



Lydgate Infant School

Reading Newsletter

Spring 2023



Welcome to our Lydgate Reading Newsletter! It's a chance to find out about high quality books as well as an opportunity to get tips and up to date information about helping your child with their reading journey.

A special message to our school from award-winning author and storyteller, Chitra Soundar!



CHITRA
SOUNDAR
chitra@chitrasoundar.com



Hello lovely readers at Lydgate Infant school,

My name is Chitra Soundar and I'm the author of many chapter books. When I was growing up, I used to read a lot of chapter books, especially in a series. So, when I became an author, I decided to write chapter books in a series too.

My **Sona Sharma** series – there are four books in this series, the fourth one will come out in September 2023, are all about Sona who lives in India, her best friend and teddy Elephant and her little sister Minmini. Sona lives in a large joint family full of happy people who argue sometimes. Relatives come unannounced, the phone rings often and everyone is welcome whatever the time. Just like the one I grew up in. Jen Khatun has drawn beautiful pictures to bring the Indian city of Chennai to life.

I also write the **Nikhil and Jay** series which are set here in the UK. It's about two boys Nikhil and Jay - their mum is from India and their dad is from north of England. These stories are inspired by my own nephews who share two heritages, like many children around the world. These books are perfect for you to read independently, and during bedtime you can even ask a grown-up to read it to you. They have four short stories inside each book with amazing pictures by Soofiya.

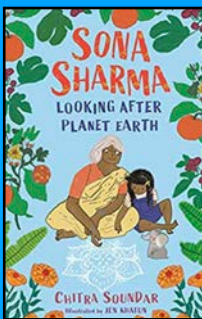
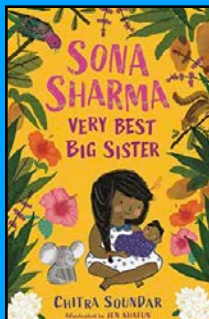
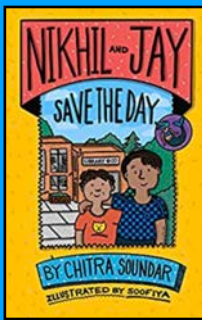
Just like I grew up reading stories set in England, I want readers in the UK, to read about India too. You will discover new words and new foods by reading my books.

I hope you read books from all over the world, about kids like you, who live in other continents, in different circumstances. Such stories will show you how wonderful the world is and that children have the same wishes and fears wherever they live.

Have an amazing reading year ahead and I wish you all wonderful stories.

Lots of love,

CHITRA SOUNDAR



You can find out more about Chitra and her books (chapter books and picture books) plus recipes, puzzles, crafts and writing prompts on her website <https://www.chitrasoundar.com/>.

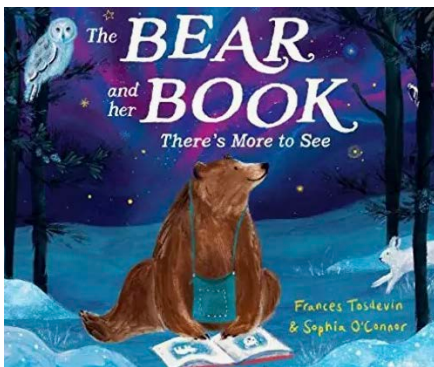
Spark! Book Awards

We are excited to be taking part in the Spark! School Book Awards. There are four shortlisted books in the Picture Fiction category and the children are the judges! We have been reading the books and watching some special author events. Voting will take place in May. Do ask your child all about it!



The Night Flower by Lara Hawthorne

The sun sets over the desert in Arizona and the night flower is about to bloom! This transforms the quiet desert for just a short few hours into a riot of colour and sound, as mammals and insects congregate from miles away to take part in this miracle of nature. From fruit bats to howling mice and reptilian monsters, explore the unusual creatures the desert has to offer. Non-fiction activities at the back of the book provide extra information.



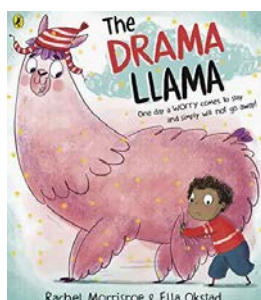
The Bear and her Book: There's More to See by Frances Tosdevin & Sophia O'Connor

The bear gave a sigh and she waved a paw, "I'm a curious bear, who must explore. The world is big, and there's more to see - And I'll find this bear who is not like me." With the call of the wild giving her itchy paws, the bear sets off on a new adventure with her book, fixing problems and making friends as she travels. But will she find the strange bear from her book - and if so, will it really be that different?



Why, Oh Why, Am I a Crocodile? by Alex Brooks & Hannah Worsley

As Crocodile strolls along wistfully, admiring beautiful creatures, she has one question: Why, oh why, am I a crocodile? Just as she's at her lowest, she encounters a blind monkey who introduces her to some newfound friends. Will Monkey be able to change Crocodile's view on the world and will she learn to love herself? A fun and fabulous, rhyming children's book exploring emotional issues such as low self-esteem and negative self-image.



