

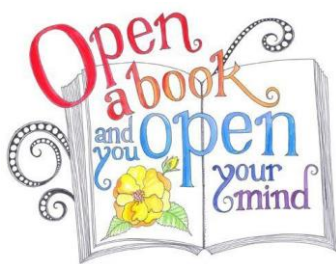
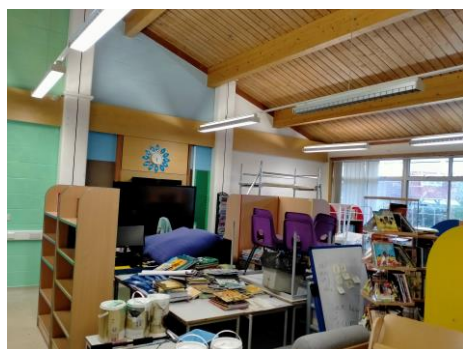
Book Buzz

A reading newsletter for our whole school community



Newsletter 2

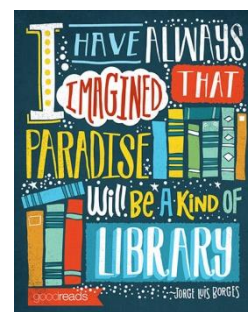
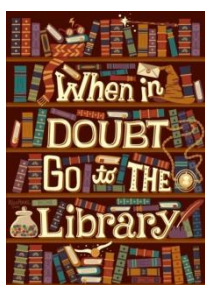
We are very excited to share with you the photos of our new library. We hope you agree that it really is beginning to take shape. Thank you to Mr Dobbin who worked incredibly hard over the Easter holidays to give the old computer room a brand new lick of paint. When we asked the children back in January what they would like from their new library, the overwhelming response was a room which felt calm and relaxing. Many children requested a natural colour scheme which is why the different shades of blue and green were selected. We hope you agree, it looks fabulous!



We have been working hard in recent weeks to re-label the library and get all our books back on the shelves. We are having a new carpet fitted very soon which will make it a super cosy place for browsing and reading. Some children have already had a sneaky peek at the new library. They have said they can't wait to get back in there for their regular library slot.



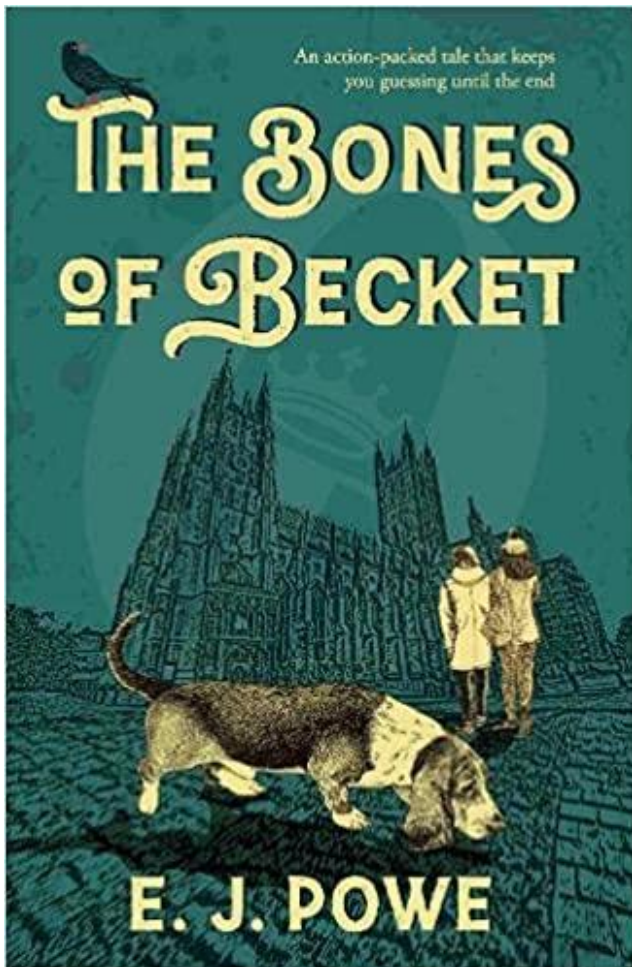
We are planning to have a grand opening of our new library in the summer term so keep an eye out for forthcoming announcements. If you would like to help out in library, we are keen to hear from you. Please chat to your child's class teacher or leave a message with the office staff. We would love to share our passion for books and reading.



New author news!



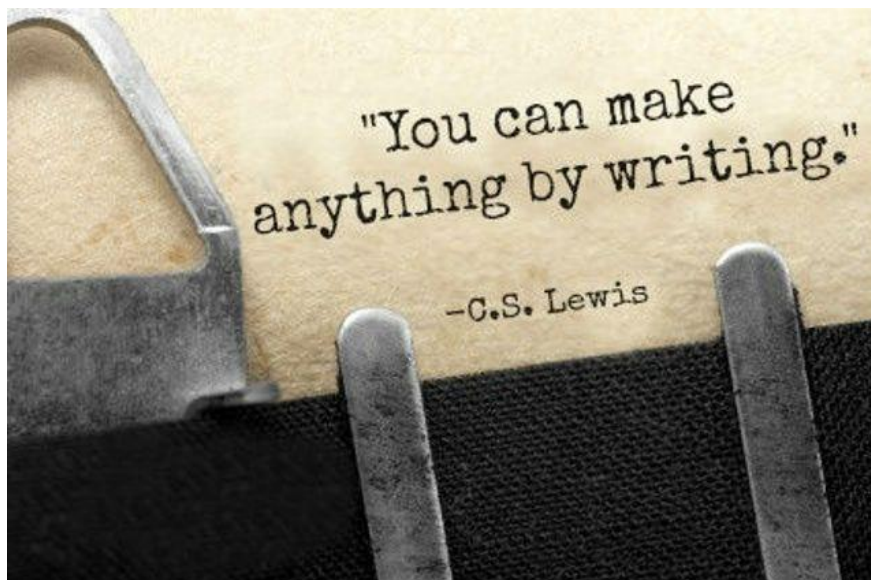
We are very excited to announce that our very own Mr Powe has just published a children's book! What started as a hobby during lockdown turned into a reality. The book is aimed at UKS2 and combines history with a bit of imagination too.



'The Bones of Becket' is a thrilling mystery based around a tantalising urban myth. Set in Canterbury, England, this riveting story merges the past and present into a lively and action-packed tale that keeps you guessing until the end. No-one else but Ambrose seems to care that the Professor is missing. That is until an eccentric doctor with a basset hound turns up, revealing a shocking clue to his friend's whereabouts. Ambrose can't resist the opportunity to be a detective, even though his older sister Isabella is somewhat reluctant to be an accomplice. What follows is a high-stakes quest to uncover a truth that's been buried for centuries, though Ambrose will soon find out that some people will do anything to keep a secret.

The book is available on Amazon from the 24th May.

