

2023

baker & bloom

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



HOT NEW BOOKS FOR 2023!

From new authors to classic favourites, we have compiled a book list that has fantastic new books that we cannot wait to read.

Keep reading to discover the best new (and classic) books for 2023!



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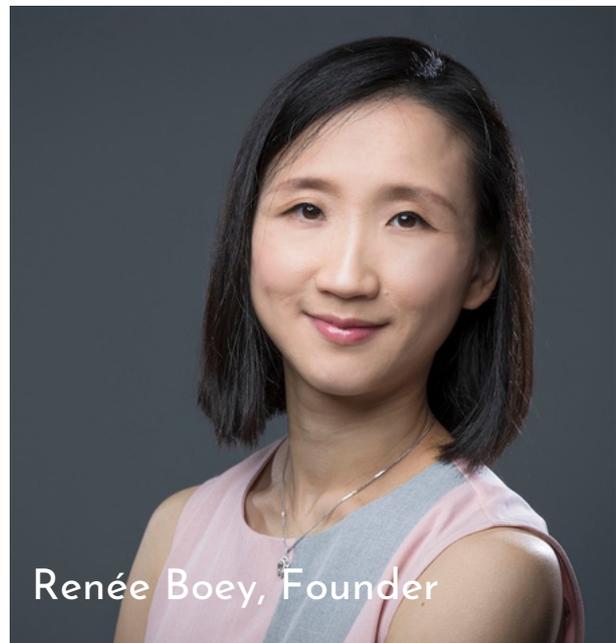
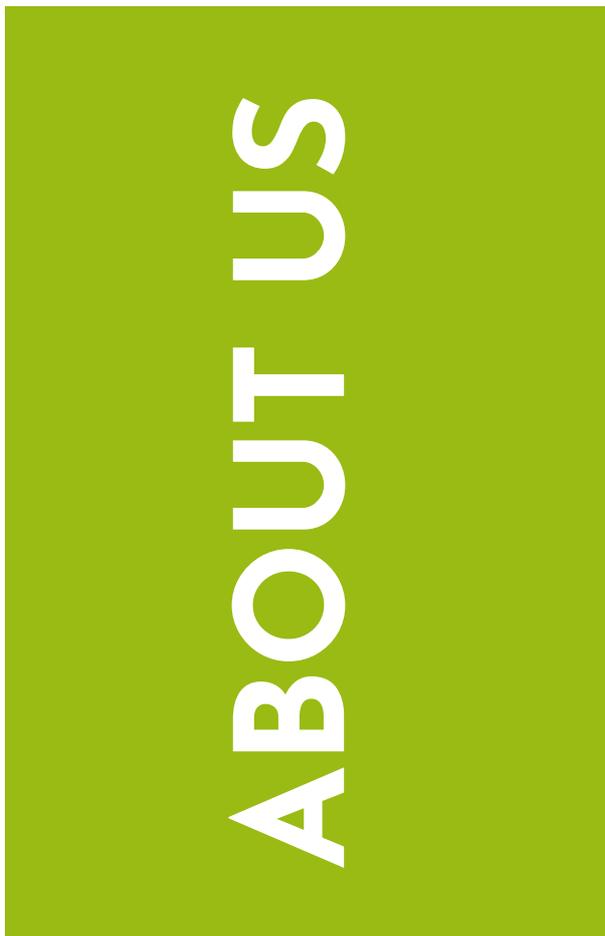
BONUS!
THE IMPORTANCE OF READING



INTRODUCTION

Founded in 2014 by Harvard and Cambridge graduate Renée Boey, Baker & Bloom is a K-12 education organization that immerses students in academic rigor and creative thinking to prepare them for studying abroad and future careers. With the advent of AI (Artificial Intelligence) and unpredictable global forces,

young people need to adapt and embrace lifelong learning to survive and succeed. Baker & Bloom understands this need and so we empower students with the optimal mindsets and 21st-century skills through excellence in teaching.



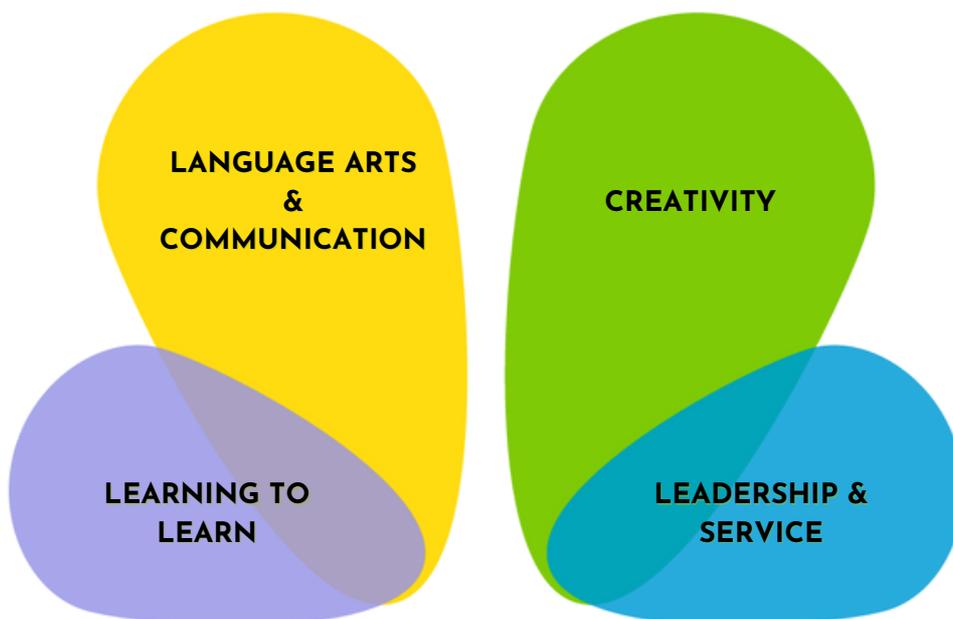
Our professional and passionate teachers and original Four-Leaf Approach motivate students to learn deeply. One student at a time, we enhance human potential and creativity.

THE FOUR LEAF APPROACH



Our unique Four-Leaf Approach targets the four key areas that power intellectual and social-emotional growth. These four fields of Language Arts & Communication, Learning to Learn, Creativity, and Leadership & Service prepare our children for fulfilling and productive lives.

The Four Leaves are the four areas that form our core curriculum. We integrate these into all courses but each course targets one field.





