

# MECE Reading



## Term Two

In this edition of our MECE reading newsletter, we will be reviewing all the incredible English work, exciting opportunities and new initiatives from Spring Term.



Upcoming:

Macbeth

Reviews

**Subject Spotlight**

**Only the very weak-minded refuse to be influenced by literature and poetry.**

-Cassandra Clare

# Macbeth

This term, year 9, 10 and 11 students had the opportunity to watch a performance of Shakespeare's play of Macbeth. The performance involved three actors who switched roles between iconic characters such as the witches and Macbeth himself. The performance was exciting and fast paced and at the end students were able to ask insightful questions about the actors and their interpretations and opinions of the famous play. I think this was a great way for GCSE students to learn about Macbeth as it was always intended to be seen and performed. The performance meant you could see and hear line delivery and reactions which deepened our understanding of Shakespearean literature.

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This term, years 9, 10 and 11 got to enjoy a performance of Macbeth. I was wary that some parts were going to have to be cut out to fit into the hour slot, but I think they had a good grasp on the story. It was easy to keep up with and I enjoyed it a lot. I think it was a great help to people currently studying Macbeth, especially the questions segment at the end.

A theatre company came into our schools and performed their rendition of Macbeth. It was interesting how they adapted they famous Shakespearean play to be 1hr long and only have three actors giving me a new perspective. I enjoyed the play and feel it will help me in the future for the Macbeth portion of my GCSE's because Shakespeare's plays were made to be seen not heard.



## Book Talk!

This term, the reading ambassadors did another BookTalk! with year sevens. I got to talk about the book I was reading at the time which was Frankenstein. I'm grateful for the experience because I know that a lot of people find classics intimidating so I wanted to share my opinion and try and convince them that some classics can be amazing stories if you give them a chance. The main role of reading ambassadors in school is to promote reading and I think the BookTalk! Is a great way to do so.

**“You can never  
find a cup of tea  
big enough or a  
book long enough  
to satisfy me”**

-C.S. Lewis

I find that the BookTalk! was a great initiative that helped influence the year 7s to take up reading and discover new genres and books perhaps they hadn't thought of before but grow to love. I recommended a brilliant book by Philip Pullman 'The Northern Lights' which I find a great introduction to fantasy and a gripping read.

The reading ambassadors successfully completed another set of BookTalk! to the Year 7 tutors. I discussed Miss Peregrine's House For Peculiar Children which is an intriguing book about time travel, magic and monsters and I would recommend it to any young reader.

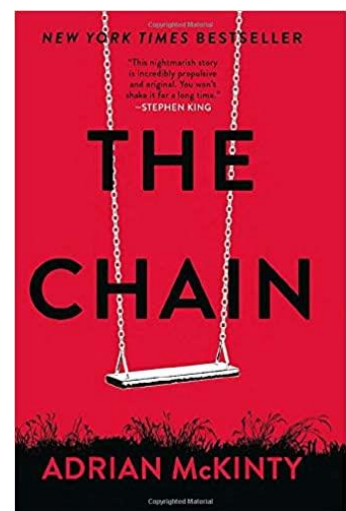
# Book Recommendations



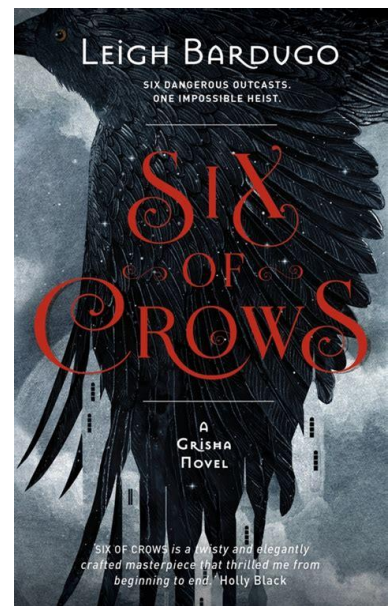
Our Reading Ambassador's current favourite books and why you should read them.

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The Chain by Adrian McKinty is a gripping thriller. The Chain is a scheme meant to make money and kidnap children. You receive a call saying your child has been kidnapped for your child to be released you must kidnap another child and wait until their parents have kidnapped another child. Once this happens your child will be returned but at what cost. You will never leave or break the Chain. This book was fast paced and kept me on the edge of my seat. I enjoyed this as it had a strong protagonist and a unique plot.