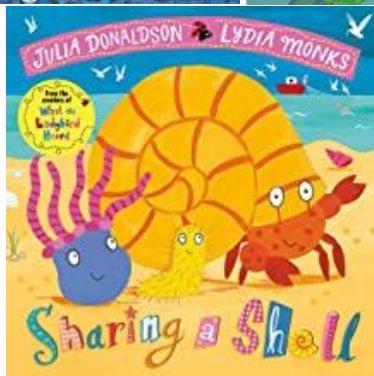
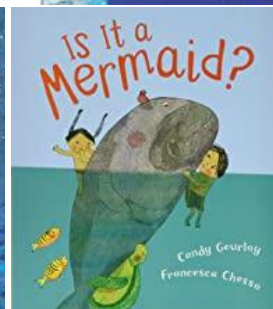
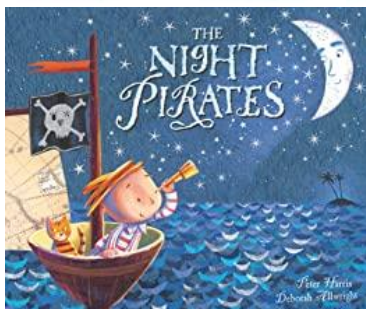
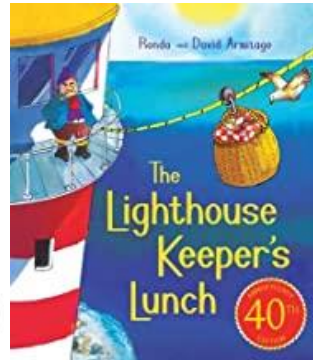
https://www.amazon.co.uk/Bones-Becket-J-Powe/dp/1913567702/ref=mp_s_a_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=bone+of+becket&qid=1621024047&sr=8-1



What have we been reading in class recently?

Penguins

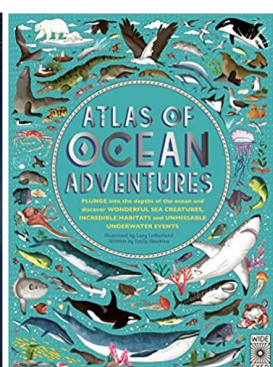
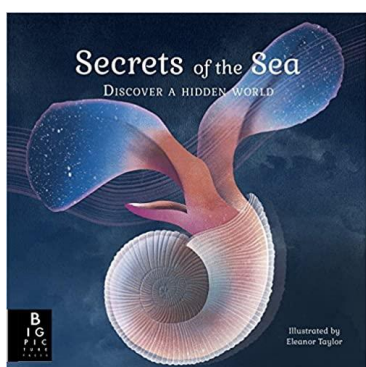
WHERE THE SEA Meets the Sky



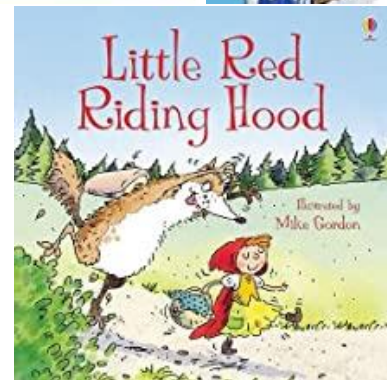
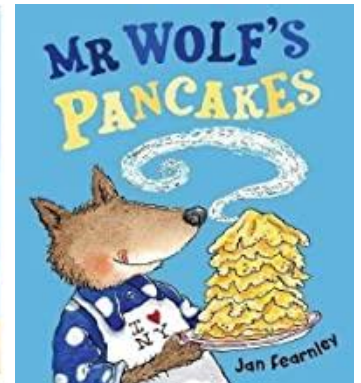
Other sea related books fiction books are:



And here are two beautiful non fiction books:



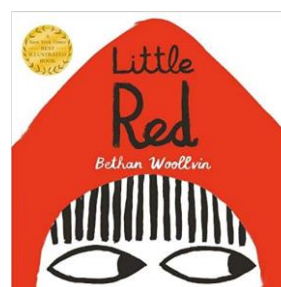
Bears



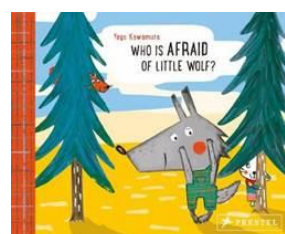
Other fairy tale related books are:



Little Red Reading Hood **loves** reading books and making up stories of her own. When she meets a cunning wolf while on her way to the library, he convinces her to stray from the path and read for a little while. But hasn't she read this in a story before? Perhaps it's time she came up with a new ending...



Little Red Riding Hood meets a wolf on her way through the woods. The wolf is hungry and Red Riding Hood looks tasty, so he hatches a dastardly plan, gobbles up Grandma and lies in wait. But *this* Little Red Riding Hood is not easily fooled, and this big bad wolf better watch his back.



Little wolf is looking for a friend but no one wants to play. Squirrel, rabbit and fox have all been told to stay away from wolves because they are dangerous and bad. Poor little wolf gets more and more sad until a rather small voice invites him to play hide and seek. Who will be Wolf's new friend?



What have we been reading in class recently?

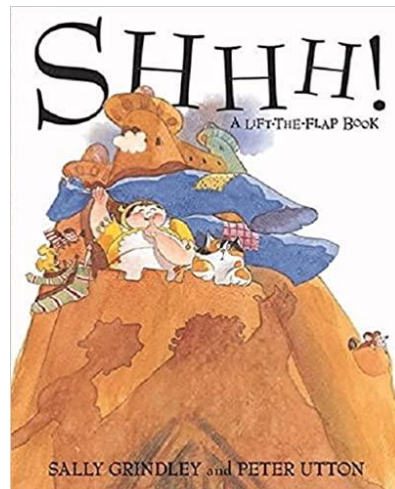


Chimpanzees

Birt and Etho are best friends. They play on Sudden Hill, making marvellous contraptions out of cardboard boxes. But then a new boy, Shu, wants to join in too. Birt isn't sure that he wants Shu to join them. Eaten up with jealousy, he goes home and refuses to come out to play. Until Etho and Shu come to his house with the most marvellous cardboard contraption so far. This is a compelling story about accepting someone new.

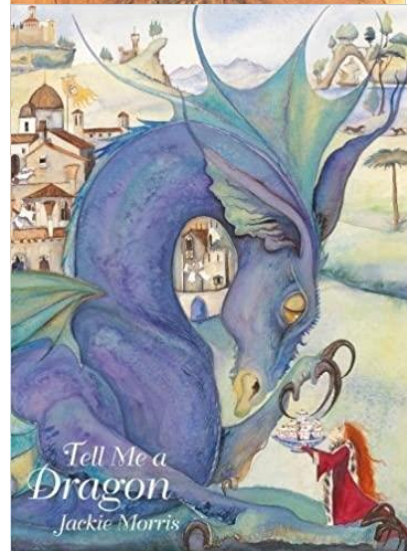


Hippos



Shhh! You are about to enter a giant's castle. Be very quiet. Can you get through the book without waking up the enormous scary giant? What will you do if he wakes up? Why shut the book of course!