WHAT WE DO

Baker & Bloom is a K-12 education organization that immerses students in academic rigor and creative thinking to prepare them for the future.



SIGNATURE COURSES

INSPIRED READER & WRITER

CREATIVE WRITING

INSPIRED STEM

PUBLIC SPEAKING

ACADEMIC COACHING

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

TEST PREP

ADMISSIONS INTERVIEWS

PERSONAL PROJECTS

ADMISSIONS

BOARDING SCHOOL
(UK, US, CANADA)

UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES

CONSULTING

FULL PACKAGE ASSISTANCE



WHERE ARE OUR STUDENTS FROM?

OUR CAMPUS IS LOCATED IN HONG KONG.
WE ARE PROUD TO OFFER CLASSES AND COACHING SERVICES TO STUDENTS OVERSEAS AS WELL.



International Schools
HONG KONG



Local Schools
HONG KONG



Boarding Schools
USA



Boarding Schools
UK



Boarding Schools
Canada



Harvard



RISD



Stanford



NYU



MIT



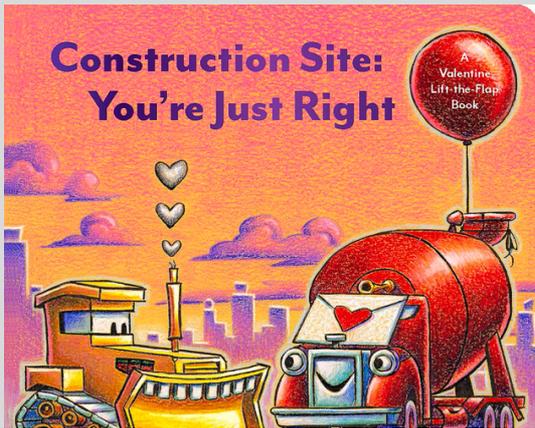
UPenn



Yale

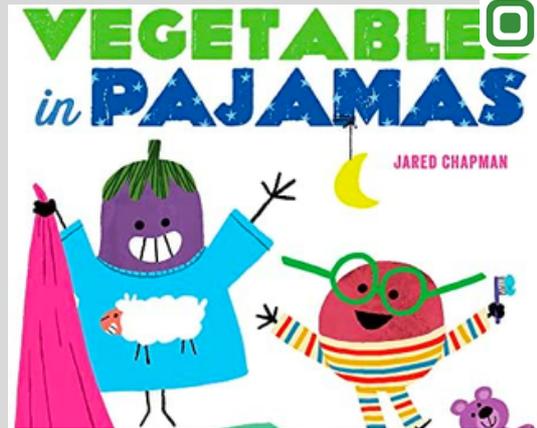
FIND THE COMPLETE LIST [HERE](#)





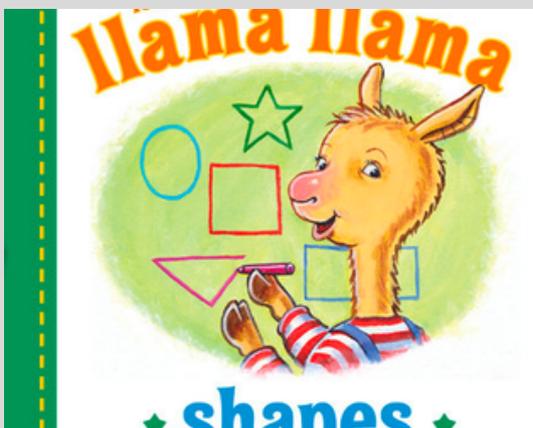
CONSTRUCTION SITE: YOU'RE JUST RIGHT

Celebrate Valentine's Day with the construction crew from the bestselling Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site series!



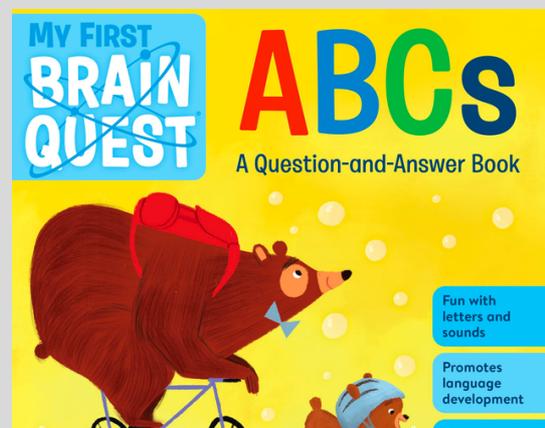
VEGETABLES IN PAJAMAS

There are pajamas for when it's cold and pajamas for when it's hot. Pajamas that are mixed and pajamas that match. Pajamas for sleeping over and pajamas for sleeping in. No matter what kind of pajamas you choose, they'll help you sleep tight.



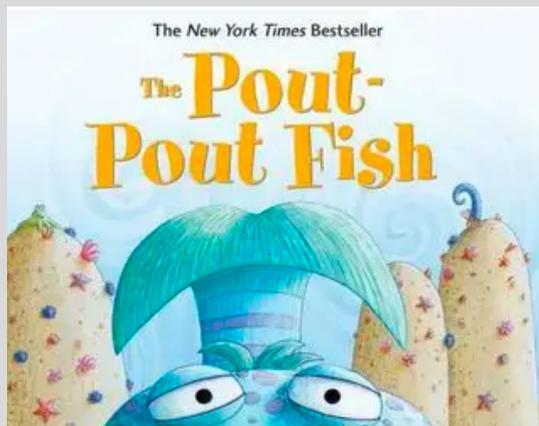
LLAMA LLAMA SHAPES

Llama Llama spends the day at the farmers market surrounded by shapes. From rectangles, squares, triangles, circles, and stars, children will enjoy this look-and-find format as they search for each shape.



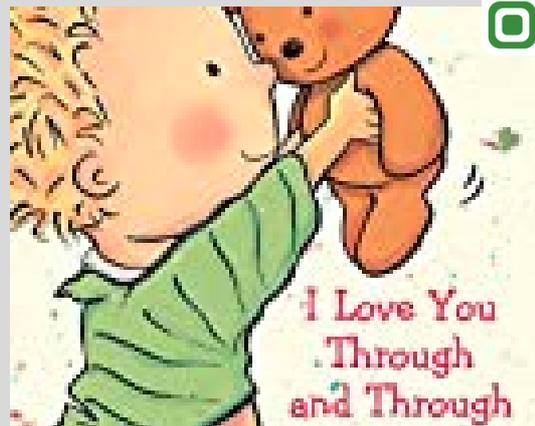
MY FIRST BRAIN QUEST ABCs: A QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

An alphabet book that helps babies and toddlers learn their letters, expand vocabulary, and develop phonics. Each letter of the alphabet is showcased with an engaging alliteration, a fun illustration, and questions about counting, colors, comparison, and more.