The Drama Llama by Rachel Morrisroe & Ella Okstad

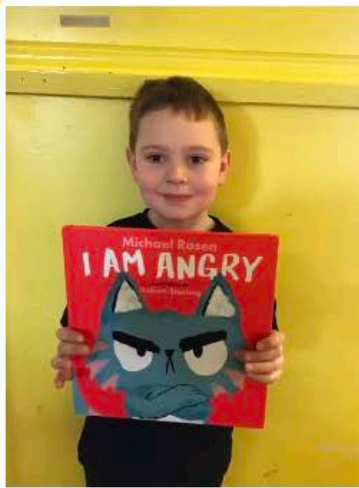
Alex Allen, like lots of children, sometimes worried about things - like dancing badly or getting an answer wrong in class. But unlike lots of children, every time he worries a real-life llama appears! And the more Alex worries, the bigger Llama grows... which starts getting him into all sorts of trouble! Will Alex ever learn how to control his worries and get rid of this pesky llama?

Our favourite class reads!

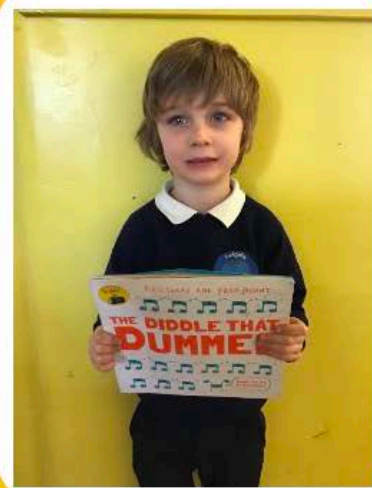
Take a look at our favourite book to listen to during our read aloud time.



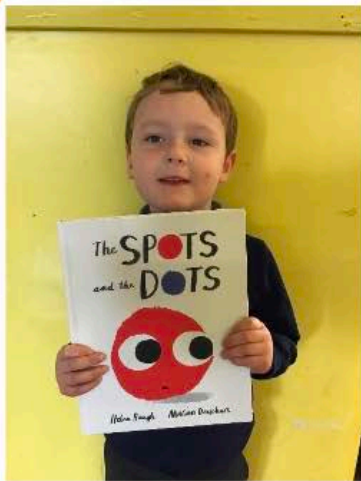
Class 1
On the Way Home
By Jill Murphy



Class 2
I Am Angry
By Michael Rosen and
Robert Starling



Class 3
The Diddle That Dummed
By Kes Gray and
Fred Blunt



Class 4
The Spots and the Dots
By Helen Baugh and
Marion Deuchars



Class 5
The Big Book of Beasts
By Yuval Zommer



Class 6
Jungle Jamboree
By Jo Empson

Our favourite class reads!

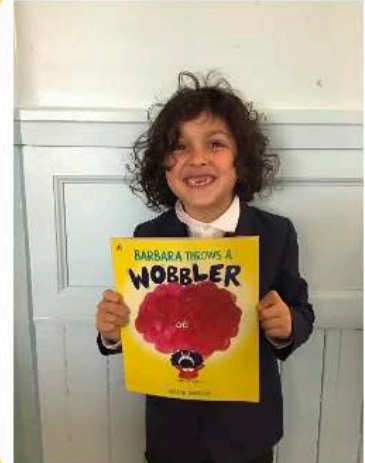
Take a look at our favourite book to listen to during our read aloud time.



Class 7
How to be Cooler than Cool
By Sean Taylor and
Jean Jullien



Class 8
I am Bat
By Morag Hood



Class 9
Barbara Throws a Wobler
By Nadia Shireen



Class 10
Why, Oh Why, Am I a Crocodile?
By Alex Brooks and
Hannah Worsley



Class 11
Alley Cat Rally
By Ricky Trickartt



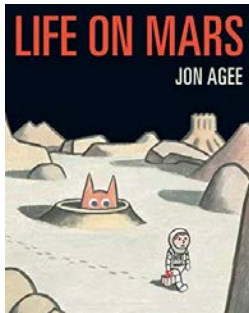
Class 12
The Extraordinary Gardener
By Sam Boughton

Picturebook Recommendations



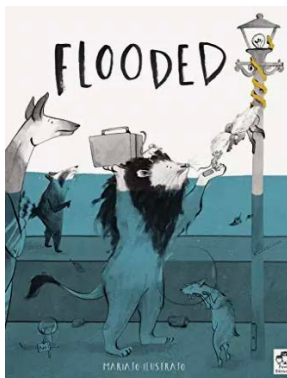
It Fell From the Sky by the Fan Brothers

It fell from the sky on a Thursday. None of the insects know where it came from, or what it is. Some say it's an egg. Others, a gumdrop. But whatever it is, it fell near Spider's house, so he's convinced it belongs to him. Spider builds a wonderful display so that insects from far and wide can come to look at the marvel. Spider has their best interests at heart. So what if he has to charge a small fee? So what if the lines are long? But as Spider raises the prices, insects stop showing up, much to Spider's bemusement. And then, all of a sudden, an unexpected disaster hits and the marvel disappears!! (Y1-Y2)



Life on Mars by Jon Agee

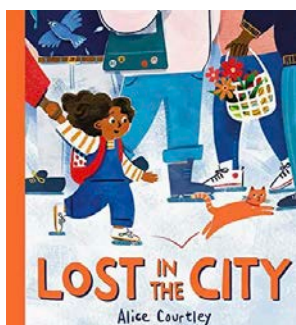
A daring young astronaut arrives on Mars, certain he will find life there. He has even brought a gift of chocolate cupcakes. But soon he realises he's made a mistake as the planet seems to be totally barren except for one little flower. However, as only the audience can see, if only he would turn around he would meet the friendly Martian who is always lurking shyly one step behind! As he settles in for the journey home, he cracks open his cupcakes-only to discover that someone has eaten them all! (F2-Y2)



Flooded by Mariano Ilustrajo

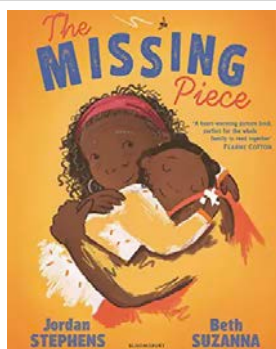
Flooded is the funny and beautifully illustrated tale of animals who live in a city that is ever so slowly flooding. The flood comes gradually at first.

