

The story is about a young boy, Hugo Pepper, who grows up with reindeer herders, who he thinks are his parents - but they aren't. He magically travels to the big and bustling town of Harbour Heights. This is in order to find out more about his real parents. He meets his mermaid godmothers. They are suffering due to a lack of business, caused by the secretive Firefly Institute (a local publisher). Hugo is able to help them and all their friends, as he slowly unravels mysteries from the past. The young boy goes on to meet someone VERY special to him and finds something very precious. This book weaves an intricate puzzle of seemingly unrelated characters. As usual, this book by Stewart and Riddell can be read by a wide range of readers. The book is well produced, illustrated on every page, including excerpts from The Firefly Quarterly for your benefit. I can recommend this book for patient readers. It has to be read at least twice to be enjoyed fully.

By Ben, Badsworth J&I

CHARLIE BONE AND THE WILDERNESS WOLF

Author: Jenny Nimmo

This story is about a young boy, Charlie Bone and his friends trying to save their school buddy Asa Pike from being hunted down because he is a were-beast. But a new boy, Dagbert Endless, arrives at Bloor's Academy. Manfred, one of the masters, wants Dagbert to get rid of Charlie and Asa, so they plot together. Charlie and

his friends come up with a plan to save Asa. But it is Charlie and Billy who have to venture out into the wilderness to try and save Asa, using their special powers to help them. Their adventures take them to a river and the only way across is by a rickety, old bridge. But they have a problem, Dagbert is close behind and he can control water. Is it safe to cross? The main character is Charlie Bone who has the power to travel through pictures and to talk to the people he meets on the other side. He is a curious 12 year old who wants to know everything and will stop at nothing to find the answers. He is very determined to help Asa, who has helped him in the past to find his father. Another important character is Dagbert Endless, who is there to stop Charlie. He is a strange, magical boy who has the power to control water and is a bit fish like. My least favourite character is Charlie's gran who is selfish, nasty, ungrateful and sour. There is a lot of detail in this book and it makes it very hard to understand sometimes. The settings and characters are all described too much. This means that you lose track of what is happening. The story is still very good though. The writer has thought of a great adventure and has described it perfectly. It has action, drama and suspense. All the words fitted the sentences exactly. I would have liked to change some of the punctuation, it seemed wrong when you read it. Sometimes I had to read a sentence again to understand it and this spoilt my flow. Overall I would recommend this book because it was a real page turner

and you wanted to know if Charlie saved Asa. I will let you read the book to find out.

By Megan, Badsworth J&I

LUCKY STAR

Author: Cathy Cassidy

The story is about a boy named Mouse, who meets a girl named Cat, when she runs into a stray dog on her bicycle. She falls off and the dog is badly hurt so they take him to the vet together. They are two very different children who have very different home lives. Mouse is poor and Cat is middle class. But they become best of friends and share lots of exciting and amazing adventures. They also become very close and share lots of their feelings about their families and their home lives. That is all except one, one which could split them up for ever, but does it? The main characters are Mouse (Martin) and Cat (Catrin). I would describe Mouse as a tough, short-tempered boy, who has had to survive a very hard life. He likes being a vandal and a graffiti artist. But I think there is a shy and caring side to him. Cat is cool and confident on the surface. But deep down she has a hidden problem which makes her want to get into trouble. This makes her seem quirky sometimes. The author describes them in great detail and this gives you a really clear picture. The character I liked the most was Cat. This is because she is a strong girl character, she is understanding and isn't afraid to take risks. The book is written in the first person. This is important to the story because

you know how each of the characters feels through the whole story. This also helps describe the positive and magical relationship between Mouse and Cat. There is a lot of description in this book. The author describes the settings in great detail, so you can really picture what things look like. The book is best at describing how the characters are feeling with each other and with themselves. I would have liked to change the beginning because it takes too long for Mouse to meet Cat and for their adventures to start. I think the author has wanted to tell a story about two children from very different backgrounds that get on really well because they both have family problems. They go through a lot together, but their friendship is put to the test. Will they stay friends? I would recommend this book, as it is exciting, believable and you really get involved with the characters. I found it hard to put down.

By Claudia, Badsworth J&I

ATTICA

Author: Garry Kilworth

Attica is a mixture of thrilling, mysterious and boring. The plot, about three children finding an enchanted attic in their new house, filled with spooky objects, mysterious masks, evil villains and many exciting discoveries to make, was unrealistic and dry. I found each discovery quite dull, as the description was either too brief or dragged on for too long! The deeper parts of the story, about the magical attic, did not come until

later in the book, as the first few chapters were based on the children's new house. By this time, I had lost interest. There were three main characters: Chloe, Jordy and Alex. Chloe was mature and caring, as she was always making sure that things were safe and looking after her brothers. She was my favourite character, as I think we sounded quite similar. Jordy was outgoing and brave, as he loved new experiences and was not afraid to try things, no matter how dangerous. Alex's characteristics were not really shown as much as the other two children's, as he was always involved in some new adventure. The author described them in great detail, for example: 'A tall, lean boy, with a languid air of superiority about him'. I think it is important to say that this book is not for everyone. I thought that it seemed to drag on, and found the plot quite dull, but I think that others may disagree and think that it is a very good book. I also think the author, Garry Kilworth, tried his best to create a magical, mystical land for people to escape to, but the description was too detailed for me to be able to set the scene in my head, and I didn't find it spooky enough. Overall, I would not recommend this book, as I think most people would find it hard to understand, and quite drab, as the plot is hard to follow and the description is very long. However, I have to give credit to Garry, as I think he tried very hard to write a good novel for all to enjoy.

By Brogan, Badsworth J&I