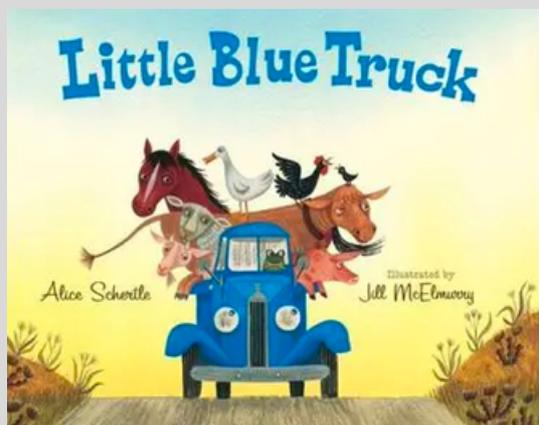
THE POUT-POUT FISH

Swim along with one special fish as he realizes that being glum isn't really right for him. Who wants to spread dreariness when you can turn your pouty "frown" upside down?



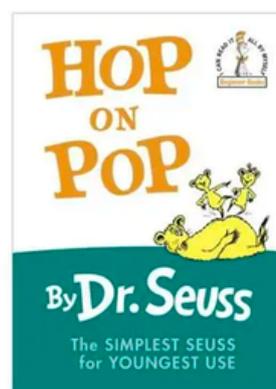
I LOVE YOU THROUGH AND THROUGH

Read from the reader's point of view. And your little one will feel like every word is straight from your heart to theirs. It is about all the parts of a child we love, from their "hair and eyes" to their "giggles and cries."



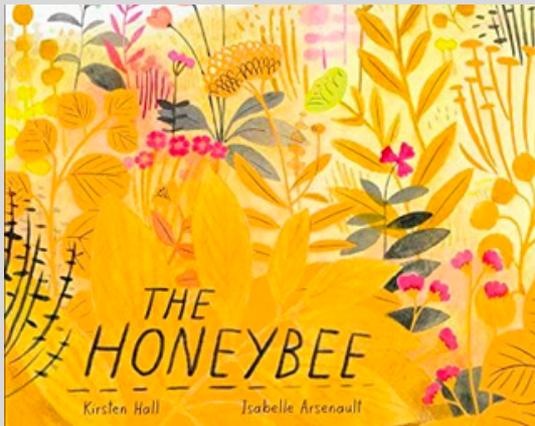
LITTLE BLUE TRUCK

Little Blue is a kind truck always thinking of others. This book of rhyme introduces farm animal sounds as children discover that even big trucks need help from others at times. And when it comes to needing a friend, start with kindness.



HOP ON POP ON

This book is full of simple words and silly rhymes to keep your little one engaged. The combination of sounds and words helps your child recognize new words! Rhyming is essential for understanding spelling patterns.



THE HONEYBEE

Buzz from flower to flower with a sweet honeybee in this gorgeous Classic Board Book from critically acclaimed author Kirsten Hall and award-winning illustrator Isabelle Arsenault!



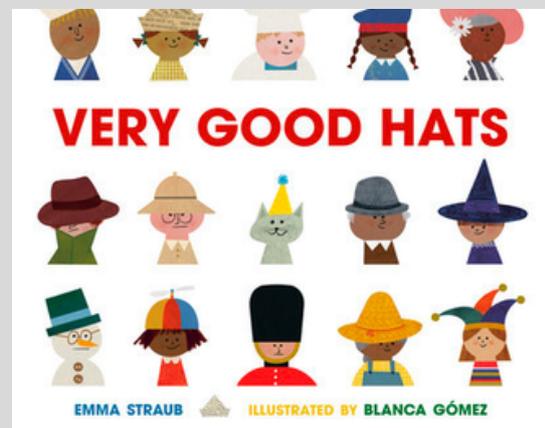
SPINDERELLA

Spinderella the spider has a passion for football! She tries to play a match with her brothers and sisters but she doesn't know how many spiders should be on each team. Even worse, she can't count the goals! Luckily for Spinderella, her Hairy Godmother has a plan!



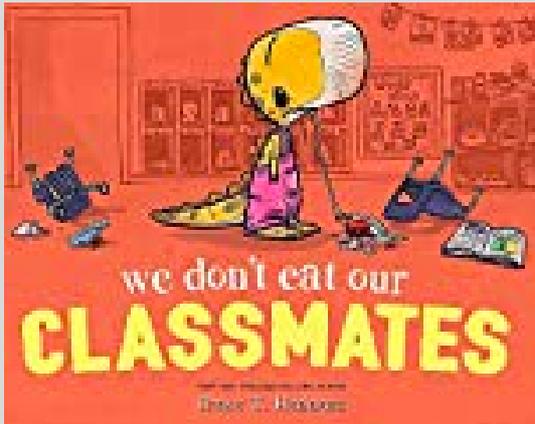
THE BEST WORST DAY EVER

This delightful picture book from best-selling author Mark Batterson and his daughter encourages young children to make the most of each day—even when they encounter frustrations along the way.



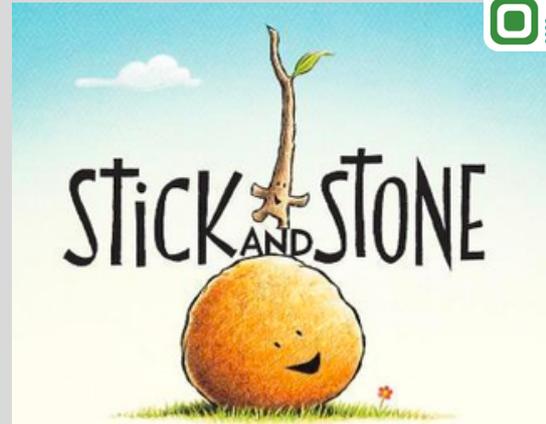
VERY GOOD HATS

The first picture book by bestselling novelist Emma Straub, this joyous and inventive read-aloud will inspire kids to see ordinary objects in a whole new way.