All the animals ignore the obvious and go about their busy lives, disjointed from one another and preoccupied by their own problems. Eventually, the flood water reaches a height that they can no longer ignore and they have to work together to save their city. All the animals join together in a line and pull out the plug that is drowning the city. This is an exceptionally illustrated story that teaches a message not to let problems fester and with a little team work and community spirit, no problem is insurmountable. (Y1-Y2)



Lost in the City by Alice Courtley

Maya loves her small perfect family - it's just her, Granny and their little kitten Sammy in their perfect peaceful house. So when Granny announces they are going on a big adventure to the city, Maya is scared. She's too small for the city, surely? And what about Sammy? When they arrive amongst the towering grey buildings, Maya discovers that Sammy has followed them! And when he escapes, Maya must face her fears and look after him. A fun and adventurous story about getting out of your comfort zone and how the love and support of family can help you achieve almost anything. (F2-Y2)



The Missing Piece by Jordan Stephens and Beth Suzanna

Sunny loves jigsaw puzzles - the bigger the better. When she completes one, she gets a warm, happy honeybee buzz. One day, her Gran gives her a ONE-THOUSAND-PIECE puzzle. Piece after piece, all by herself, she puts together the picture, until . DISASTER! The final piece is missing. Sunny may be small, but she is very determined - so she sets off to find it.

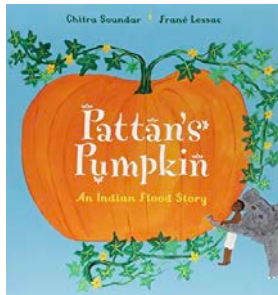
As the day whizzes by in a whirl of new places and friends, Sunny discovers that looking for something is every bit as fun as finding it, and that perhaps the missing piece was there all along (F2-Y2)

Picturebook Recommendations



The Girl Who Planted Trees by Caryl Hart & Anastasia Suvorova

When a little girl's grandad shows her a picture of what the great, grey mountain used to look like, she can't wait to plant a new forest and for the animals to return. Although the girl soon realises growing trees isn't easy, she doesn't give up. After many weeks, a little patch of green appears on the mountain and gives the whole village hope. Then, one day, a terrible storm comes tearing up the valley, destroying every single one of the girl's saplings. Has all her hard work been for nothing? Or has it inspired those around her to share her dream?. (Y1-Y2)



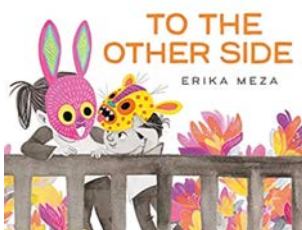
Pattan's Pumpkin by Chitra Soundar & Frane Lessac

Far from the city, but not quite in the countryside, lies a fairground. When night falls, and the fair is empty, something unexpected happens. Wild animals emerge from the trees, a brave raccoon pulls a lever, and the rollercoasters and rides explode back into bright, neon life. Now it's time for the woodland creatures to have some fun... A spectacular, surreal and cinematic wordless picture book about the secret life of animals. (F2-Y2)



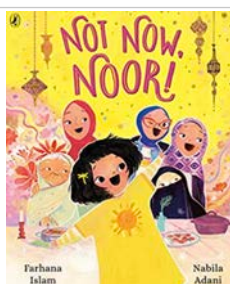
Two Places to Call Home: A Picture Book about Divorce by Phil Earle and Jess Rose

When a little girl's grandad shows her a picture of what the great, grey mountain used to look like, she can't wait to plant a new forest and for the animals to return. Although the girl soon realises growing trees isn't easy, she doesn't give up. After many weeks, a little patch of green appears on the mountain and gives the whole village hope. Then, one day, a terrible storm comes tearing up the valley, destroying every single one of the girl's saplings. Has all her hard work been for nothing? Or has it inspired those around her to share her dream? (F2-Y2)



To the Other Side by Erika Meza

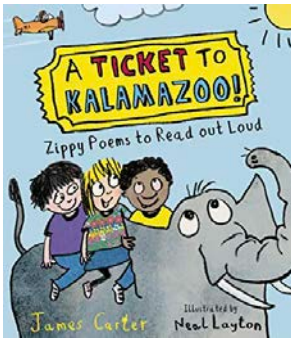
A powerful story exploring the journey of two young refugee children in search of safety. Perfect for opening up conversations about conflict and war, encouraging empathy and understanding. A young boy and his older sister have left home to play a game. To win, she tells him, they must travel across endless lands together and make it to the finish line. Children they meet along the way imagine what might be waiting for them across the border: A spotted dog? Ice cream! Or maybe a new school. But the journey is difficult, and the monsters are more real than they imagined. When it no longer feels like a game, the two children must still find a way to forge ahead, and reach the other side. I would recommend reading this yourself before sharing with your child as it is powerful imagery. (Y2+)



