**Bradford Primary School Librarians Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday 5th November 9.30am – 11.30am**

**Beckfoot Allerton Primary**

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| **Attendees:** Christinea Donnelly (Bradford Libraries); Carol Clayton (Bradford Libraries); Nicola Dudley (Killinghall); Haleema Khatoon (Byron); Gwen Briggs (St Matthews); Beth Grant (Beckfoot Allerton); Helen Dearing (Thornton); Nichola Jeffrey (St Joseph’s) **Apologies:** None received. |
| **Minutes:** This was the fifth meeting of the Primary School Librarians Group and took place at Beckfoot Allerton Primary. We welcomed one new member Helen Dearing from Thornton Primary. |
| **Tour of Beckfoot Allerton Primary School Library**  Beth showed the group around the school library which was inspiring, full of colour and light with designated areas for relaxing; choosing books and information. The walls were laden with posters about reading and choosing books. There was even a fantastic wall mural (see photo). Some of the posters can be found at the following: - Love Our Libraries [www.literacytrust.org.uk/programmes/love-our-libraries](http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/programmes/love-our-libraries). Where’s Wally Library Poster – can’t find web address for poster & Books For Topics, which has excellent posters of book titles for each year group. [www.booksfortopics.com](http://www.booksfortopics.com)  Beth had some old stock that was shared with the group.  **Libresoft School Library Management System Tel: 0330 2234020** [www.libresoft.co.uk](http://www.libresoft.co.uk)  Beth demonstrated Libresoft which she has recently moved to from Junior Librarian as the school library management system. She showed how easy it was to use allowing an ISBN to be scanned to automatically display the book record and usually a book cover. At a cost of £295 per year it is a very reasonable system and with tight school budgets certainly to be considered. It allows SIMs migration, which Beth said was painless with a cost of between £80 to £100 to do the migration remotely which took only half a day to complete. It offer tutorials and can print-off bar codes as well as produce separate class lists which the majority of the group saw as a big advantage. The demonstration was certainly food for thought. The group thanked Beth for the demonstration and for the library tour. |
| **Summer Reading Challenge**  **Update from Christinea was given.**   1. Discussed the recent schools results and talked about ways we can all work together to build on the 2019 success. Agreed to work towards getting children registered for public library cards by Easter. World Book Day would be a key date to use. Also discussed the library having a presence at parent evenings during the Spring Term. A further idea was to work with families in partnership, bringing groups to a Saturday event before the summer in order to register for library tickets and to inform families about the benefits of the Summer Reading Challenge. (**Action: All)** |
| **Newsletter**  The group is keen to start a short newsletter (although don’t want to call it a newsletter) which can link Bradford schools and Bradford libraries to share ideas - with book reviews (especially new authors and interesting texts); suggestions for other titles to try within genres; ideas for display & promotion. The reasoning behind is to inspire all schools to have an inviting and lively school library/book area and to reflect the reading amongst the children of Bradford, while fostering a connection between schools and public libraries. Christinea agreed to do a sample template for the group to work on. All agreed it had to be simple, keeping to 1 double-sided A4 sheet that would be sent to all schools via email (preferably a named contact) and available on BSO and Bradford Libraries web pages. (**Action: CD**) |
| **Shared Information**  **Beckfoot Allerton**   * Kjartan Poskitt, author of *Murderous Maths* and many other titles is to visit on Nov 25th. * Mentioned the Scholastic Book Club as a good source on money for school libraries as a percentage of the money spent in the online book club goes to schools. Worth parents registering onto if they are buying books as it can benefit their school. * Now has a family club before school from 8.15am – 8.55am. It targets pupil-premium children via a golden ticket sent in a letter inviting them to the club. The children and parents have a story; can read to their children; have activities or colouring.   **St Joseph’s (Bradford)**   * Nichola was “over-the-moon” with her schools summer reading challenge results and improvement. The head teacher had also given her support to the achievement with the summer reading challenge completers being treated to a trip to Waterstones to choose a book as well as hot chocolate. Absolutely fantastic! * She has had the Book People Book Fair, with £1 given to the school library for every £10 spent. * She reported that all classes in school were now using the library.   **Byron**   * Haleema said she was disappointed with the summer reading challenge results but would be having a celebration assembly in school for the children who had participated. She was determined that next year that her school would return to their usual high participation. Christinea said they would work together to achieve this.   **Thornton**   * Helen introduced herself as she was attending the meeting for the first time. She is the Y3 Literacy Coordinator and is passionate about children reading and challenging themselves with new authors. Her school has 2 libraries, one for KS1 and one for KS2. The school is a three-form entry. * Mentioned the schools programme at theatres and recommended the school performances for £10 at the Alhambra. The shows can be a good way to bring books to life.   **Killinghall**   * Nicola has had the Book Bus from the Book People for her book fair. * She has introduced nursery parents to the school library.   **Bradford Libraries**   * Christinea shared the Blue Peter Book Awards 2020 long listed book titles. Mentioned she has been a book sifter for Blue Peter and the books she had recommended. (Owen and the Soldier by Lisa Thompson; Vote for Effie by Laura Wood; Fanatical about Frogs by Owen Davey; Ladybird Big Book of Dead Things by Ned Hartley) [www.booktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/awards-and-prizes/current-prizes/blue-peter-book-awards](http://www.booktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/awards-and-prizes/current-prizes/blue-peter-book-awards). The short listed titles are due to be announced.   **Follow-up: Short listed titles announced and delighted that 3 of the titles above made it to the shortlist. In the Best Story category - Owen and the Soldier by Lisa Thompson; Vote for Effie by Laura Wood; In Best Books with Facts category - Fanatical about Frogs by Owen Davey.**   * World Book Day is Thursday 5th March. This years £1 book titles can be found at [www.worldbookday.com/books/](http://www.worldbookday.com/books/) |
| **Extra Information about School Library Management Systems**  This is information received via ASCEL (Association of Senior Children and Education Librarians) in answer to a question from a librarian from another authority. I thought it may be useful.  **Pergamon Mu** Pergamon Mu is a simple but powerful system from Esferico.  It is easy to install, reliable and a very cost-effective option for primary schools looking for the basic library functions of issuing and returning books, a searchable library catalogue, sending out overdue reminders and generating statistical reports.  The software can be installed as a standalone on one machine or networked through your school server.  A cloud-based system is in development  Pergamon Mu offers streamlined access to:   * Readers. * Catalogue. * Circulation. * Reporting. * Import and Export.   Pricing Structure   * £500 for the first year (includes installation, support\* and software updates) * £275 for support\* per year for subsequent years * £50 to convert book data onto the Pergamon Mu catalogue   \*First line support is provided by your local Schools Library   Service (SLS) or a designated SLS if one doesn’t exist in your authority.  **Libresoft Librarian** Libresoft Librarian is a fast, intuitive, cloud-based library management system designed specifically for schools.   * It is simple for students and staff to navigate. * User friendly. * Excellent support.   Pricing Structure   * £295 per year for primary schools * £595 per year for secondary schools   <http://libresoft.co.uk/>  SLSs manage Pergamon for a commission.  I have 2 schools using it and am about to move them to the cloud based version, which means we can help them remotely.  I know other SLSs support libresoft. |
| **Next Meeting**   1. Agreed to meet in January at Bradford Libraries. Date & Location TBC. |