WE DON'T EAT OUR CLASSMATES

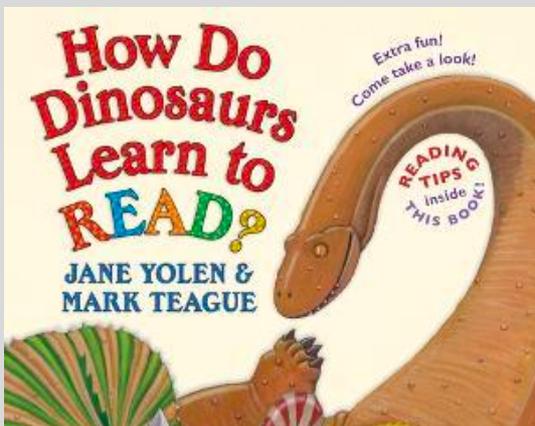
Have you ever thought about eating a classmate? Penelope Rex is eager to make new friends on the first day of school. The only problem is that humans are delicious!



STICK AND STONE

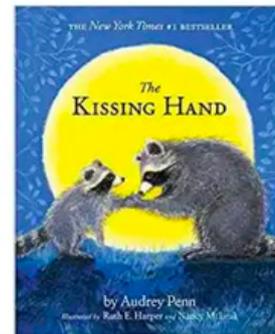
*Teacher's pick for conflict resolution

Bestselling BFF's, Stick and Stone rescue each other from tough situations and teach us the true meaning of friendship. With kindness and compassion, Stick and Stone make this book "a perfect ten."



HOW DO DINOSAURS LEARN TO READ?

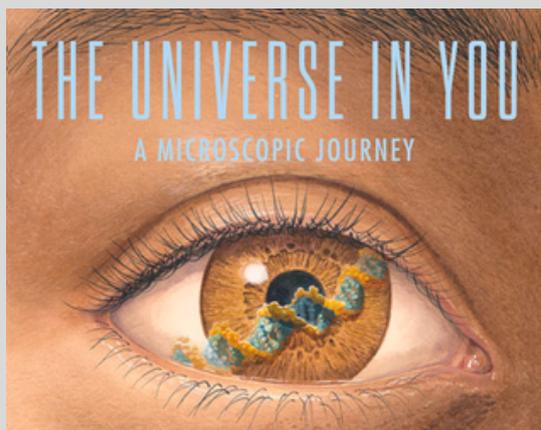
Learning to read can be overwhelming, but both parents and children will be laughing at the antics of the dinosaurs in this funny book as they navigate the challenge of learning how to read.



THE KISSING HAND

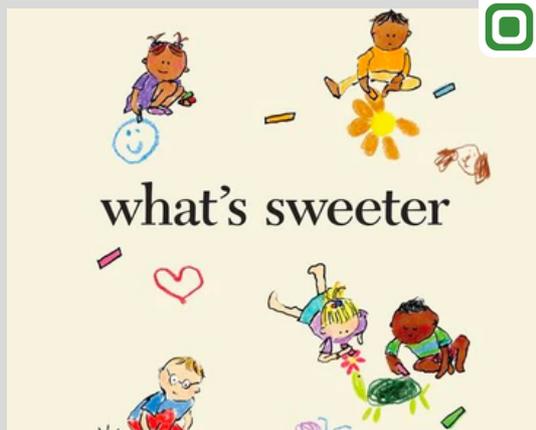
*Great book for separation anxiety

While school is about to start for Chester the raccoon, he's scared and doesn't want to go. To help, Chester's mother shares a family secret called the kissing hand. The simple gesture helps Chester know that she'll always be with him.



THE UNIVERSE IN YOU

In this book, you zoom past our skin to our cells, molecules, and atoms, all the way down to particles so small we can't yet even measure them. lit. The Universe in You is a mind-boggling adventure that makes complex science accessible and enjoyable to readers of any age.



WHAT'S SWEETER

Author-illustrator June Tate makes her debut with a heartwarming picture book comparing the seemingly small but tenderly profound moments hidden in our world. A modern-day classic in the making for fans of Margaret Wise Brown and William Steig.



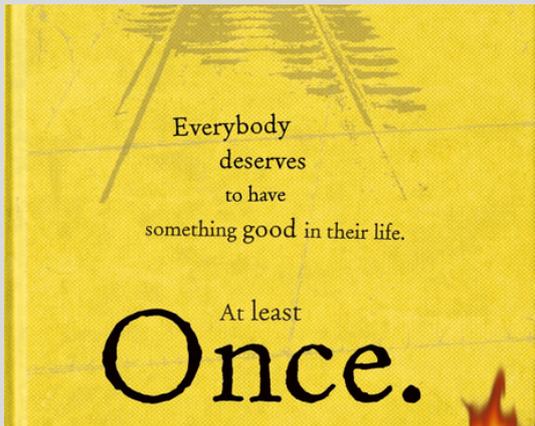
FINALLY SEEN

Kelly Yang is once again tackling the immigrant experience in this new book. In this story, Lina is coming to America to reunite with her parents who have been living in the US with her little sister for the past 5 years. But Lina's life isn't what she expected it to be.



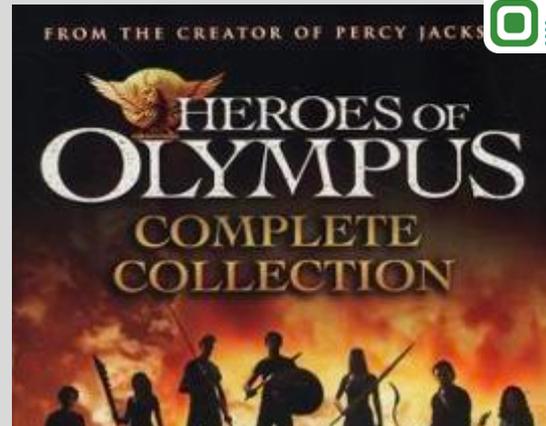
WHEN SIMBA MET RAMBO

A tale of two cats. Strangers at first, together they navigate their way past a common rivalry issues like jealousy to form a bond of friendship. This book was made in partnership with Lifelong Animal Protection Charity (LAP Hong Kong).



ONCE

Felix, a Jewish boy in Poland in 1942, is hiding from the Nazis in a Catholic orphanage. The only problem is that he doesn't know anything about the war, and thinks he's only in the orphanage while his parents travel and try to salvage their bookselling business. And when he thinks his parents are in danger, Felix sets off to warn them—straight into the heart of Nazi-occupied Poland.



