

The Reading Agency and Libraries Present



# SILLY SQUAD

Summer Reading Challenge 2020

[sillysquad.org.uk](http://sillysquad.org.uk)



Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have some fantastic news - the digital Summer Reading Challenge 2020 is here! This year, the theme is The Silly Squad and you can find out all about it by visiting [www.sillysquad.org.uk](http://www.sillysquad.org.uk).

Every summer, Bradford Libraries try to encourage children to read 6 books over the summer and in return, children can earn stickers, a certificate and a medal amongst other prizes.

This year, the Summer Reading Challenge is going digital, however, Bradford Libraries will be giving Silly Squad Summer Reading Challenge packs to all children who take part when libraries re-open (hopefully) in July. Every child will also be awarded a reading challenge certificate at the end of the summer. Check [www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries) for updates.

The good news is that the Summer Reading Challenge will continue until the end of September and children from 3 to 14 can join the fun.

Last year, Thorpe School celebrated being one of the schools with the most improved levels of participation, so let's see if we can top that this year!! Who's ready to join the Silly Squad and get reading this summer?

*Jacqueline Wilson, author and supporter of the Summer Reading Challenge says: "I feel the Summer Reading Challenge is extra important this year! How sensible to have a Silly theme. We've all had to deal with serious and scary issues, so it's time for a bit of fun. There are so many comical and crazy children's books to cheer us all up. Let's get reading and get happy!"*

**Silly Squad officially begins here [www.sillysquad.org.uk](http://www.sillysquad.org.uk) on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June with a fantastic launch and over on Facebook too.**

- CBBC's Sam and Mark kick-off the party with their unique brand of 'silly' fun.
- Readings and jokes from authors including David Baddiel, Ben Fogle, Philip Ardagh, Paul O'Grady, Konnie Huq and Samantha Baines.
- Silly Time with the BBC's Katie Thistleton and Hacker T Dog.
- Draw-a-Longs with official Summer Reading Challenge illustrator Laura Ellen Anderson, and Rob Biddulph.
- Magic Tricks and Mind-Bending Maths with Mr Bates from The Shed School.
- Poetry with performance poet and playwright Joseph Coelho.
- Crafts, colour and creativity with the original queen of colouring, Johanna Basford.
- Bedtime Reading session with actor Charlie Condou reading from This is Gus by Chris Chatterton, published by Macmillan Children's Books.
- Unveiling of the official 'Let's Get Silly!' theme song by Harry Baker and Chris Read.

### **Don't Forget...**

**Children under 16 can now join the library online and can begin downloading and reading ebooks for free straight away! Bradford Libraries are adding to their e-book collections for children every week. Go to [www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries) for both.**

**Keep your eyes peeled over on our School Twitter page, @ThorpeBradford for the latest news and updates on the Summer Reading Challenge and let us know if you have signed up! If you have any questions about the Challenge, get in touch with us at Thorpe and we can help you to get started.**

**Happy reading!**

**Miss McTasney, English Coordinator**