My current favourite book is Six of Crows by Leigh Bardugo. It is a fantasy book set in Ketterdam, a city full of gambling and danger. The story follows a misfit group of teens, a convict with a thirst for revenge, a sharpshooter who can't walk away from a wager, a runaway with a privileged past, a spy known as Wraith, a heartreder using her powers to survive in the slums and a thief with a gift for unlikely escapes. I absolutely love this book because of all the twists and turns as the crew try and pull off an impossible heist. I also love the character depth and relationships between the main six.



# Animal cruelty

## Intro:

Animal cruelty is a terrible disgrace which is unfortunately caused by humans to many innocent animals. Animals can be abused in many ways such as animal testing, animal habitat endangerment, animal slaughter and animals kept in tiny enclosures.

Unfortunately, many animals are highly harmed by animal testing. Animals are tested for many reasons such as, skin care products or treatments. This is an outrageous way to test products as it sacrifices poor, innocent animals' lives for the amusement of humans.

Animal Habitat Endangerment is an unfair, mistreatment to countless animals where humans are selfishly cutting down these animals' homes for their own benefits. Millions of animals are homeless and slowly dying because of this terrible deed which has been done and must be protested.

Having a pet is an amazing thing by getting to bond with different species. However, unfortunately, many animals are mistreated by humans and don't have the basic rights to food, water, a safe home or any love from their owner.

It is a great tragedy of how many animals are slaughtered for the sake of humans. Around 23.5 BILLION animals are slaughtered each year for the pleasure of humans. It is a shame to our world that such evil is done.

Every day more animals are being harmed, killed or mistreated. This must be brought to an end and animals must have the freedom they deserve. You can make a difference in this world and make a stand for these poor helpless animals before it is too late.

If you know any causes where animals are being mistreated by their owners please call this number **0300 1234 999**

-Summer King

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Haven't you noticed what is happening to your world? 57% of all plastic in shops is not renewable. Hundreds of tons of these are cast aside by people like you every day and thrown into our precious oceans. On top of this, huge bulky factories are burning fossil fuels and pumping harmful gases, soot and smoke into our air.

These horrendous doings are resulting in animals all over the world losing their homes, being separated from their families and even being killed. Gases such as carbon dioxide are polluting the air and warming the globe. This might be great for your summer holiday but for animals such as penguins and polar bears this is a completely different story. They rely on ice in the water to be their home; to raise families, catch food, sleep, and play. If this safety is taken away from them, they will lose their friends, family, and houses, and likely die as they have nowhere to go. In favour of this point, gases as such are being emitted into the air are highly dangerous to humans in large amounts. Therefore, if we continue to pollute the atmosphere from our factories, humans will start to feel the effects of these awful emissions.

-Rose Watson



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Shakespeare presents Lady Anne as a weakened woman from when she is first introduced. She still uses powerful language but since falling for Richard's manipulation "grossly grew captive to his honey words" she has become trapped in an unhappy marriage. In the funeral procession scene, she cursed Richard for killing her husband and father but in marrying him the curse has fallen on her "subject of my own soul's curse". This is an example of witchcraft commonly seen in Shakespeare's plays because King James I and the Salem witch trials taking place in England. This is a contrast to her previous husband who was viewed as a saint "angel husband" meaning that when Richard killed him he was disrupting the Great Chain of Being, meaning nature itself will be after him and since she is aligned with him she will also receive the wrath of God for his heinous crimes. This becomes apparent when she is talking about how she hasn't been able to sleep since they got married "since hath kept my eyes from rest". Sleep is a common theme in Shakespeare's plays as it is a representation of the consequences that come with treachery and its links to religion.

- Zoe Thorne

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Why year 7's should Read more:

Children who read every day tend to be happier and calmer. It enriches their speaking and writing. Reading encourages children to be more positive about writing and increases their vocabulary every day, expanding their knowledge.

It is a fact that children who read every day get better life opportunities, and better skills. Reading helps them develop many skills and knowledge which aids them daily. 87% of the children who read get much better results back on their GCSES than those who don't. This gives them many paths they can take in their life because of their experiences.

Reading 15 minutes of a book a day helps enhance their vocabulary by a great deal. This plays a huge part in these kids'; lifestyles as they grow up with more awareness and knowledge of the life around them. You will have a clearer, relaxed mind when you read. A gifted mindset is a very special thing to have. Reading a creative book guarantees you being more creative and gifted than ever before.

Books I recommend:

Twilight by Stephanie Meyer

Death on the Nile by Agatha Christie

A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness

Who Let the God Out? by Maz Evans

## Reading Ambassadors

English

### WHY SHOULD MECE STUDENTS READ?

Did you know that students whom which read regularly, are given a higher chance Of getting a high paying job?

