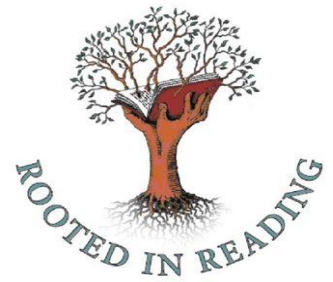




Faculty of English and Media



Literacy and Reading for Pleasure at Whickham School

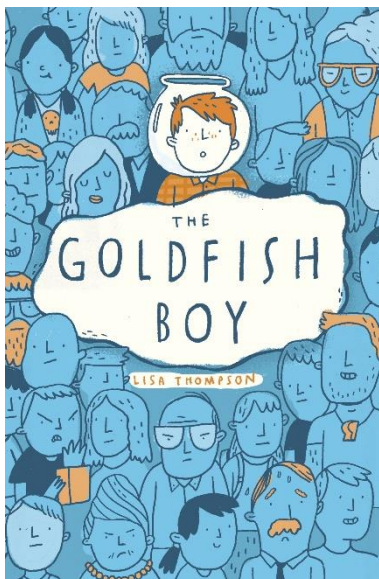
“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.”
— Dr. Seuss, *I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!*

It will come as no surprise to learn that there is a growing body of evidence which illustrates the importance of reading – regularly and for pleasure.

At Whickham, we firmly believe that there is a positive relationship between reading frequency, reading enjoyment and high attainment. The benefits can be reaped not just in English, but across the curriculum. Benefits include:

- ✓ reading attainment and writing ability,
- ✓ text comprehension and grammar,
- ✓ breadth of vocabulary,
- ✓ greater self-confidence as a reader,
- ✓ better general knowledge,
- ✓ better understanding of different cultures,
- ✓ empathy and greater insights into human nature and decision-making.

Whickham School Summer Reading Challenge: The *Goldfish Boy*



To kick start reading for pleasure at Whickham School, we are providing every Year 6 pupil with a copy of the children’s novel *The Goldfish Boy*. We would like pupils to ensure that by the time they come to us in Year 7, they have finished reading the novel and completed their summer reading comprehension activities and we would like to ask for your help in ensuring that this takes place over the summer break.

This of course will also give us valuable insights into your child’s fundamental literacy skills, and English teachers will be looking forward to discussing pupils’ responses to this engaging novel when they join us in September.

Obviously, parental involvement is vital in ensuring that pupils read widely and for pleasure and we thank you in advance for your support in helping us achieve this goal – making a significant contribution to your child’s success.