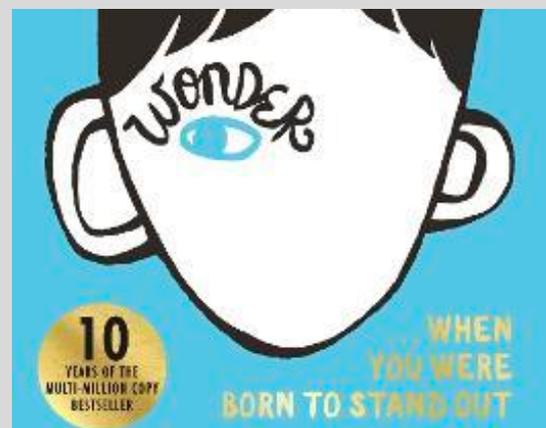
HEROES OF OLYMPUS

This is the number one, bestselling title in this new spin-off series from Percy Jackson creator, Rick Riordan.



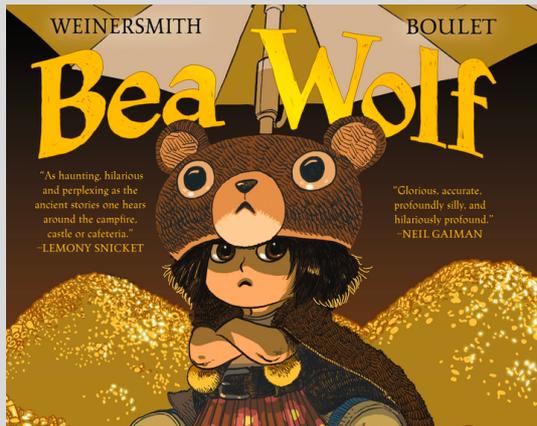
NANNY PIGGINS

Nanny Piggins, the world's most glamorous flying pig, runs away from the circus and goes to live with the Greens as their nanny. The Green children, Derrick, Samantha and Michael, fall in love with her instantly. Who could not fall in love with a Nanny whose only job qualifications are her astonishing ability to be fired out of a cannon and her amazing ability to make chocolate cake, sometimes both at the same time?



WONDER

Born with a terrible facial abnormality, Auggie has been home-schooled by his parents his whole life. Now, for the first time, he's being sent to a real school - and he's dreading it. All he wants is to be accepted - but can he convince his new classmates that he's just like them, underneath it all? Wonder is a funny, frank, astonishingly moving debut to read in one sitting, pass on to others, and remember long after the final page.



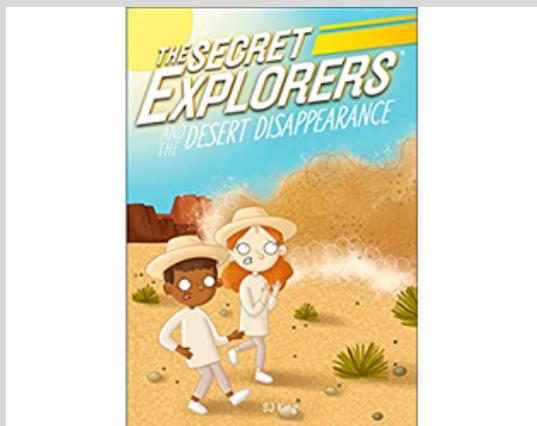
BEA WOLF

This middle-grade graphic novel is a retelling of the classic story, Beowulf. It features a group of kids defending their treehouse from adults who want to turn children straight into grown-ups!



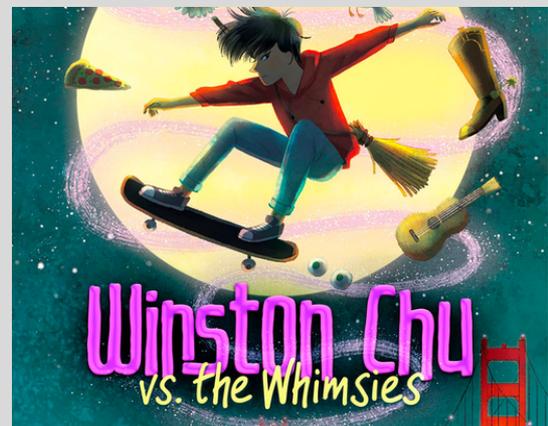
LASAGNA MEANS I LOVE YOU

After her Nan dies, Mo is sent into the foster care system. In a note her Nan left behind, she urges Mo to find a hobby. So Mo decided to start cooking



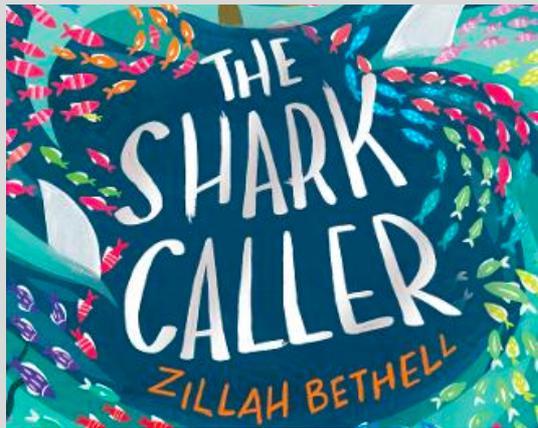
THE SECRET EXPLORERS AND THE DESERT DISAPPEARANCE

The brainy explorer kids are back on an adventure - this time in the desert! There, they will put their scientific knowledge to use as they rescue wolf cubs and evade sand storms! Filled with desert facts, this book is sure to please your science-loving early reader.



WINSTON CHU VS. THE WHIMSIES

Winston is on his way home from cooking school when he thwarts a robbery in progress at Mr. Pang's oddity shop. Mr. Pang is sending him home with a broom and dustpan as a reward. But when his stuff starts disappearing, he wonders if there is more to the cleaning duo than meets the eye. It might just be time for him to fight magic with magic.