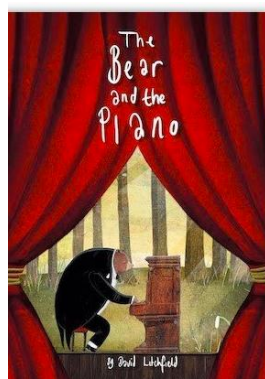
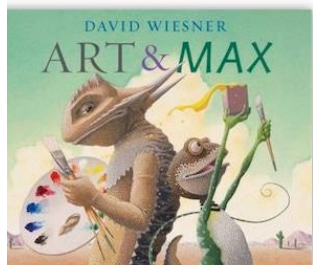
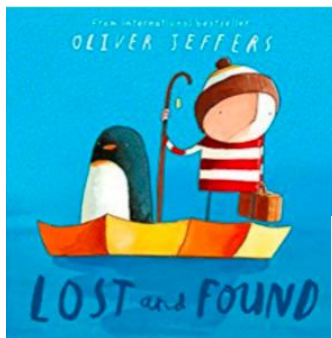
This is an interactive retelling of a classic fairy tale with flaps and peepholes that will keep children hooked!



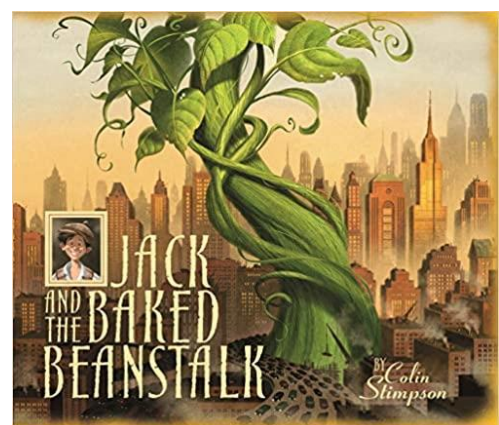
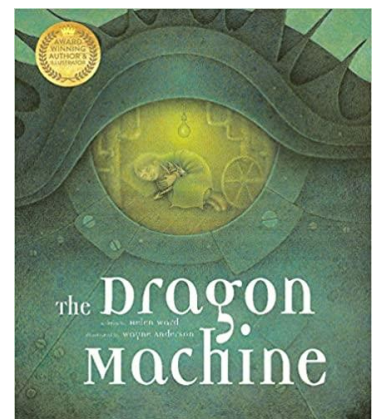
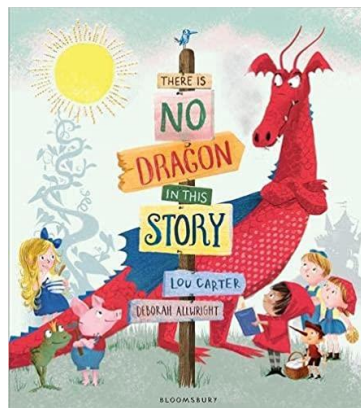
In this enchanting book, Jackie Morris conjures a world where everyone has their own dragon.

"The wording is wonderful and the pictures are beautiful. I enjoy reading it more every time," said Miss Hart.

Other books about friendship are:



Other books with a fairy tale feel are:

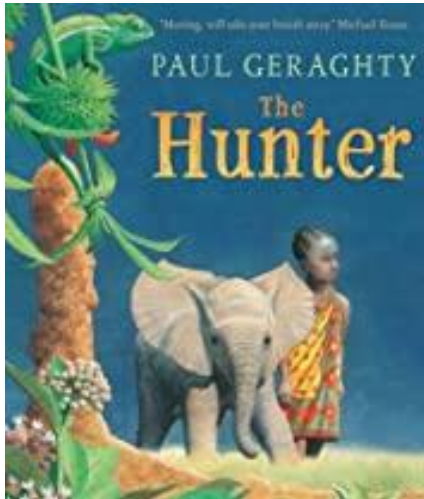




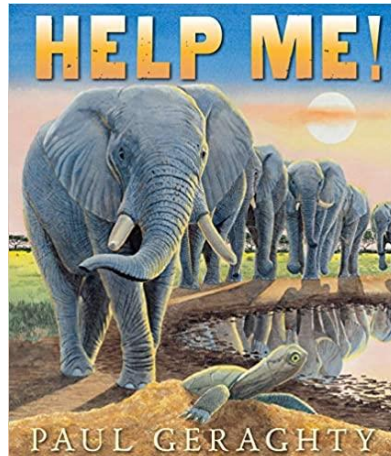
What have we been reading in class recently?

Seahorses

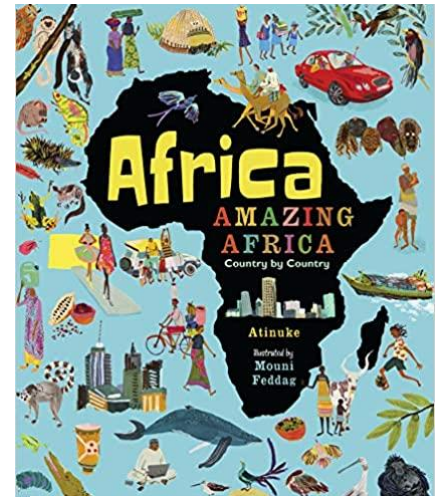
One day while playing hunters in the hot dry African bush, Jamina finds a baby elephant whimpering besides its dead mother. As Jamina bravely helps the little orphaned elephant, she vows that she will never be a real hunter . . .



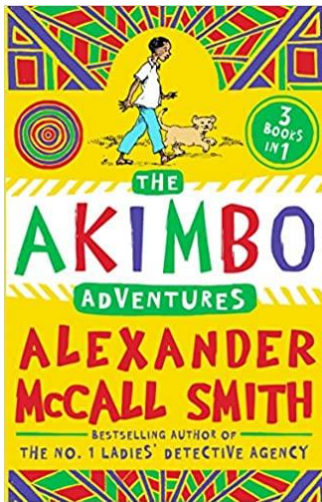
Other books set in Africa are:



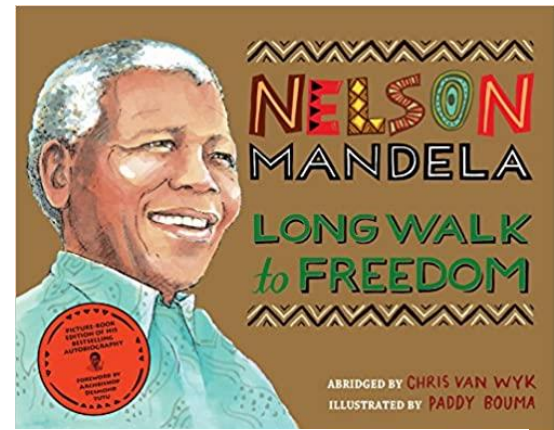
It is night time and a herd of elephants are on the move. An impala is lying in the darkness, watching a tortoise stumble towards water. Hatchling turtles slip into the pool while crocodiles sleep. A pack of wild dogs trot by. When the tortoise slips, a surprising and remarkable chain of events begins to unfold...



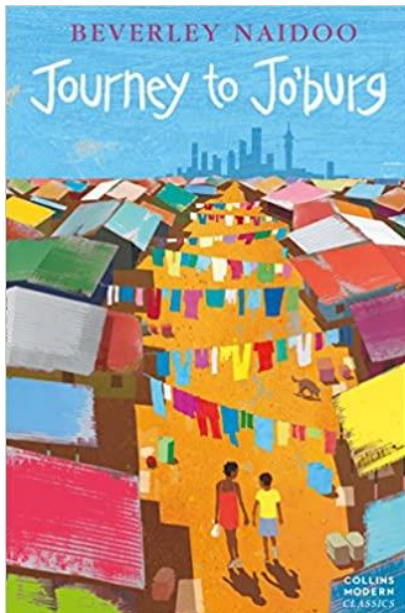
This colourful and informative book divides Africa into five sections: South, East, West, Central and North, each with its own introduction. This is followed by a page per country, containing a delightful mix of friendly text and colourful illustrations. With just a couple of facts per page, the book is perfectly geared toward readers aged seven and upwards.