Not Now, Noor! by Farhana Islam & Nabila Adani

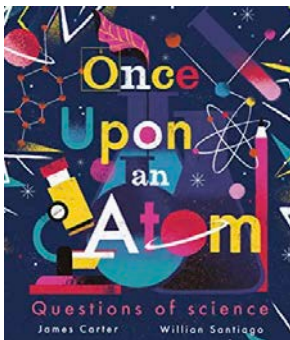
Noor loves her mum, and all the other hijabi women in her family, but wonders why do they wear headscarves? Is it so they can hide snacks for later? Or because they're a super spy and hiding their secret identity? Full of curiosity, Noor sets out to find her answer, but her family are all busy and have no time to answer this important question. Just as Noor is ready to give up on her quest, her Ammu arrives home and knows just the thing to say.

Poetry Recommendations



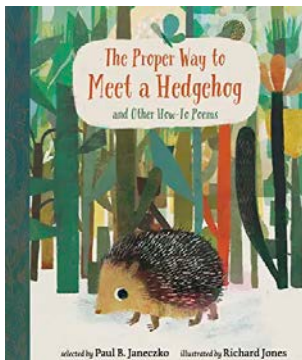
A Ticket to Kalamazoo by James Carter and Neil Layton

All aboard for Kalamazoo! ticket will let you... ride on an elephant, stay in a bug hotel, travel by train boat and plane, mingle with bears and minibeasts - and even meet an alien! All this and more in 19 zippy poems to read aloud. (F2-Y2)



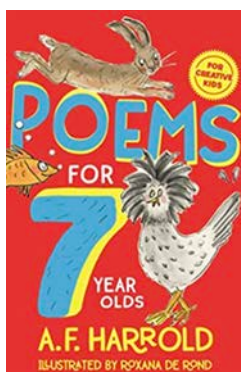
Once Upon An Atom by James Carter and William Santiago

From BIG BANGS to tiny atoms SCIENCE tells us why things happen. Explore the whys, whats and hows of science and answer all the really BIG questions that curious kids are keen to ask. This playful rhyming book bubbles and bursts with all things scientific, from technology and space to experiments, inventions and the natural world. (Y2+)



The Proper Way to Meet a Hedgehog by Paul Janeczko & Richard Jones

A collection of "how-to" poems on all sorts of subjects and from all around the world! The poets featured are from around the world and through history, bringing together classic writers like Christina Rossetti and modern stars such as Kwame Alexander. And their poems pose all sorts of questions. Some are lyrical (How do you build a poem?), others seemingly practical (How do you mix a pancake?), many more wry (How do you pay attention?). (Y1+)



Poems for 7 Year Olds edited by A.F. Harrold

A collection of "how-to" poems on all sorts of subjects and from all around the world! The poets featured are from around the world and through history, bringing together classic writers like Christina Rossetti and modern stars such as Kwame Alexander. And their poems pose all sorts of questions. Some are lyrical (How do you build a poem?), others seemingly practical (How do you mix a pancake?), many more wry (How do you pay attention?). (Y2+)

Questions of science
James Carter Willian Santiago

Reading For Pleasure

Why is Reading for Pleasure important?

Children who read for pleasure have a wider vocabulary and general knowledge, an enriched imagination and more developed narrative writing (Senechal et al., 2018). Reading for Pleasure is more important than either wealth or social class as an indicator of success at school. It can increase empathy, improve relationships with others and improve wellbeing throughout life (The Reading Agency 2015).

Book Chat



The Open University

Chatting with your child as you read together develops their language, comprehension and pleasure. We recommend watching this [short video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sKFdKs_2wJY) about book chat from the superb reading team at The Open University https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sKFdKs_2wJY

Supporting Readers at Home

Open University research suggests there are three important ways to support readers and a love of reading.

Read Aloud

Reading aloud to your children shows them reading is a pleasure, not a chore. Older children can read to younger ones too.

Family Reading Time

Making time to read alongside one another helps develop children's reading stamina and interest. Let them choose what to read and relax together.

Book Chat

Book Chats encourage readers. Invite them to make connections and share their views. Join in with your thoughts too!

I wonder if...why... what...who...

Children who read, and are supported as readers, develop strong reading skills and do better at school.

For more ideas see the OU website: <https://www.researchrichpedagogies.org>

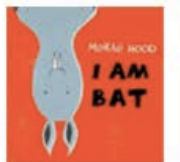


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Book Chat

Developing a Love of Reading



Book Chat encourages readers. Open questions, comments and prompts get the Book Chat going. Invite your child to make connections and share views.

Join in with your thoughts too!

Book Chat develops language, comprehension and pleasure.