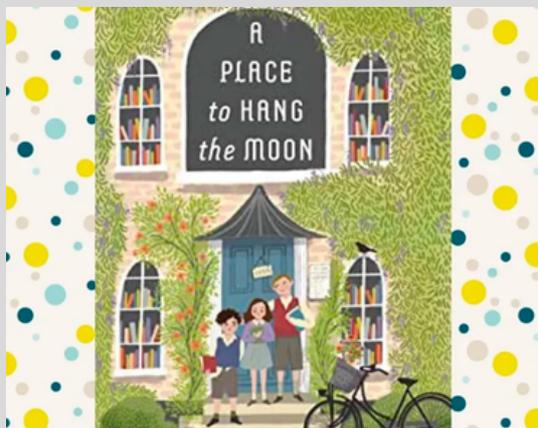
THE SHARK CALLER

WINNER OF THE EDWARD STANFORD CHILDREN'S TRAVEL BOOK OF THE YEAR 2022 A SUNDAY TIMES CHILDREN'S BOOK OF THE WEEK Dive beneath the waves with this spell-binding adventure of friendship, forgiveness and bravery, set on the shores of Papua New Guinea.



BEN YOKOYAMA AND THE COOKIE OF DOOM

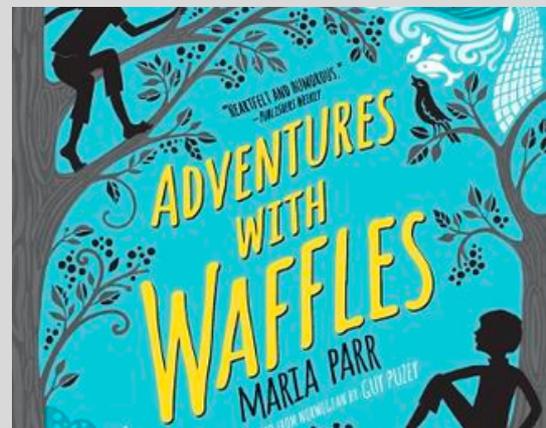
Meet Ben, a literal-minded kid with a big heart and an even bigger sweet-tooth, who cracks open a fortune cookie and discovers that TODAY might be his last day on Earth! Perfect for fans of DIARY OF A WIMPY KID or THE TERRIBLE TWO.



A PLACE TO HANG THE MOON

A heartwarming story about three siblings, evacuated from London to live in the countryside, looking for a permanent home--and a new meaning for family.

A New York Public Library Best Book of the Year



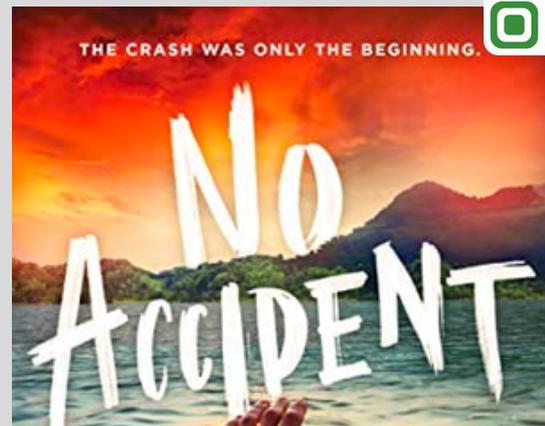
ADVENTURES WITH WAFFLES

The warmth of friendship and the support of family suffuse this lightly illustrated novel, proving that when times are tough, a little taste of sweetness can make all the difference.



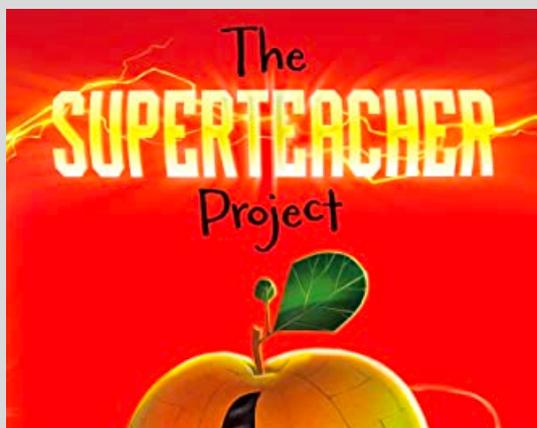
THE DAVENPORTS

The YA Historical fiction is inspired by the life of C.R Patterson and his family. Set in Chicago in 1910, the story is about the Davenports, one of the few Black families of immense wealth. This is the story of four young Black women navigating life and love.



NO ACCIDENT

A plane crash leaves seven teenagers alone on a deserted island. At first, they think the dwindling supplies are the only obstacle to survival. They soon realize that there's someone else on the island and that person may be the biggest threat. Suddenly, being the most popular kid doesn't mean anything.



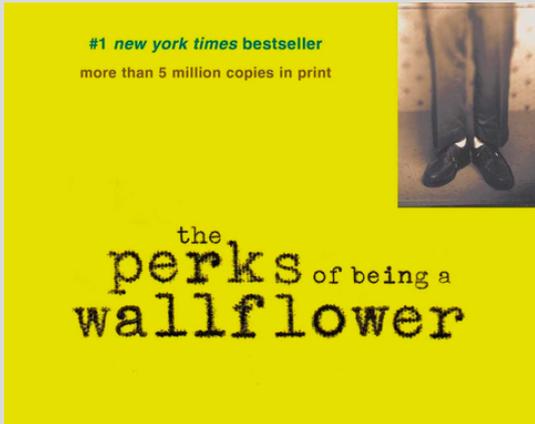
THE SUPERTEACHER PROJECT

From Gordon Korman, the bestselling author of Restart and The Unteachables, comes a hilarious new story about a mysterious new teacher who turns out to be an AI robot from a secret experimental program.



THIS IS HOW I ROLL

Susannah Mikami dreams of becoming a famous sushi chef like her dad. And this summer, she plans to learn everything about his traditional kitchen. Only he refuses to teach her, and won't tell her why. Is it because he doesn't want her to embarrass him in front of the documentary crew filming at his restaurant? Or worse, because she's a girl? Either way, Sana decides he's not the only one who can keep secrets.



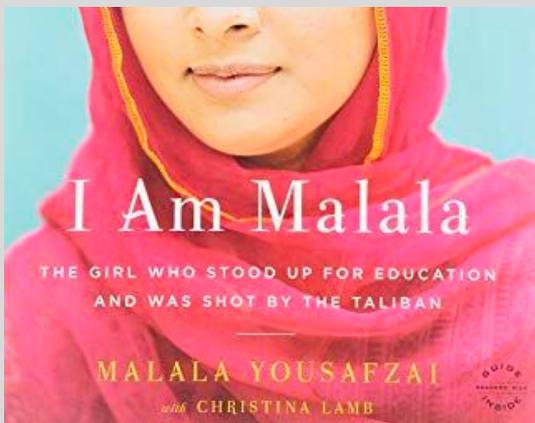
PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER

Once, in a writing class, the teacher asked which book students read over and over again. Half the class said Perks of Being a Wallflower. The book captures the teenage experience so poignantly, it's a necessity for all teens. Go along with Charlie as he struggles to find love, make friends, and recover from a traumatic past.