Akimbo and his parents live on the edge of an African game reserve. It's his father's task to protect the thousands of amazing animals who make it their home, and wildlife-loving Akimbo dreams of helping him. In these three adventures, Akimbo protects elephants from poachers, saves a lion cub from a trap, and rescues a man from a crocodile!



Long Walk to Freedom by Nelson Mandela is the amazing story of a true hero of our times; his famous biography has been specially adapted for children in a beautiful illustrated picture book format. Discover how a little boy whose father called him "troublemaker" grew up to fight apartheid, become South Africa's first black president and campaign for freedom and justice throughout the world.



This is the story of love, commitment and the flowering of the human spirit against the background of South Africa's apartheid. Frightened that their baby sister Dineo will die, thirteen-year-old Naledi and her younger brother Tiro run away from their grandmother to Johannesburg to find their mother, who works there as a maid. Their journey illustrates at every turn the grim realities of apartheid - the pass laws, racism, and the breakdown of family life. The opulence of the white "Madam's" house contrasts starkly with the reality that Naledi and Tiro face - that their baby sister is suffering from starvation, not an incurable disease.



What have we been reading in class recently?

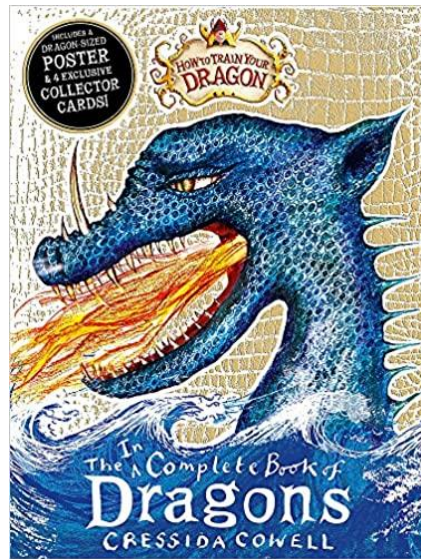


Otters and Cheetahs

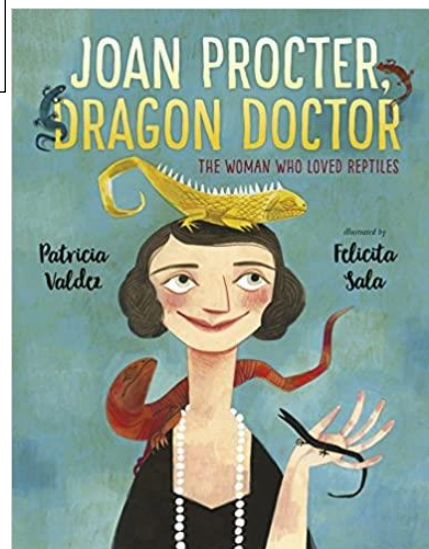
When Tomas discovers a strange old tree at the bottom of his grandad's garden, he doesn't think much of it. But he takes the funny fruit from the tree back into the house - and gets the shock and delight of his life when a tiny dragon hatches! The tree is a dragonfruit tree, and Tomas has got his very own dragon, Flicker ...



Other dragon related books set are:

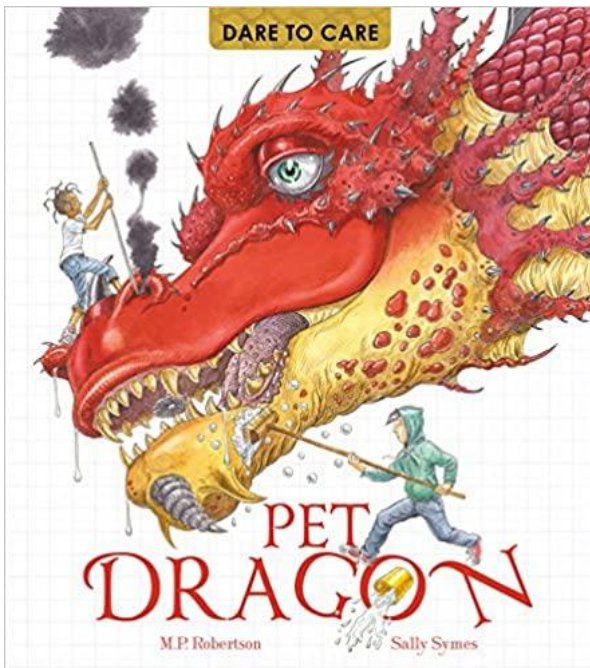


Long ago, the world was full of dragons. But what happened to them? Where are they now? These pages are taken from the notebooks of Viking Hero Hiccup Horrendous Haddock the Third when he was just a boy. A keen dragonwatcher, Hiccup paints a picture of the brilliance and fire and spirit of that lost dragon world.



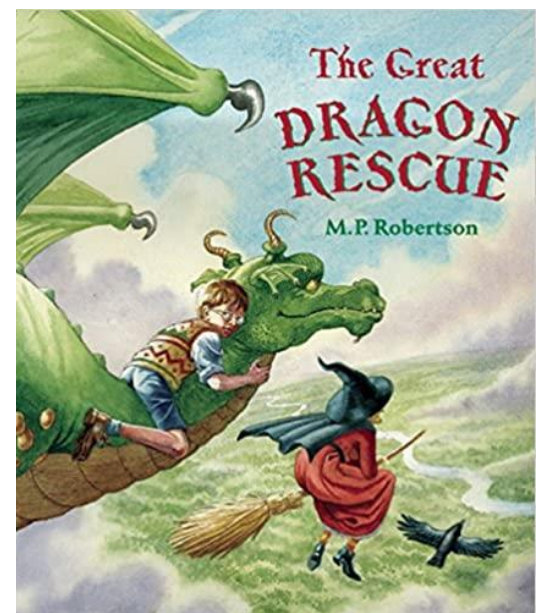
Back in the days of long skirts and afternoon teas, young Joan Procter entertained the most unusual party guests: slithery and scaly ones, who turned over teacups and crawled past the crumpets. While other girls played with dolls, Joan preferred the company of reptiles. She carried her favourite lizard with her everywhere - she even brought a crocodile to school!

With a lively text and vibrant illustrations, this book brings to life Joan Procter's inspiring story of passion and determination.



A spectacular and fun spoof pet-care guide to dragons, with clear, concise information on everything from choosing an egg to feeding, grooming and training your dragon! Stunning illustrations combined with witty and amusing text make this a perfect guide for any child who's ever dreamed of having a dragon in their life.

George is bored. When it comes to fighting, chickens aren't nearly as much fun as dragons. But when George's dragon returns, he whisks him off to a fairytale land on a rescue mission. A wicked witch has captured a baby dragon and George realises that he must outwit the witch in order to free the dragon and prevent himself from being turned into a toad for the witch's barbecue.