For more information visit:
bit.ly/RfPHome

Graphic Novel Recommendations

Emerging research shows that comics and graphic novels are motivating, support emerging readers and enrich the skills of accomplished readers. Find out more about the benefits of reading comics and graphic novels here:

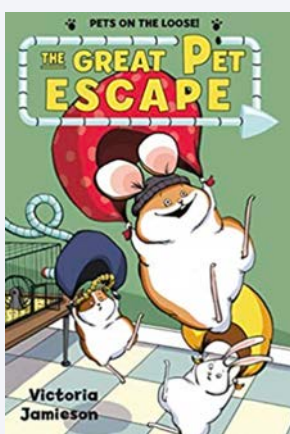
<https://teach.com/resources/why-comics/>



Press Start! Game On, Super Rabbit Boy!

by Thomas Flintham

Sunny's favourite game is Super Rabbit Boy and he loves to pit his skills against King Viking who hates fun and happiness and wants to steal Singing Dog and bring sadness to Animal Town FOR EVER! Can Sunny help Super Rabbit Boy get to Level 6 and rescue Singing Dog and restore joy to Animal Town? Only if he defeats the Robot Army, dodges the Robo-Crabs and Lakes of Lava before battling King Viking himself! (Y2)



The Great Pet Escape

by Victoria Jamieson

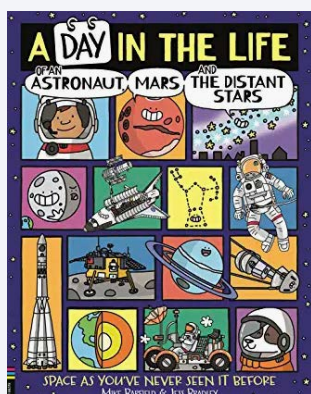
The class pets at Daisy P. Flugelhorn Elementary School want OUT and GW, the deceptively cute hamster in the second-grade classroom, is just the guy to lead the way. But when he finally escapes and goes to find his former partners in crime, Barry and Biter, he finds that they actually LIKE being class pets. Impossible! Just as GW gets Barry and Biter to agree to leave with him, a mouse named Harriet and her many mouse minions get in their way. What follows is class-pet chaos guaranteed to make readers giggle. (Y2+)



Minecraft Volume 1

by Sfe R. Monster and Sarah Graley

Tyler is your everyday kid whose life is changed when his family has to move from the town he's always known. Thankfully, Tyler has a strong group of friends forever linked in the world of Minecraft! Tyler, along with his friends Evan, Candace, Tobi, and Grace have been going on countless adventures together across the expanses of the Overworld and are in need of a new challenge. They decide to go on the Ultimate Quest - to travel to the End and face off against the ender dragon! (Y2+)

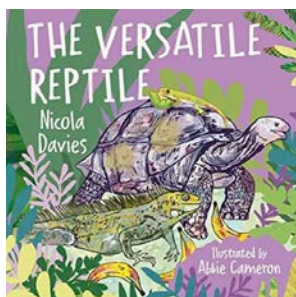


A Day in the Life of An Astronaut, Mars and the Distant Stars

by Mike Barfield and Jess Bradley

Discover the poisonous clouds of Venus, the rings of Saturn and the raging storm on Jupiter. Venture inside nebulae, black holes, supernovas and far-flung galaxies. Find out about the historic figures who pioneered space travel, the animals who ventured to the stars so humans could follow and the ground-breaking technology that took them there. Each entry uses a colourful comic-strip style to delight and inform. (Y2+)

Information Book Recommendations



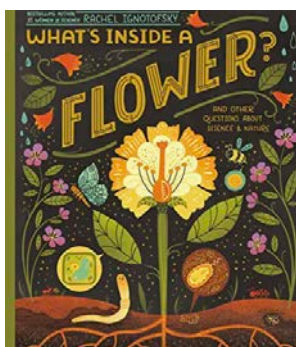
[The Versatile Reptile](#) by Nicola Davies and Abbie Cameron

Martha LOVES drawing maps. She creates maps of everything—even her thoughts and dreams! Let Martha be your guide as she welcomes you to her world. Starting in outer space, we zoom in page by page, to our planet, Martha's community, and beyond to her dreams of a future where ANYTHING is possible. Full of quirky details and fun non-fiction labels that children will love poring over—they will discover cool new facts with every reading. Each map is imbued with an irresistible sense of excitement about the world and optimism for the future. (Y1, Y2)



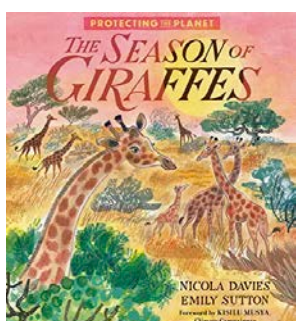
[Meet the Weather](#) by Caryl Hart and Bethan Woolvin

WHOOOOSH! We're off on an exciting adventure in our hot-air balloon to say hello to all the different kinds of weather that make up our world. Join in with the rhymes and get ready to meet everything from whooshing wind to bright rainbows and shimmering sunshine. Little ones will be swept away on an unforgettable journey in this striking, action-packed picture book. Combining STEM learning with a rhyming twist, it's perfect for all little meteorologists! (F2+)



[What's Inside a Flower? And Other Questions About Science and Nature](#) by Rachel Ignotofsky

Budding backyard scientists can start exploring their world with this stunning introduction to these flowery show-stoppers—from seeds to roots to blooms. Learning how flowers grow gives kids beautiful building blocks of science and inquiry. In the launch of a new nonfiction picture book series, Rachel Ignotofsky's distinctive art style and engaging, informative text clearly answers any questions a child (or adult) could have about flowers. (Y1, Y2)



