

Braes High School
Library in Lockdown-
March 2020 – June 2020
Report

Introduction

As we knew Lockdown was coming, I managed to get all book club members Glow details, and so was able to create a Team for each club

Events

During lockdown the library has been busy- even though I was working from home!

- **Online book clubs**. We had Book clubs running via Teams:-

The Jane Austen Book club, continued with Northanger Abbey whilst under lockdown,. 2-3 members attended fortnightly. *HGIOSL:1.5 1.2*

The GrangeBraes Book club. This is a group of pupils from S3-4 at both Grangemouth and Braes High schools who usually meet to attend The Edinburgh Book Festival, which this year was cancelled (although it later re-emerged online). Pupils from the existing S3-4 book club at Grangemouth and pupils from book clubs at the Braes High School met weekly to share books and movie adaptations of books, plus book challenges! We also tried to shadow The Carnegie Medal, and read as many of the shortlisted books as we could get access to. The group also lead the way to create the **Great Lockdown Book share video**.

HGIOSL 1.5 2.7

- **Daily Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire live readings**. This happened via Teams at 11am daily (Monday to Friday), after receiving permissions from the Baillie group. We had an average of people attending daily: 12 teachers and pupils from Grangemouth High, and pupils from The Braes High School all taking part. 'The reading' developed into a Harry Potter club, with recipes, quizzes and emoji's. *HGIOSL 2.4*. The club grew as Lockdown went on, and included many of our Braes Book Knight members. *HGIOSL 2.2*



Library Newsletter: The Bibliosaurus.

Pupil librarians put together articles, quizzes and reviews over lockdown for the newsletter. We were finally able to get the newsletter published onto Sway for the end of term thank to Louise Robertson our editor! *HGIOSL 1.2*

Red Book Awards- virtually!

Red Book Award took place in May this year, despite lockdown! S2 pupils from across Falkirk Council read 4 shortlisted titles, and voted for their favourite. Pupils also thought up questions for the authors, and created a 'What happened next?' to any of the books. On May 22nd the authors and over 80 pupils met online. School librarians asked the authors questions on behalf of the pupils. At Braes the Red Book Award Book Club took part- AKA the S2 Braes Book Knights club!- many of whom logged in on the day.

I also made the prize for the winning author. *HGIOSL 2.7 2.2*



- **A weekly book challenge**

This was posted on Twitter for all pupils and their families. Varied from solving emoji puzzles, to creating a book rainbow for the NHS. *HGIOSL 2.4*



Ross McKay

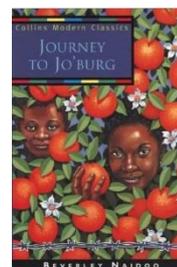
- **Primary 7 Transitions**

To help with P7 transitions I was able to create a video tour of the library, with me talking about the library. I was also able to record a story for Primary 7 pupils to listen to as part of P7 transitions package. *HGIOSL 2.6*

- **National Shelf Service.**

During Lockdown professional librarians across the UK recorded themselves to give a video review of a favourite book. I did this on June 22nd. My review was of *Children of Blood and Bone*, by Tomi Adeyemi. *HGIOSL 2.7*

- **Journey to Jo'Burg recording.** I was able, over a few days – and with the permission of the author and her publisher – to record myself telling the whole of this book for a small S1 supported learning class. This was well received, with some great comments back from pupils- via Mrs Horne their teacher. *HGIOSL 2.4*



- **CPD.**

During lockdown I was able to attend several webinars, from CILIPS and other agencies:

- 21.April CILIPS Carnegie shadowing webinar
- Various school librarians meetings every Wednesday
- 12th May. How to get involved in Refugee Week (by UK Refugee council)
- 1st June EIS recovery training
- 8th June CILIP course- all day
- 24th June Reading accreditation meeting

- **Conclusion**

Lockdown was extremely challenging, Although there was no access to the library, I was still able to encourage reading for pleasure virtually. Not as all book club members attended, but the ones who did came every week. It was frustrating not being able to see the faces of pupils to see if they were enjoying-or otherwise!- the stories.

- Webinars were easy to attend, as I could organise my day around attending- unlike at school when I have classes etc. I really enjoyed many of these.
- If we have to return to lockdown again I now know some of the challenges of working virtually, and have learned some new virtual skills.