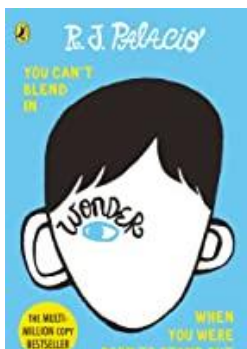




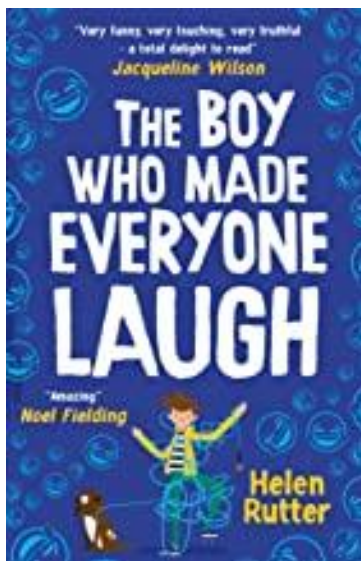
What have we been reading in class recently?

Wolves and Lions

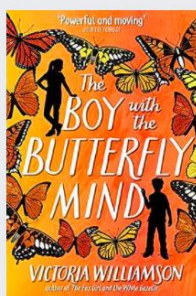
'My name is August. I won't describe what I look like. Whatever you're thinking, it's probably worse.' Auggie wants to be an ordinary ten-year-old. He does ordinary things - eating ice cream, playing on his Xbox. He *feels* ordinary - inside. But ordinary kids don't make other ordinary kids run away screaming in playgrounds. Ordinary kids aren't stared at wherever they go.



Other books which will touch your heart and soul are:



Billy Plimpton is an eleven-year-old boy with a big dream. He wants to be a stand-up comedian when he grows up: delivering pinpoint punch-lines and having audiences hang on his every hilarious word. A tough career for anyone, but surely impossible for Billy, who has a stammer. How will he find his voice, if his voice won't let him speak?



Victoria Williamson

The Boy With The Butterfly Mind

For fans of A Kind of Spark, this is a must-read. Set in Glasgow, Jamie is struggling to accept himself, his ADHD and his butterfly mind. When his family life collides with Elin's, they realise there is no such thing as 'normal' and that they are more alike than they thought. Jamie and Elin both learn that being yourself is always more than enough.



Katya Balen
Laura Carlin

The Space We're In

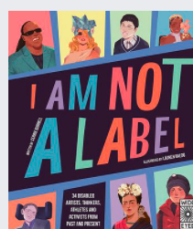
This is a heart-breaking and hopeful debut novel from Katya Balen. As Max's older brother, Frank knows Max is different. He only eats quavers, he doesn't talk, and he can have big meltdowns. Sometimes Frank wishes mum could do all the things she used to before Max was born. But when tragedy strikes their family, Frank begins to understand his brother more. A story of empathy and understanding, this book will break your heart and put it back together again.



Cece Bell

El Deafo

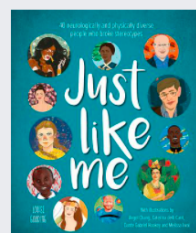
This is an honest and entertaining graphic novel memoir. After losing her hearing at a young age, Cece's life is changed forever. Navigating school and friendships is hard without her large and awkward Phonic Ear. But Cece has tapped into a superpower; it enables her to hear things her classmates don't. All Cece wants is a true friend and to be accepted as she is. El Deafo is a heart-warming read that will encourage empathy and understanding in any reader.



Cerrie Burnell
Lauren Mark Baldo

I Am Not A Label

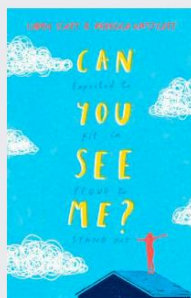
A biographic anthology, this is an eye-opening read that will change your preconceptions of disability. Meet 34 artists, activists, athletes, thinkers and individuals who changed the world from past to present. They all had to overcome challenges, but this did not stop them from striving and reaching their goal. Perfect for dipping in and out of, this is a non-fiction title you will return to again and again.



Angel Chang
Caterina Dell'i Carri
Dante Gabriel Hokey
Louise Gooding
Melissa Iwai

Just Like Me

An anthology of 40 neurologically and physically diverse individuals, some names and stories will be familiar and some will be new. Including individuals from around the world, this is a great book for reading and exploring together. All the stories explore challenges and triumphs, and resilience. There is something for everyone in this book.



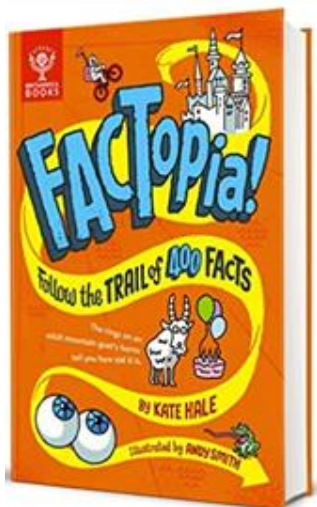
Libby Scott
Rebecca Westcott

Can You See Me?

Can You See Me? is a story of empathy and kindness centred around Tally, an autistic eleven-year-old. Based on Libby's own experiences, the story has an authentic voice and insightful diary entries into life as an autistic person.



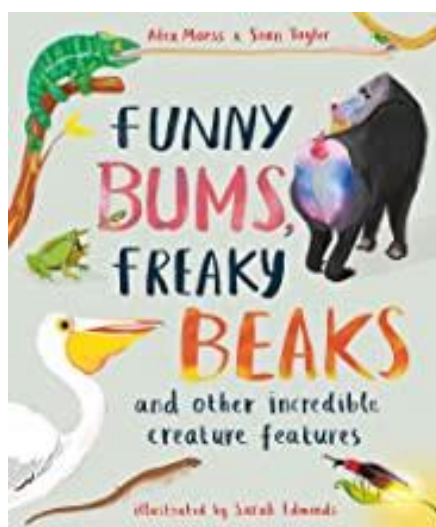
What's new in non-fiction?



Did you know that a squid has a brain shaped like a doughnut? Or that some butterflies drink turtle tears? Hop from topic to topic in unexpected and delightful ways, and discover what connects a giraffe with the Eiffel tower, or a slice of pizza with Cleopatra. On your awe-inspiring journey, you will find out extraordinary facts about space, bones, dinosaurs, spiders, sharks, robots, ancient Rome and more. This wittily illustrated book is the perfect gift to inspire and delight curious children aged 8–12

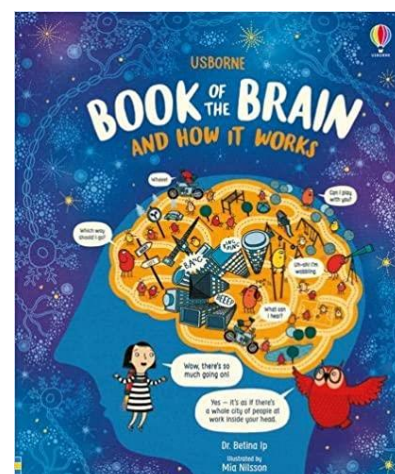
The perfect accompaniment to Factopia is the fact-loving Freddie in *The Super Miraculous Journey of Freddie Yates* by Jenny Pearson.