[The Season of Giraffes](#) by Nicola Davies & Emily Sutton

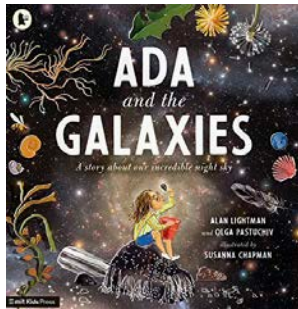
Once, this season of rains was the season of giraffes... Nicola Davies writes in collaboration with conservationist Kisilu Musya to explain how one of the world's best-loved animals has dealt with the challenges of climate change. Giraffes were once a part of daily life in Niger – but after severe droughts one year, when the rains eventually return, the giraffes are nowhere to be seen. However, The Season of Giraffes ultimately has a hopeful, celebratory story to share ... and an important point to make about how human beings can change for the better (Y1, Y2)

Information Books Recommendations



5 Minute Nature Stories by Gabby Dawny and Mona K

Discover the interconnectedness of nature with this non-fiction story collection. Written by science writer and poet Gabby Dawny, each read-aloud story celebrates everyday miracles in a woodland. The stories are told in rhyming verse and followed by an information page with clear diagrams to explain a variety of scientific processes. This would make a beautiful gift for young nature enthusiasts. (Y2+)



Ada and the Galaxies by Alan Lightman, Olga Pastuchiv and Susanna Chapman

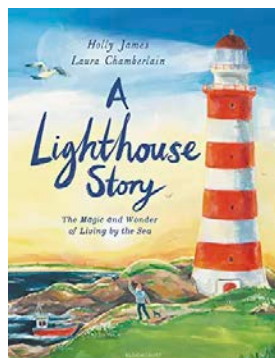
There is so much for Ada to do while visiting her grandparents on an island in Maine, but no amount of beachcombing and kayaking during the day can take the place of looking at the bright and beautiful stars at night. She can hardly wait for the sun to set, but will a thick fog spoil her stargazing plans? (F2-Y2)



Mildred the Gallery Cat

By Gono Ganz

A colourfully illustrated, witty story about a wannabe-artist cat living in an art gallery and its quest to find inspiration and become a fully-fledged artist, inspired by Tate's own resident gallery cat Mildred, this bold debut is sure to delight art lovers big and small. Join Mildred as she explores art that makes her happy, hungry, and even introspective. With so many inspirations, can she find a way to become an artist herself? (F2-Y2)



A Lighthouse Story by Holly James and Laura Chamberlain

Why were lighthouses first created? How does the light travel so far? What happens when a storm hits? Join Eva and her Grandad and discover all about the inner workings of a lighthouse, what a lighthouse keeper does all day and thrilling stories of daring sea rescues. (Y1,Y2+)

Chapter Book Recommendations

Sheep School

by Ross Montgomery

William the lamb just can't stand still. His feet are always tapping, ready to dance, and he loves nothing more than bursting into song. But his talents aren't always appreciated at Sheep School. Cast out of the flock, he wanders miserably away only to witness the rest of the sheep being captured by the Big Bad Wolf. Can William find a way to put his artistic skills to use to save the day? (5+, 7+)



The Little Lost Kitten

by Holly Webb

Lucy and her dad are still feeling sad about the loss of their lovely cat Patch. So when a little lost kitten turns up in their garden, Lucy doesn't want to tell her dad in case it upsets him. But she grows to love the little kitten and he doesn't seem to have a home, so Lucy is really upset when he disappears and finally she has to tell her dad the truth. Will her dad be able to help Lucy find the little kitten and can they offer him a new home? (5+, 7+)



A Sea of Stories

by Sylvia Bishop & Paddy Donnelly

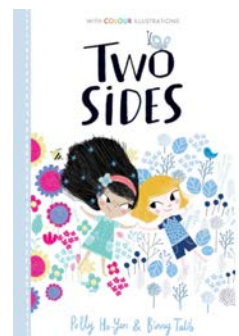
Whenever Roo visits Grandpa, she loves exploring the seaside cove near his cottage. But on her latest stay, Grandpa explains that he can't go down there any more – the path is too steep and overgrown for him to manage. Instead Grandpa tells Roo the stories behind the many objects that fill his house. All of Grandpa's stories feature the cove and Roo realises that now, even though they're so close to the sea, Grandpa is cut off from it. Is there anything she can do to bring Grandpa to the place he loves the most? (5+)



Two Sides

by Polly Ho-Yen & Binny Talib

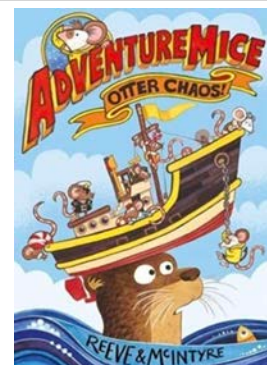
Lula and Lenka are best friends and total opposites but together they make the perfect pair. Until The Day that Everything Goes Wrong ... and suddenly the girls are no longer friends. As the days go by Lula makes a new friend who talks almost as much as she does, while Lenka just plays on her own. In spite of feeling lonely, neither one is prepared to listen or forgive ... or to say sorry. Will it be this way forever? (5+)



Adventure Mice: Otter Chaos

by Sarah McIntyre and Philip Reeve

Meet Pedro. He's tiny, but while looking for a BIG adventure he is rescued by the ADVENTUREMICE – a brave, determined team who keep all the Mouse Islands safe from harm. Pedro's dream is to show he's heroic enough to join their ranks. And he soon gets the chance to prove himself, when a big scary otter starts causing trouble in the waters nearby... (5+, 7+)