IT'S KIND OF A FUNNY STORY

A book that dives deep into the pressures of being successful at a young age and how mental health can take a toll on your life. It's real, honest, raw and continues to be relevant even today.



I AM MALALA

Malala Yousafzai was a 15-year-old girl living in a Taliban-controlled village in northern Pakistan who refused to give up her right to an education. Then, on October 9, 2012, she was shot point-blank in the head by a masked gunman while riding the bus home from school. Few expected her to survive but after months of surgeries, she recovered and went on to become an internationally-acclaimed activist for education and a Nobel Peace Prize winner. This autobiographical novel recounts Malala's remarkable journey.



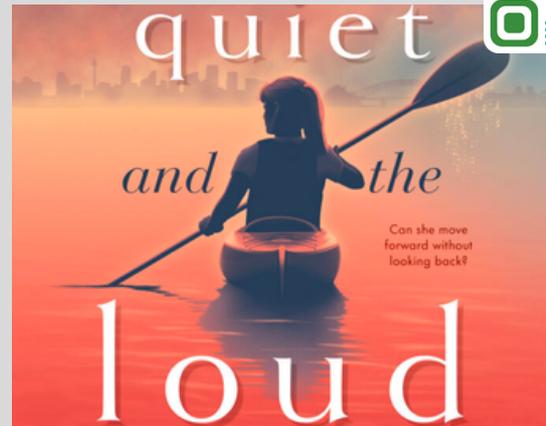
YOU HAVE A MATCH

Discovering you have a secret sibling can be overwhelming, but what happens when your newfound sister is a seemingly perfect Instagram star? For Abby, a random decision to sign up for a DNA service leads to a summer she'll remember forever.



ONE OF US IS BACK (ONE OF US IS LYING)

The global phenomenon returns with the third book in the One of Us Is Lying series, from #1 New York Times bestselling author Karen M. McManus. When someone from the Bayview Four's past resurfaces, history begins to repeat itself—and the consequences are deadly.



THE QUIET AND THE LOUD

A heartbreaking, hopeful, and timely novel about holding too tight to family secrets, healing from trauma, and falling in love, from the award-winning author of *How It Feels to Float*.



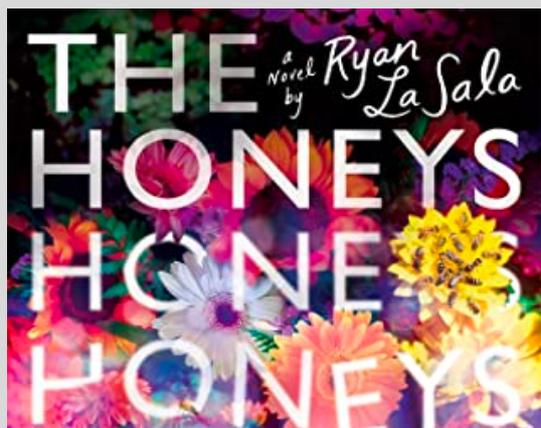
THE STOLEN HEIR (THE STOLEN HEIR DUOLOGY)

Return to the opulent world of Elfhame, filled with intrigue, betrayal, and dangerous desires, with this first book of a captivating new duology from the #1 New York Times bestselling author Holly Black.



SOMETHING MORE

A contemporary teen romance novel featuring a Palestinian-Canadian girl trying to hide her autism diagnosis while navigating her first year of high school, for fans of Jenny Han and Samira Ahmed.



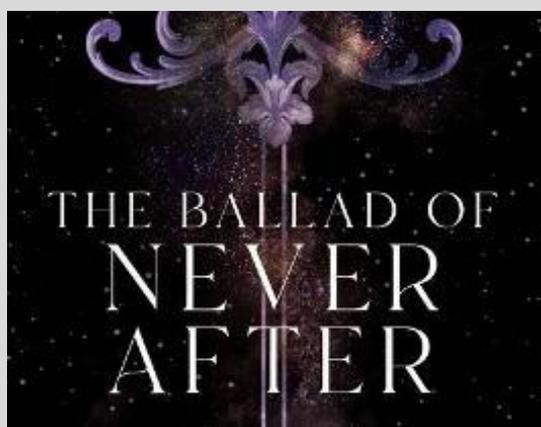
THE HONEYS

Haunting, atmospheric, and completely mesmerizing, we dare you to put *The Honeys* down after you read the heart-pounding first chapter. Beware: this sun-drenched summer horror story won't let you go until the very last page.



A WRINKLE IN TIME

This mind-bending, genre-defying teenage book recounts the fantastical adventures of young Meg Murry, her brother Charles Wallace, and their neighbor Calvin on their mission to save the Murry siblings' father. Utterly unpredictable yet with perfectly calibrated characterization, *A Wrinkle in Time* absolutely lives up to its Newbery-winning legacy.



THE BALLAD OF NEVER AFTER

Fans of *Once Upon a Broken Heart* won't want to miss this pulse-pounding, magical sequel. Fraught with Stephanie Garber's signature twists and turns, *The Ballad of Never After* is an atmospheric return to a fairytale world that will leave readers enthralled through the very last page.



LONG LIVE THE PUMPKIN QUEEN

Nightmare Before Christmas fans rejoice! *Long Live the Pumpkin Queen* picks up where the beloved film left off, with Sally in her new role as the Queen of Halloween Town. This delightful return to *The Nightmare Before Christmas* universe is sure to appeal to fans old and new.

THE IMPORTANCE OF READING



Megan Kwan-Nixon,
Director of Primary Education

Originally from Vancouver, Ms. Megan has been teaching for almost a decade. Prior to moving to Hong Kong, she has taught at some of Canada's top private schools. At Baker and Bloom, Ms. Megan is in charge of our primary education program, and is a teacher and academic coach for students in Kindergarten to Grade 7.

WE SHOULD BE READING EVERY DAY. Reading is good for people of *all* ages (not just children!) because it improves focus, memory, empathy, and communication skills.

According to research, some additional benefits include: stress reduction, improvement for your mental health, and can even help you live longer.

