

#### **Reading Newsletter**

September 2022





## Author of the Term

# Peter Bunzl

Peter was born and grew up in London.

He loved comics like the Beano and the Dandy and made his own comic books as a child.

Before he was an author, he was an animator. His short films have won awards and so has his book Cogheart! His favourite authors include: Roald Dahl, Joan Aiken, Terry Pratchett, Eva Ibbotson, Ursula Le Guin and Douglas Adams. His favourite films are: Star

Wars, The Wizard of Oz, Watership Down, Disney animated movies, Kiki's Delivery Service.

If you like Cressida Cowell, Neil Gaiman, Helena Duggan, Ross MacKenzie or Sophie Anderson- you will love Peter Bunzl 🚱

#### Available in our school library.







# Author of the Term : Peter Bunzl

# THE COGHEART SERIES



MECHANICALS







ZOMBIES

 <u>What are the Cogheart Adventures about?</u>
The Cogheart Adventure books are fantastical action-packed stories for ages 8 - 12 set in an alternative Victorian world. <u>What inspired the Cogheart Adventures?</u>
Peter was reading about various clockwork robots that existed in the Eighteenth century, before Victorian times. They were called automatons and were incredible pieces of engineering. Automatons were built to do simple tasks; like write their name; play a musical instrument or do a card trick. His creative brain wondered, what if these robots had been more advanced? And what if parts of these robots could heal sick humans or animals? Peters 'mechanicals' feature throughout the Cogheart series.



# www.peterbunzl.com/resources



Cogheart Wordsearch



Cogheart Colouring Sheet

Moonlocket Wordsearch



Cogheart Puppets



Skycircus Activity Sheet



Write a Penny Dreadful



Shadowsea Undersea Drawing Sheet





Crowfeathers

#### **Reading Book Reboot!**

The new school year brings changes to our approach to reading in relation to 'reading books'- the books that are coloured banded. To build on our excellent practice and the great reading attainment from the children, and to move forward with reading for pleasure, <u>book bands have been retired</u>.

Children in Reception and Year One no longer work to 'colours', but to Phases of Phonics. These children will continue to bring home a 'reading book' set by their class teacher which is aligned to their Phonic Phase. They will also choose a picture book from the school library to bring home as their bedtime book. This practice was implemented last school year and will continue this year.

Children in Year 2 and Year 3 now have a Mini Library in class to choose a book from, replacing the book banded books. These books have been carefully selected to match the expected level of reading for these year groups. The books in the Mini Library will be changed each term. These Mini Library books are essentially becoming their 'reading book', but importantly they are 'proper books' which the children, not the teacher, choose. Year 2 and 3 children will still access the school library to lend a picture book, which you may choose to use as their bedtime book.

Children in Year 4, 5 and 6 will be using the school library to choose their book.

In short, for Year 2- 6 children, the books chosen from the class Mini Library, or the main school library, are their 'reading' book.

Year R, 1, 2 and 3 children will be bringing home two books, a 'reading' book and a bedtime book.

Year 4, 5 and 6 will be bringing one book home.

We are hoping this change will lead to an increase of 'reading for pleasure', as research indicates this is hampered by book banded books.

The same practice with these books applies, children need to continue to read each day to an adult at home for 10- 20 minutes and this needs to be noted in their reading record. When a child in Yr 4, 5 or 6 has finished their book, they can use time from their hour lunch break to go to the library and choose a new one.

Finally, a HUGE thank you to the PTA who funded the books for the new Year 2 and 3 class Mini Libraries. The books are beautiful, and we cannot wait to share them with the children.

#### **Every Body Every Night**



A friendly reminder of the Reading Expectation at our school. Our expectation is that children read every night with an adult at home; we call this 'Every Body Every Night'. Reading records are checked daily in the classroom. If children have not read at home, this lost reading time must be caught up in school hours. This begins with our very youngest children in Nursery, who are encouraged to share a bedtime story every night at home, this then progresses to Reception and beyond where children read their school reading book for 5 – 10 minutes each night. If you have any questions regarding this, then please contact Mrs Wall, our reading lead, at g.wall@thirsk-pri.nyorks.sch.uk



### **Our Reading Team**



A big welcome to two new reading team volunteers Donna Bowman and Margaret Knowles, and a huge thank you to Rose Dickinson, Lucy Minican and Kate Mountford who continue to support our children in this role.



Reading Cloud is a blockbuster of a resource that we are very proud to have at Thirsk Community Primary School. It offers so much more than a traditional library – pupils can still check out and request books, but there are many more functions to explore! It enables users to chat online with fellow class members about books and authors, pupils can blog about books, recommend resources, and write and record a video book review. Reading Cloud even lets pupils share their home library with friends. This is a great, cloud-based literary

community resource that encourages reading for pleasure, which is



perfect for Remote learning.





All of our children have a Reading Cloud log in (given to them by their class teacher) and can access the platform from home. If you are looking for ideas for Remote learning, then look no further because there is plenty to inspire on the Home Page!

Most Popular Books



The Home Page includes a Star Review segment, a Featured Author section, Post-it style notelets that feature word of the day, and a fact of the day.

It features real-life authors in the flesh talking about their books, and if pupils want to find a particular author then Who's Next? will help you. The Trending box contains words, authors and titles that are the most searched and at the foot of the page you will find a collection of the 100 most popular books to click on and read. Pupils can even search the most popular books at our school!

Pupils at home can have, take a quiz, write a review, watch an author video as well as make their own.

Mrs Wall, our Reading Lead, will be 'shouting out' any new reviews added by our pupils during the weekly Reading Assembly – which all

Star Review



children will have access to.

So, keep calm and read on!



Search >

that you'll like!

Select an author (Who Nei ~