Freddie Yates likes facts. Just not the one staring him in the face - that his secret plan is not, in fact, secret. Because Freddie's journey wasn't meant to involve Big Trev and the onion-eating competition or the loo-exploding pear-and-potato turnovers. And Freddie definitely didn't expect to end up, with his two best friends, on national television in a supergirl costume. But journeys never take you where you think they will. And for Freddie, that fact might just have to be enough...



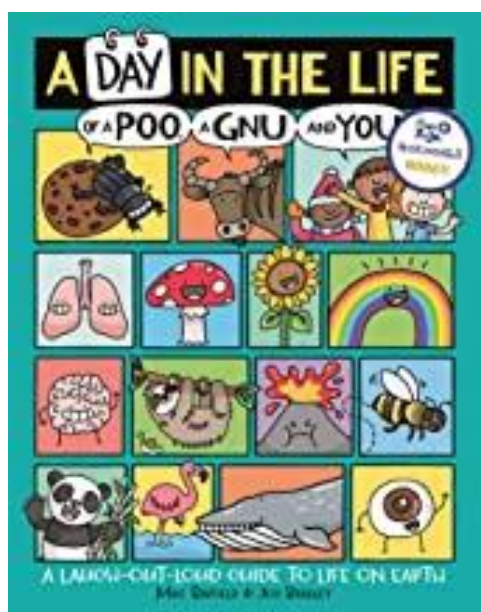
A delightful compendium of all the most unusual and unexpected features in the animal kingdom, from puzzling toes to weird ears, and all the other body parts in between! These creatures have strange features – but they all serve a very useful purpose! This charming and visually appealing book carries the underlying message that everybody and everything is strange and wonderful in its own way – difference should be celebrated!

This visually astonishing story takes children on a journey into and through the brain. Simple but beautifully illustrated metaphors explain the different jobs that our brains do, and how they use brain cells to accomplish them. From the senses to sleep, memories to making decisions, this book brings the wonder of brains and brain science to life.



If you've ever wanted to know what a panda does all day long, how your heart manages to shift all that blood around your body or what makes a rainbow shine, you've come to the right book.

A Day in the Life of a Poo, a Gnu and You features the answers to all of these questions and many more, all told in a super-fun comic book format in three awesome sections: Human Body, Animal Kingdom and Earth and Science. *A Day in the Life...* is packed with facts, laughs and amazing illustrations you can dive into all day long.



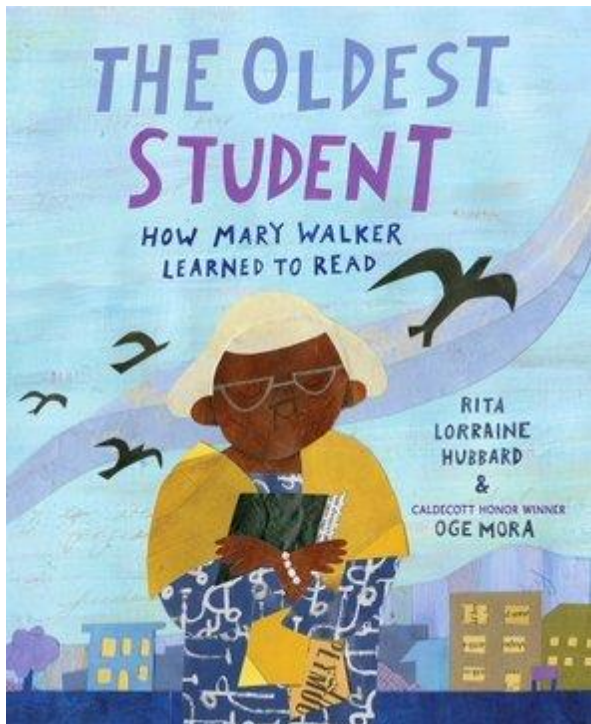
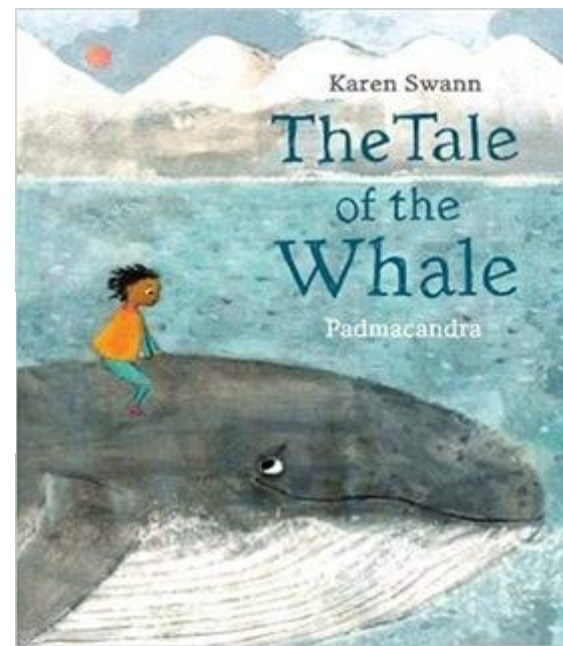


What's new in fiction?



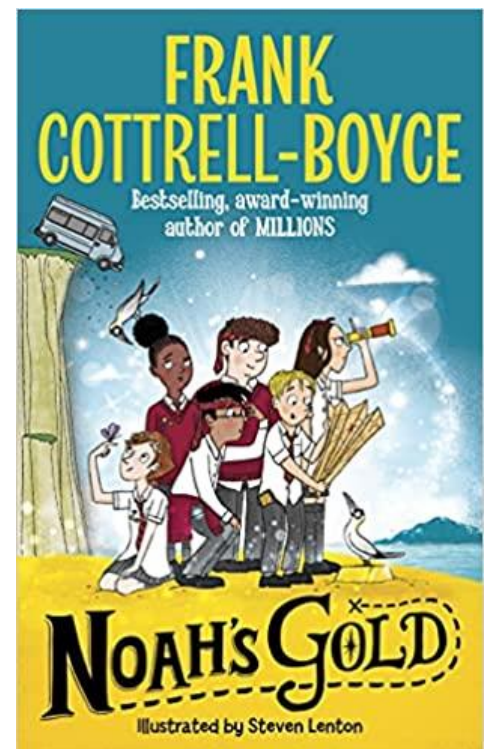
Best Test is a gorgeous book full of kindness, understanding, friendship and smiles. A little bird finds a strawberry but Frog wants to eat it too, so does little Shrew so they have to decide how to solve the problem. A race! However each animal wants the race to suit their individual skills best so it must involve hopping, jumping and colouring-in. As they progress around the obstacle course they learn that helping each other and becoming friends is the best possible outcome.

The Tale of the Whale is a poetic story of a friendship between a child and a whale but it is also a plea to protect our seas from plastic pollution and to come together with others to do so.