Chapter Book Recommendations

Call the Puffins

by Cath Howe and Ella Okstad

Welcome to the island of Egg where a group of young puffins are training to join a search and rescue team. Meet Muffin who is following in her dad's footsteps and anxious not to let him down. Meet Tiny whose eyesight is a challenge which won't stop him for long.. Along with their fellow recruits, the puffins must work together to help all the birds on the island. (5+, 7+)



The Wildsmith

by Liz Flanagan & Joe Todd-Stanton

When war threatens her beloved city, Rowan and her mother must flee to the Dark Forest, meeting Grandpa and his white wolf Arto for the first time. Though she misses her father, Rowan makes new friends - including a trio of powerful witches. When she rescues a baby dragon from poachers, she discovers the secret of her own identity: Rowan is a wildsmith! Fostering a whole clutch of dragons, the summer speeds by. But when danger threatens, Rowan and her grandpa must call on all their friends for help. (7+)



The Unicorns of Silver Street

by Robin Birch & Jobe Anderson

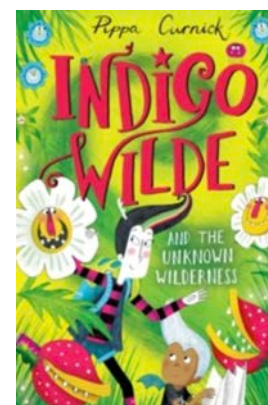
Aisha and Jayden are not fans of being outdoors. Aisha would rather be home playing on her tablet or messaging her friends. But when they are asked to join the Secret Beast Club, a centuries-old secret group that protects mythological creatures, Aisha and Jayden discover that real magic could be closer than they think. Inspired by the real life story of Pablo Fanque - the first Black circus owner this exciting new series is not to be missed! (7+)



Indigo Wilde and the Unknown Wilderness

by Pippa Curnick

A moon bear arrives to tell Indigo Wilde that her parents were studying it in its habitat in the Unknown Wilderness but now they've vanished. Indigo and her brother Quigley head off to rescue their parents. On their journey they come across many magical and extraordinary new creatures, but their parents are nowhere to be seen. Fortunately, there are other people studying the wildlife in the Unknown Wilderness. But do the people Indigo and Quigley meet really have the best intentions? Or are they capturing the magical creatures for their own gain? (7+)



Space Blasters: Suzie and the Moon Bugs

by Katie Zang & Kevin Sang

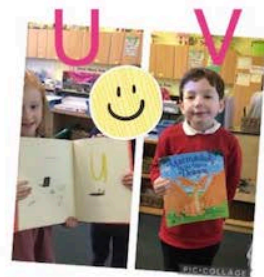
Suzie Wen loves gadgets and inventing things - but her inventions don't always turn out how she expects! And after a massive invention mishap, Suzie is now living on board the space ship from her favourite TV show - exploring new planets and saving the universe! STEM themes are woven throughout, including real mind-bending space facts and notes from Suzie's inventors' notebook. (7+)



Class 5 would like to present their fabulous collection of Authors Through the Alphabet!



Authors through the alphabet



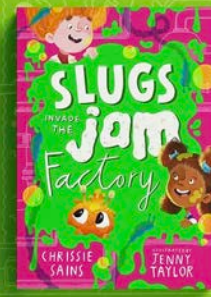
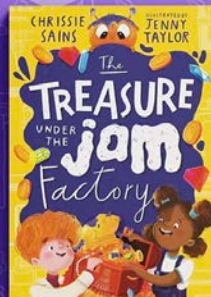
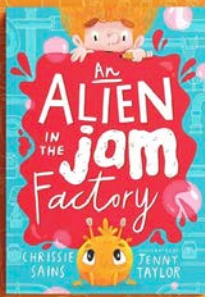
Could you name an author for each letter of the alphabet? Perhaps you could take on this challenge during the Easter holidays. Please send us a list or a photo if you do! read@lydgate-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Y2 Virtual Author Visit



In the weekly Y2 book assembly, the children have been listening to Mr Bromage read aloud 'An Alien in the Jam Factory' by Chrissie Sains. Y2 were thrilled to meet Chrissie earlier this month, after she kindly offered to do a virtual Question and Answer session. The children thought of some brilliant questions and found out lots of interesting information about Chrissie and her books. We were excited to hear that the third book in the series (Slugs Invade the Jam Factory) is out next month!

There are lots of fun jam-related activities on Chrissie's website <https://www.chrissiesains.com/> Do check it out!



My Brilliant Bookshelf!



Thanks to Myles in Class 9 for sending in this fabulous photo of some of his favourite books. What a great selection! We love how much you love reading, Myles!