The people that you see online that are extremely successful such as Elon Musk, Beyonce, Zac Efron did not just sit on their sofa all day and watch tv or didn't just scroll on Tik Tok all day. No, they worked hard to be where they are today, and one of the important things they used to be successful in was reading. It has come to many people's attention that many children and students these days do not read. Not reading can really make a impact on your language being used, and this is a serious top for many people nowadays. 50% of students nowadays do not read and when they get to doing their GCSE's 20% of those 50% fail their GCSE's. Keep in mind that reading is not only important in English. It is literally important in everything. It is involved in maths, science, tech, geography pretty much, all of the school curriculum Reading is one of the most important things and it is so overlooked by people, that it's become a huge problem.

Now, obviously I know that getting into a book or reading its self is quite hard but there are some ways to get you into reading, 60% of Hollywood films and successful shows come from books, you might think that if you've watched the movie the book will be the same but this isn't the case, Many Disney films such as the Little Mermaid and Frozen had a very different story before the films came out most of the time, they would also be renamed.

If you are finding it hard to get into books think about asking your friends about some really good books, or maybe simply go on the internet and search for books to read. Some good books I recommend are:

Girl in Pieces by Kathleen Glasgow,  
Solitaire and Heartstopper by Alice Oseman,  
I think I murdered miss, e.c.t.

## Reading Ambassadors

English

Why should Y7 read more often?

I know that some will say that reading is dull and mediocre, however it can help you in many ways such as spelling, vocabulary and is a nice way to calm down.

The benefits of reading is limitless, it helps with essay writing, spelling, vocabulary, resumes, university applications and many more important things. Another interesting fact is that 80% of young readers get a high paying job by the time they leave university. Along the word of vocabulary that can help you with wowing your interviewer because if you show up to an interview at a very big company and are talking slang then you probably won't get the job. Something else that comes into play is essay writing which again will massively help you with getting into universities.

Now you may ask how does this link to my learning in school? Well, as said previously it helps with spelling and vocabulary, so these can help you in your English classes. As the books you read can help expand your imagination and creativity to help with creative writing and getting good grades. It also helps with talking to teachers in proper English and full sentences.

The reason to read more has mainly already been said it helps with school and many other things. However, one of the main reasons to read more is that it calms you down, takes you out of the moment. So, reading can also provide help by calming you down and escaping from the moment as well as everything else mentioned. So, I hope this helped persuade you to start reading more and enjoy your some books.

Thank You for listening.

Matt: year 7

## Reading Ambassadors

English

80% of staff and students at MECE believe we should read 30-45 minutes a day which can improve your writing skills a lot. Reading 30 minutes a day can improve your writing skills such as more knowledge of larger words you know the meanings of which can lead to better writing . Also, you can use vocabulary which even your teacher will be impressed if you keep using it. She or he might reward you with house points or golden tickets every 2 lessons mostly in English.

The more you do this the better life chances and better GCSE scores you will have which can grant you a well-paying job like a lawyer, mechanical engineer, author and even a programmer and many more which can be paying 100,000 a year which can really help your friends and family when they are in tough times.

Some books that have been turned into films are Harry Potter. All of the Harry Potter books have been turned into films as well as Lord of the Rings has been turned into films as well as lots of others by lots of famous authors.

In conclusion, all MECE students should be reading 30 minutes a day so they can be so much better at writing and good at essays so they get better jobs when they are older.

By Ellis year 7

## Super sleep or Superstition?

Studies show that 80% of teens/ (12–17-year-olds) only get 4-5 hours of sleep a day. How could anyone function on that?

### Mental Benefits

Going to bed early has many mental benefits. One example is better productivity during the day. Going to bed early makes you wake up in a good mood. Also it gives you more productivity and motivation and maybe if we all went to bed earlier so there would be less drama at school.

### Physical benefits

Many studies have shown going to bed early helps you get up earlier than usually would. There are many more benefits of going to bed earlier such as Reduce your stress level, keeps a good immune system, keeps your heart healthy and many more examples. You see going to bed helps your heart pressure go down which means a healthier heart this also prevents heart attacks in the future.

### Educational Benefits

It is estimated 30% of learning is wasted from children falling asleep in class. If all that learning is wasted from children going to bed later shouldn't you rethink what time they go to bed. Also going to bed early gives you a sharper brain and can help you in tests or everyday.

### Better sleep better you

If you get more sleep it could completely change you personality/lifestyle for the good. Remember better sleep=better mood , as well as better mood it gives better mental health and it is also shown to reduce stress.

