

ST. MARY'S CBS. PORTLAOISE: ENCOURAGING READING FOR PLEASURE.



Welcome back

Welcome to the second edition of our Wellread Newsletter here in St. Mary's CBS, Portlaoise.

A lot has been happening in promoting reading for pleasure within both the school and wider community since our last newsletter was published in October.

Our finalists in the Creative Writing Competition for our First Years have been selected by their classes and are currently being judged by a neutral volunteer from outside school.

Ms. Quinlan has been working away on our 'Recorded Readers' programme to help with developing literacy levels with primary school children.

Our new 'One School One Book' initiative has begun in association with Portlaoise Library.

Ms. Kelly has been busy gathering books for our 'Book Blind Date' for the Direct Provision Centre in the Monatague hotel This is the second year of the project and we hope it is as successful this year as it was in 2021.

**The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go.**

Dr. Seuss



Creative Writing Corner.

Jim Foley in First Year has started writing a book. Opposite please find the first chapter. Enjoy and look out for further extracts in newsletters to com!



Chapter 1: Silence.

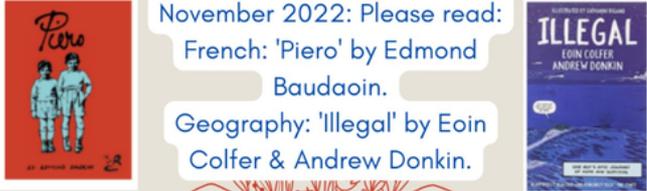
One cold and wet night there was a boy all curled up in bed. James was reading his favourite comic when he heard a peculiar echoing noise from the window right next to his bed. "Have I heard this sound before?" he said softly to himself. James quickly, but quietly crawled out of bed and made his way over to the window. James stood in complete and utter silence. "Just do it" he said to himself, keeping in mind that his dad was asleep in the other room across from his. James whipped open the curtains to find a rather demented looking raven sitting on the branch right next to his bedroom window. "Where the hell did you come out of?" said James in a more confident voice. The raven just looked at him in fascination. "Hmmm should I give you a name" said James. " I will call you Trevor". Just then Trevor flew away back into what James could only imagine was a bush, but a very odd shaped one indeed. "Bye" James said as he was closing the window tightly because he was still did not want that wretched beast getting in. James rushed back to bed and took a deep breath and sighed to himself thinking "That was a weird night".

Borrow Box WELLREAD ST MARY'S CBS

One School One Book

New School Competition! We want to get our school reading!
 Borrow one of the following books from the library in Portlaoise or from BorrowBox and read it in the month of November. Complete a Book Review on it and submit it to Ms. Lalor by end of school Friday 2nd December to enter to win a €10 book voucher.
 Winners will be announced in school the following week.

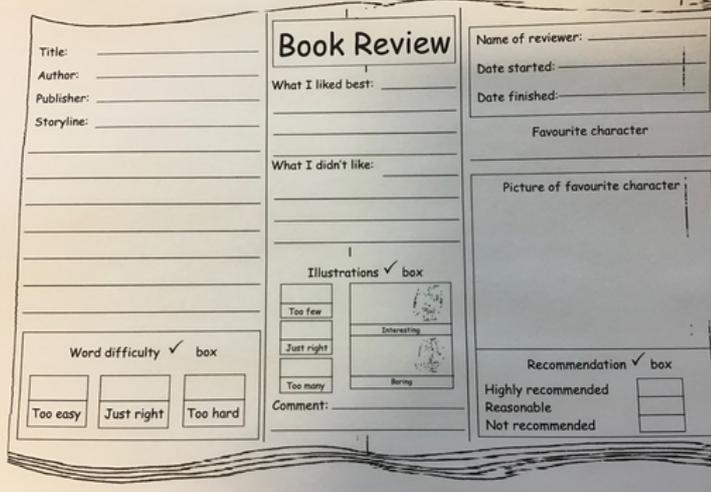
November 2022: Please read:
 French: 'Piero' by Edmond Baudaoin.
 Geography: 'Illegal' by Eoin Colfer & Andrew Donkin.




ONE SCHOOL ONE BOOK

As our connection with Portlaoise library continues to grow, we have been looking at new ways to connect our school community and our local library. In October, Ms. Lalor met with library staff on an idea to adapt the 'One County One Book' idea to suit the needs of our school. Together, they came up with the idea of selecting titles of graphic novels related to various subjects studied in the CBS.

The initiative kicked off in November with 'Piero' by Edmund Baudaoin and 'Illegal' by Eoin Colfer / Andrew Donkin. These books were chosen to represent the subjects of French and Geography. The library have kindly facilitated us by ordering in multiple copies of both books for the month and they are available to our students to borrow and review. A sample review template is shown here.



Book Review

Title: _____
 Author: _____
 Publisher: _____
 Storyline: _____

What I liked best: _____
 What I didn't like: _____

Illustrations box
 Too few Just right Too many
 Interesting Boring

Word difficulty box
 Too easy Just right Too hard

Comment: _____

Name of reviewer: _____
 Date started: _____
 Date finished: _____
 Favourite character: _____
 Picture of favourite character: _____
 Recommendation box
 Highly recommended
 Reasonable
 Not recommended



At the end of each month, students who have read any of the books that have been chosen can complete and submit a review. Winners will be picked each month and they will receive a prize and an opportunity to have their review printed in the next Wellread newsletter





Actor Shane Casey congratulating Sean Ryan on the reading project.

'RECORDED READERS'

Hello, my name is Sean and a couple of months ago Ms. Quinlan asked me to record some children's books for the Wellread programme. I have really enjoyed recording them.

I started recording them and really enjoyed being able to help people by doing this. I'm very thankful for being picked for this and I can't wait to see the results.

In the end I did around 15 or so recordings and I'm very happy to have done this. I hope these help people and I'm thankful to have had the opportunity.

Name	Date	Size	Sharing
A Party for Brown Mouse	Nov 24	734 KB	Shared
Billy Can Count	Oct 27	689 KB	Shared
Bingo and the Ducks	Oct 27	628 KB	Shared
Bingo's Birthday	Nov 24	592 KB	Shared
Chocolate Banana Pops	Nov 24	748 KB	Shared
Dilly Duck and Dally Duck	Nov 24	627 KB	Shared
Dinosaurs	Nov 24	875 KB	Shared
Fat Cat's Chair	Dec 5	2.5 MB	Shared
Fat Cat's Chair bad	Dec 5	728 KB	Shared
Go Away, Socks!	Nov 24	733 KB	Shared



READING



★ **EVERYONE IS A READER ... SOME JUST HAVEN'T FOUND THEIR FAVOURITE BOOK YET!**



Next Edition...

We will have our next issue out in time for World Book Week 2023.

Keep an eye out for events, competitions and displays around the school. Here is a taster from last year



Volunteers Needed..

Would you be interested in compiling an account of your 'reading journey' over the last few years as part of our submission to the Wellread Award. We are looking for student, staff and parent volunteers please! Please get in contact with Ms. Lalor: email her at mlalor@portlaoiseCBS.com



Parents!

Check out our stall at upcoming Parent Teacher meetings: come and grab a free book or two from our selection!

What are we Reading?

This issue, the Staff Book Club recommends 'Reminders of Him' by Colleen Hoover. Great night had by all members on November 22nd.



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