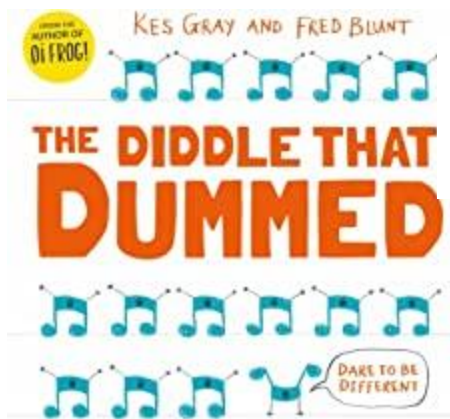


The Oldest Student by Rita Lorraine Hubbard and Oge Mora tells the inspiring story of Mary Walker who learnt to read aged 114. What is also does is take through a century of social, political change and civil rights and explores that change and the impact it has on a Mary herself.

Eleven-year old Noah sneaks along on his big sister's geography field trip. Everything goes wrong! Six kids are marooned on an uninhabited island. Their teacher has vanished. They're hungry. Their phones don't work and Noah has broken the internet. There's no way of contacting home . . . Disaster! Until Noah discovers a treasure map and the gang goes in search of gold.

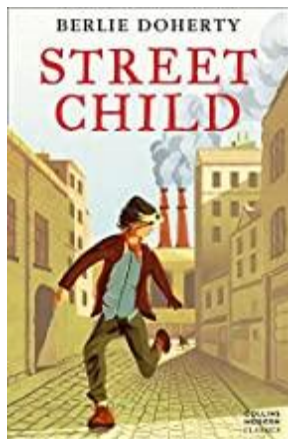
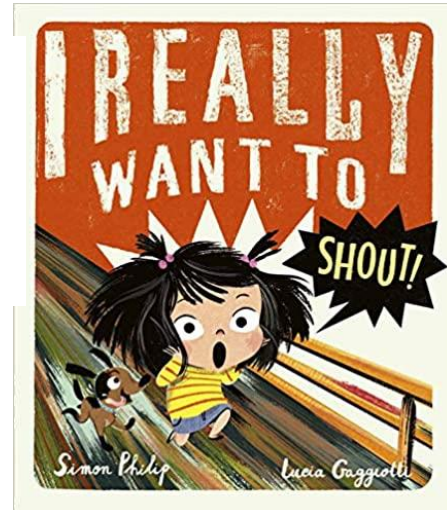


Staff recommendations for children



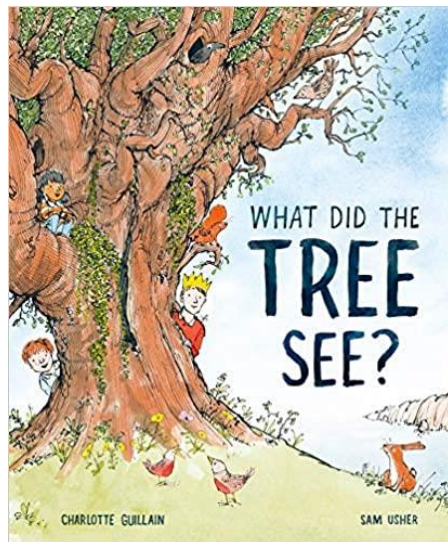
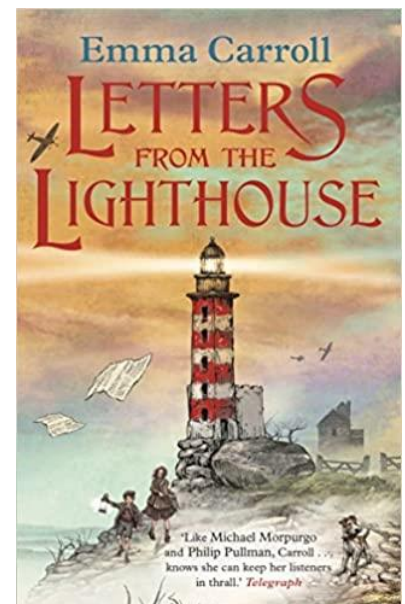
This is a hilarious story about a musical note who tries his best to make the right sound in a tune but keeps making mistakes. The ending is unexpected and very funny (if not a little rude!)

We all get angry once in a while, but it can be hard to know what to do when we feel this way. The determined heroine of “*I Really want the Cake*” is back with a new conundrum. What should she do when she REALLY wants to shout?



This is an unforgettable tale of an orphan in Victorian London. It is based on the boy whose plight inspired Dr Barnardo to found his famous children's homes.

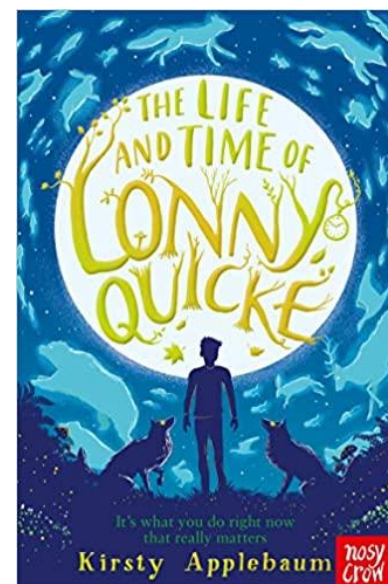
Letters From the Lighthouse by Emma Carroll is a stunningly evocative wartime drama, and sure to keep you breathlessly reading to its very last page.



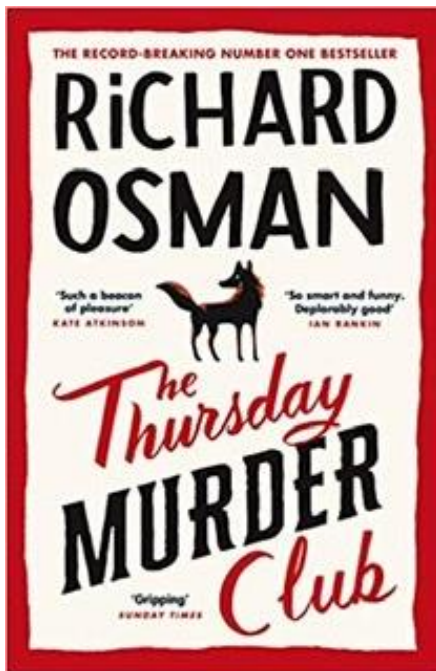
This is a beautiful non-fiction picture book follows the story of an oak tree on a hilltop as it witnesses life changing around it over the course of hundreds of years. From the time when hunters chased deer through the woodland, to when trees were cleared for farmland, to the smog and factories emerging during the industrial revolution. One majestic oak has seen it all, and now we can too.



Lonny is a lifeling. He has the power to heal any living creature and bring it back from the dead. But he pays a price for this gift - by lengthening the creature's life, he shortens his own. So Lonny has to be careful, has to stay hidden in the forest. Because if people knew what he could do, Lonny would be left with no life at all...