### Summary

In conclusion sleep has so many benefits on children and they already have a lot of stress for school alone so going to bed early can help relieve that stress and make them better people and make them feel better.

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## Reading Ambassadors

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### Drama

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Dear Diary, I'm an evacuee. I packed my bag, not knowing what to bring. All I could think about was what was going to happen to me. Questions circled my head. Was my new family going to like me? Will me and my sister get split? Where am I going? I was so scared.

Later that day I stood timidly at the train station. My little suitcase in my hand and my gas mask around my neck. I wondered if I was ever going to use it. Then I heard it. The high pitch whistle of the steam train. My sister and I were excited. We had never been on a train before. But then I remembered Mother and Father were not coming with us. I sobbed and sobbed not letting go of Mother. The wails of distraught children echoed through the station. When I finally let go and stepped on the train, I was shaking with fear. My sister and I hastily walked into a carriage. Her taking her the first step. A few other children joined us. Then we finally set off.

After a while all we could see was green. There were luscious trees and bright green grass. It was never like this in London.

When we finally arrived, all the children got sent to a vast and empty school hall. When the teachers finally got us organized adults started to flood into it. Lots of children started to disappear with the adults and I assumed they were going to be our new parents. Me and my sister waited patiently and were one of the last left. One thought raced through my mind. What happens if nobody wants us? In the end, a couple came up to me and I got told I was going with them. My body filled with joy, these people looked kind and welcoming, and I was going with my sister. They took me by the hand and started walking towards the door. I stopped in my tracks and waited for my sister to come. Then I heard it. The worst news of my life. My sister wasn't coming with me. I screamed and waited, trying to get out of my new parents' tight grip. There was no way I was leaving without her

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One of the arguments for the existence of God is the teleology argument which was introduced by William Paley. This argument talks about how everything needs a design. A watch is created by watchmakers, chairs created by carpenters therefore, the world needs a designer: God. This argument is successful because a watch has a very intricate design so it would have a designer, so the world must have a designer because of its intricacies. Secondly, if the world has a designer that designed such amazing things, then they would need to be omniscient and omnipotent. This argument is also unsuccessful because it is a big step to compare the world to a watch as they have nothing alike, and the world is much larger than a watch. Secondly there is a natural evil in the world which would indicate that God is not omnipotent.

Another argument for the existence of God is the cosmological argument which talks about causation and how the world was caused. This argument is successful because if you follow the causation of anything would eventually lead to the beginning of all causes: God. However, others may disagree because some people believe that there are other causes of the world like the big bang theory or the theory of evolution. You could also argue that this argument is a weak theory because of science, talking about the history of the big bang theory or dinosaurs which shows awareness of alternative perspectives.



### **How has migration shaped our lives?**

Migration is when people move from one area to another. There are many different types of migration, for example, voluntary migration, forced migration and temporary migration. I think migration has shaped our lives in a mostly positive way.

The poem *The British* by Benjamin Zephaniah tells one that the poem was almost written like a timeline of all the invaders and immigrants who came to Britain and how it shaped our country as a whole. It also uses the different countries as a metaphor for ingredients in a recipe. I really liked the poem because it is a fun, intriguing way for people to learn about the invaders of Britain and how they impacted our country. People have migrated to the UK for different reasons such as better weather, job opportunities, better education, and more sophisticated health care. Recently refugees, as seen in Source b have migrated to the UK due to lack of medical care, not enough employment and lack of green areas.

I think migration can shape our country in many different positive ways. Firstly, our country will become a larger, more diverse and productive economy because the immigrants will get jobs or even start businesses and that will provide employment opportunities for people. Furthermore, our country will benefit from skill gaps being filled by immigrants because they might bring over helpful and useful skills that we might need, including IOT, finance and healthcare services. Also, immigrants will help pay for public services through taxes and money given to the government.

However, some people think that migration can be negative for the UK. An example of this is British citizens might not get places in schools because all the immigrants are filling up their valuable spots.

Overall, I believe that migration has shaped the UK in a positive way. This is because most of the immigrants have brought over lots of helpful traits that have very much inspired the UK and introduced us to new food, economy and job opportunities.

By Ava Green, Year 7

**Thank you for reading our newsletter! We appreciate all your efforts in spreading the love of reading at home with your children. We love reading at MECE and hope to develop more ways for pupils to engage further.**

**Happy reading,**

**Emma Thorne  
Zoe Thorne  
Isaias Charles  
Lola Sheers  
Faye Ballard  
Chloe Grieve**