Reading also allows you to learn new things to help you succeed in your work and relationships. As adults, we are aware of the personal and professional power of having a strong vocabulary.

The Importance of Reading



Parents ask us all the time: "How can I boost my child's creativity?" While there is no easy and simple answer, it has been proven time and time again that **READING** has the potential to boost levels of creativity.

It doesn't matter if the book is fiction or non-fiction. No matter what book you read, the words could spark new ideas or images in your mind. You may also start to find and make meaningful connections between seemingly disparate things. Reading builds one's awareness.



THE IMPORTANCE OF READING

Reading and the ability to read is a gift. So whether you had to work hard to learn to read, or reading came naturally, reading is both a gift *and* a privilege.

Whether you realize it or not, we read and rely on our ability to decode every single day. From text messages to signs, emails to business documents, and everything in between, it's hard to escape the need to read.

Reading opens up doors to new worlds, inspires creativity, provides entertainment, boosts the imagination, opens doors and windows to an assortment of possibilities and best of all, has positive neurological and psychological benefits.

So, if anyone ever asks or challenges you with: "why is reading important?" Just reflect on the importance of reading in your own life!

27% of adults in the US didn't read a book in 2018.

Children who read at least 20 minutes a day are exposed to almost 2 million words per year.

6 additional minutes of reading per day can significantly improve kids' reading performance.

Reading fiction can make you a better decision-maker. Reading increases emotional intelligence, and consequently, your career outlooks.

Reading could help reduce mental decline in old age by up to 32%.



STUDENT & PARENT TESTIMONIALS

“THE SKILLS TAUGHT AND DEVELOPED BY BAKER & BLOOM HAVE BEEN APPLIED BY MY KIDS TO A VARIETY OF SUBJECTS AT SCHOOL, INCLUDING ENGLISH, HISTORY, AND GEOGRAPHY. THE STRUCTURE OF THE SMALL GROUP CLASSES AND THE TEACHING PHILOSOPHY, WHICH EMPHASIZES AND ENCOURAGES STUDENT OPINIONS AND PARTICIPATION, GIVE MY CHILDREN A TRUSTED PLATFORM TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS, WHICH IN TURN HAS GIVEN THEM INVALUABLE CONFIDENCE AND VALIDATION.”

- Parent of G6 students, Diocesan Boys' School

“MY DAUGHTER SAID AT SCHOOL, SHE OFTEN FELT LIKE HUNDREDS OF DIFFERENT AEROPLANES WERE FLYING AT HER FROM DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS. SOMETIMES THE PLANES LANDED SAFELY, SOMETIMES THEY CRASHED, BUT OFTEN THEY FLEW OVER HER HEAD. IN [HER BAKER & BLOOM] CLASS THE PLANES (OR INFORMATION) INTENTIONALLY FLY INTO HER BRAIN. THEY LAND SAFELY IN THE CORRECT PLACE AND ARE NOT BEING KNOCKED BY OTHER PLANES.”

- Parent of G4 student, German-Swiss International School



STUDENT & PARENT TESTIMONIALS

“I CHOSE TO ENROL MY CHILD AFTER UNDERSTANDING BAKER & BLOOM’S EDUCATIONAL APPROACH AND PHILOSOPHY. I FELT THAT A LOT OF THOUGHT HAD BEEN PUT INTO WHAT CHILDREN NEED TO LEARN AND HOW TO MOTIVATE THEM TO LEARN THOSE LESSONS. I COULD NOT HAVE ASKED FOR MORE FROM HIS WONDERFUL TEACHER... AND IMMEDIATELY SIGNED UP FOR [ANOTHER] COURSE.”

- Parent of G2 student, Hong Kong International School

“AFTER ONE TERM, [MY DAUGHTER] EMERGED NOT JUST WITH AN ACUTE GRASP OF WORD STRUCTURES AND CONCEPTS OF PRINT, BUT AS A CONFIDENT WORD-BUILDER AND CREATIVE STORYTELLER WHO LOVED USING HER NEWFOUND ARMORY OF WORDS TO CONSTRUCT HER OWN TALES.”

- Parent of K2 student, Braemar Hill

“MY KIDS LOVE COMING TO BAKER & BLOOM BECAUSE TEACHERS HERE KNOW THEM AND FIND WAYS TO MOTIVATE AND HELP THEM EXPLORE THEIR OWN POTENTIALS. GETTING INSPIRED TO LEARN HERE IS WHY I THINK MY KIDS FIND IT REWARDING COMING TO BAKER & BLOOM.”

- Parent of G3 and G7 students, St. Paul’s Coeducational College



STUDENT & PARENT TESTIMONIALS

“[BAKER & BLOOM'S] CLASSES ARE ALWAYS WELL STRUCTURED, WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO METHODS AND TECHNIQUES TO LEARN SPECIFIC KNOWLEDGE FOR THE TASK BEING COVERED. MY DAUGHTER HAS TRULY GAINED SKILLS AND WISDOM THAT WILL ENABLE HER TO FACE THE FUTURE WITH CONFIDENCE AND VIGOR IN THE YEARS AHEAD. KNOWLEDGE IS BOUNDLESS, WHEREAS TIME IS LIMITED. TO ME, TIME IS ALWAYS WELL SPENT AT BAKER & BLOOM.”

- Parent of G11 student, German-Swiss International School

“MY CHILDREN AND I LOVE BAKER & BLOOM. THEY WENT TO VARIOUS PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS BEFORE BUT BAKER & BLOOM MAKES THE EXPERIENCE OF LEARNING SO DIFFERENT. IT IS MORE THAN A TUITION CENTRE. BAKER & BLOOM HELPS THE STUDENTS BEYOND THE SCHOOL WORK. IT IS A PLACE FOR THE INQUIRING MINDS. THANKS TO THE STIMULATING PROGRAMS AND WONDERFUL TEACHERS, MY CHILDREN FEEL EXCITED TO LEARN AND FLOURISH WITH CONFIDENCE. BAKER & BLOOM HAS ENLIGHTENED THEM IN A JOYFUL WAY AND HELPED THEIR INTELLECTUAL MINDS IN BLOOMING. IT IS THE PEOPLE THAT MAKE BAKER & BLOOM A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE.”

- Parent of G6 student, Glenealy School and G12 student, Oundle School (UK)



THANK YOU



A 30 minute complimentary private parent consultation is available for those who would like advice on their children's academic development or specific learning goals and needs.

CONTACT US



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