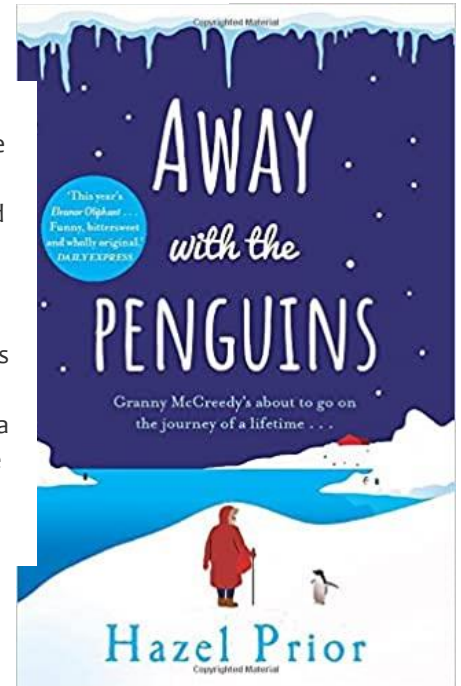


Adult reads

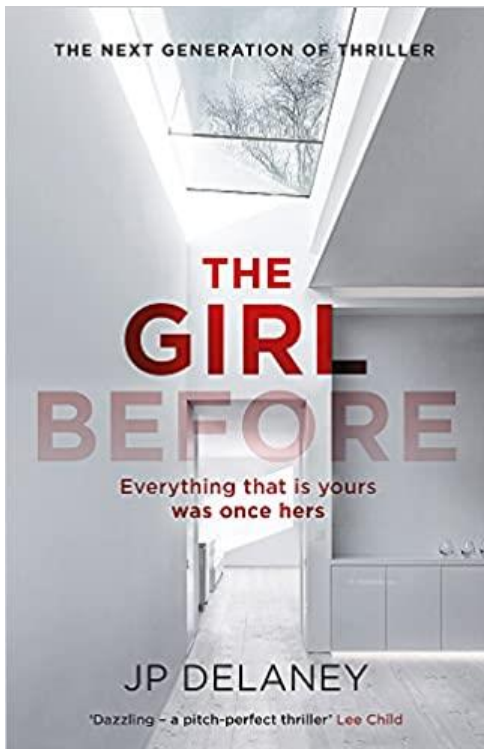


The Thursday Murder Club: On a peaceful retirement village, four unlikely friends meet up once a week to investigate unsolved murders. But when a brutal killing takes place on their very doorstep, the Thursday Murder Club find themselves in the middle of their first live case. Elizabeth, Joyce, Ibrahim and Ron might be pushing eighty but they still have a few tricks up their sleeves. **Can our unorthodox but brilliant gang catch the killer before it's too late?**

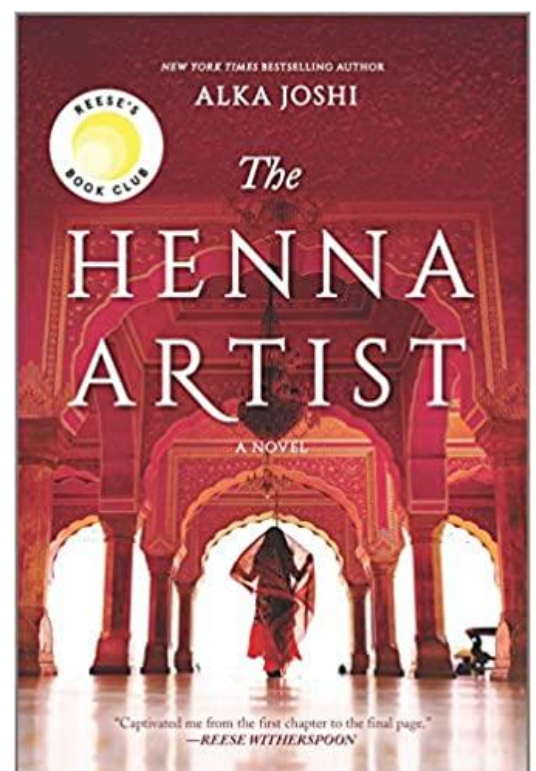
Away with the Penguins : Veronica McCreedy lives in a mansion by the sea. She loves a nice cup of Darjeeling tea whilst watching a good wildlife documentary. And she's never seen without her ruby-red lipstick. Veronica doesn't have family or friends nearby. Not that she knows about, anyway . . . And she has no idea where she's going to leave her considerable wealth when she dies. But today . . . today Veronica is going to make a decision that will change all of this.



The Girl Before : This is a thriller and mystery which will get your heart racing towards the end and has a twist you definitely won't see coming.



The Henna Artist: This is the best book I've read in a very long time. It was such a pleasure, I was engrossed in it from chapter one and had no idea what was going to happen next and how it was going to end. The detail is outstanding, at times while reading it you're convinced you can smell the flowers, feel the heat of the city on your face or the dampness of the monsoon season. It's a fascinating and absorbing story of a faraway world.





The month of May celebrates National Share-A-Story Month (NSSM). This is an annual celebration of the power of storytelling and story sharing. This year's theme is Myths, Magic and Mayhem and there are book lists, resources and details of a competition on the official website <http://fcbg.org.uk/national-share-a-story-month/>

There are two competitions to enter so get reading and thinking! Maybe you could enter the short story competition or the drawing competition?

NATIONAL SHARE A STORY MONTH 2021



SHORT STORY COMPETITION

CHOOSE MYTH, MAGIC OR MAYHEM AND
START WRITING!!

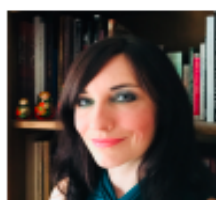
Kevin Crossley Holland's Myth story starter...

The first time, I didn't notice it, really. Just a huge hunk of ancient, glittery rock- there's piles of them around here. The second time, I noticed its shape all right, and I thought for a moment it was staring straight at me. But the third time, when I bunched my fist and knocked it..well.



Michelle Harrison's Magic Story Starter...

The first thing you need to know about magic is that it's always found when you least expect it. The second thing is - no, wait. It's best that I don't tell you that straight away. I should probably start at the beginning, which was when I made the strange discovery in the new shop that opened at the end of my street...



Robin Steven's Mayhem Story Starter...

Mysteries always happen when you least expect them. And that morning, which might have seemed to anyone not a detective like the most ordinary, boring morning in the world, was in fact the beginning of the most exciting mystery ever...



COMPETITION RULES

1. Entries are welcome from students aged 7-12.
2. Entries must be no longer than 750 words.
3. Entries must be submitted electronically in an easily readable format.
4. Entries must make use of one story starter.
5. All entries must be submitted by 12 noon on 15th June to nssm@fcbg.org.uk
6. Entries will be judged and winners chosen by FCBG judging panels.
7. Judges decisions will be final.

The closing date
for the short
story
competition is
15th June 2021



CREATE YOUR OWN MYTHICAL BEAST

Myths and legends are full of fascinating creatures such as griffins, phoenix and unicorns. Can you use your imagination to create a mythical beast we have yet to meet?

DEADLINE TO ENTER:

1 JUNE 2021!

IMAGES/PHOTOS CAN BE SENT TO

NSSM@FCBG.ORG.UK

5-8, 9-12, 13+ AGE CATEGORIES

COMPETITION RULES:

1. There are 3 age categories- please state your age clearly on your illustration.
2. The illustration must be submitted electronically to nssm@fcbg.org.uk
3. The image must be clear
4. Entries must be submitted by 12 noon on the 1st June 2021
5. Entries will be shortlisted by FCBG judges and final winners will be chosen by our guest judge.
6. Winners will be contacted and prizes sent by end of June 2021.

The closing date for the
drawing competition is

1st June 2021.