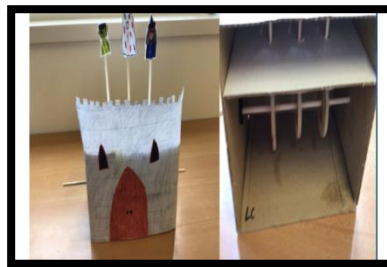




## The Power of Reading

**There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate's loot on Treasure Island.” — Walt Disney**

Welcome to our spring Reading update. Before we look ahead to this month's focus on libraries, we would love to share some highlights of our **'What We'll Build' project**, which brought us all back together on March 8<sup>th</sup>.



We built boats, houses, toys and rockets (to name just a few) and we had great fun doing it! As well as building with our hands, we talked about the importance of building for the future. This fantastic book made us really think about what is important in life, and reminded us that **a good picture book can be enjoyed by anyone, at any age.**



***Every Child a Reader-*** this is the pledge for our children at

Brockwell. However, more than developing this vital life skill, we aim to foster a real passion for reading and the pleasure it can bring. Just before Easter, **we invested £1000 in our reading scheme**, to continue to maintain a scheme of high quality fiction and non-fiction banded books. **Regular reading as often as possible is the key to success, so please read with and to your child whenever you can.** Your child may bring home a reading card from time to time (e.g. when they change book band levels) with suggested questions and activities to help you develop their skills as you read with them. There are also more ideas for sharing books and developing reading on our school website. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with the class teacher, or with Mrs Crutchley, if you would like any further advice on reading with your child.



This month Cressida Cowell, who is the current Children's Laureate, wrote to the government asking for an annual £100 million to be made available for school libraries. She highlights the fact that provision of good school libraries is 'about children's life chances'. **We are really proud of our library at Brockwell.** It is a bright, vibrant space that the children love visiting. Year 3 and 4 children visit weekly with their teacher to browse, chat about reading, and change their books. Year 5 and 6 children are invited to visit independently when they wish to select a book. The library has a regularly updated fiction section, and a non-fiction section with many books related to our Learning Challenge questions. We have comics and weekly news magazines too – there really is something for everyone! **Please do use your children's library choice as another opportunity to read with them and chat about their reading.**

Even though pupils are no longer learning remotely at home, the Oak National Academy is still running its Virtual School Library.

<https://www.thenational.academy/library>



This week's book '**Dragon Mountain**' by **Kevin and Katie Tsang** is a popular choice in our school library, so tune in and listen to the book free of charge! As soon as the sequel is published in paperback, it will appear on our shelves! All books from previous weeks are still available too.

On the theme of libraries, we at Brockwell have been in touch with our local library in Chesterfield. **The library is now open again**, although there are some restrictions still in place e.g. allocated time slots. **Membership is free, it has a great children's section and children can borrow up to 24 items at a time.** The library is still operating a Click and Collect system, offering up to 10 books. Do take advantage of this fantastic service if your child is not already a member.