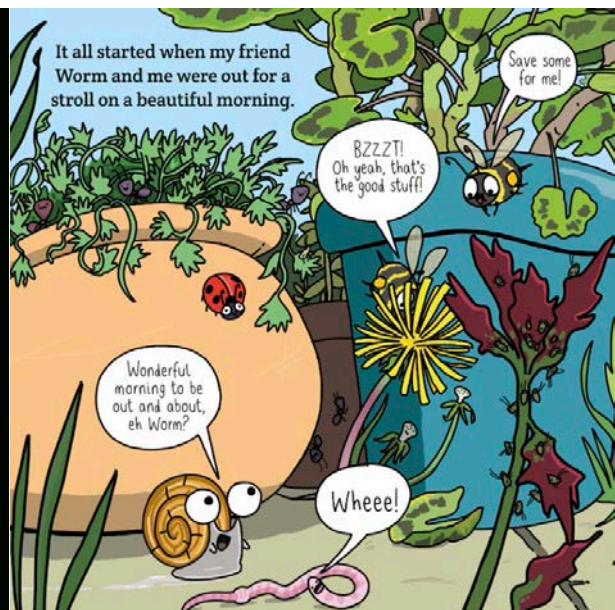
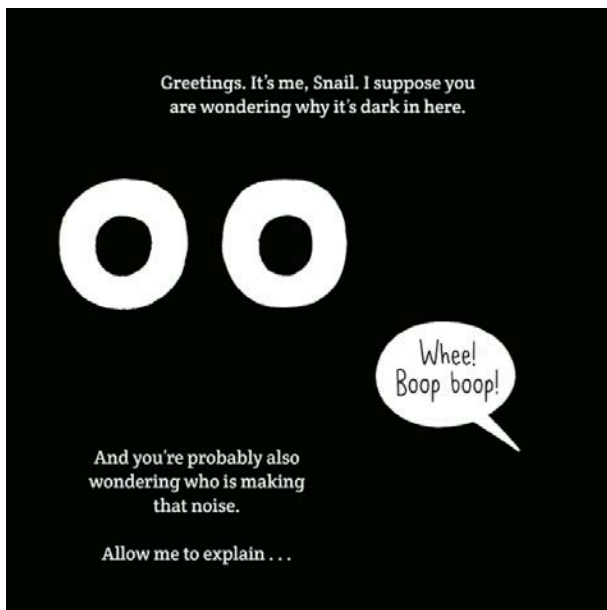
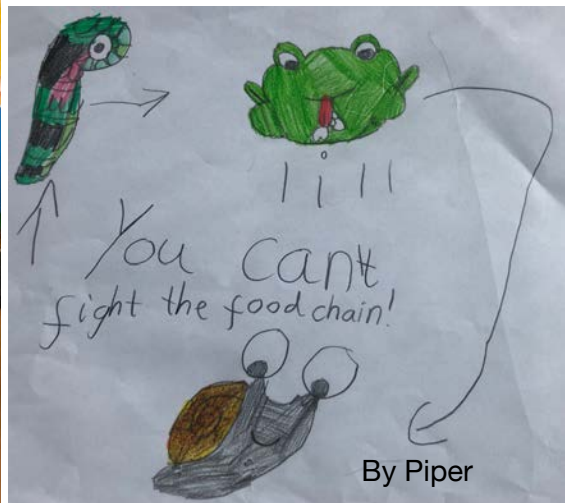
Sharing book recommendations is a great way of encouraging others to read for pleasure.

We would love to see some of your favourite books, whether that is on a bookshelf or displayed in a different way. Please send photos to read@lydgate-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Class 9 Book Review

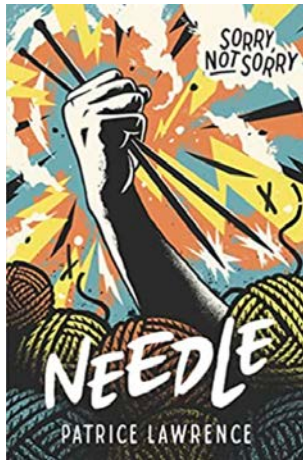


Class 9 have been working on a book review of Matty Long's *Who Ate All The Bugs?* In this fab, non-fiction treat we follow Snail, the bold adventurer who is determined to find out who is eating all the bugs in the garden and bring them to justice! This is indeed the true and gory story of the food chain! We loved that the book has colourful, comic-style illustrations and is packed full of hilarious jokes and puns. The book review will be in the kids' Reviews section of the Books Up North website very soon. <https://booksupnorth.com/> Thanks to Oxford University Press for our copies of the book!



A book recommendation for the grown ups...

Research shows that children who see their parents/carers taking pleasure in reading are more likely to choose to read, and enjoy reading, themselves.

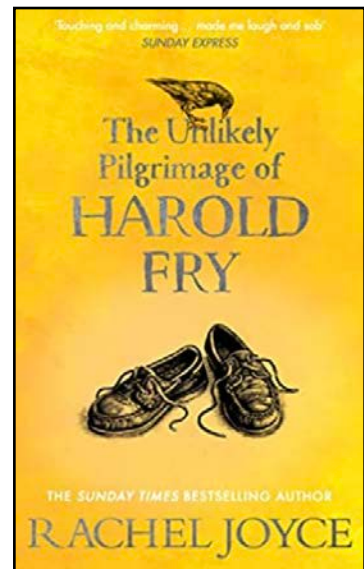
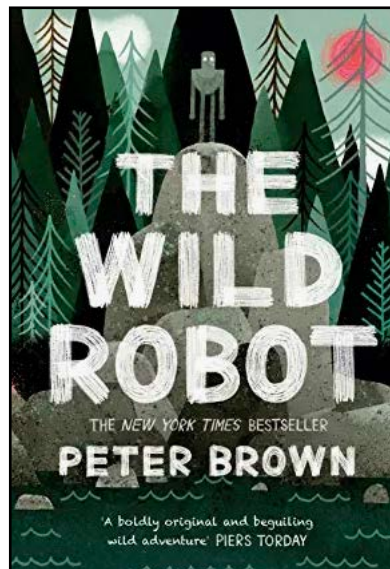
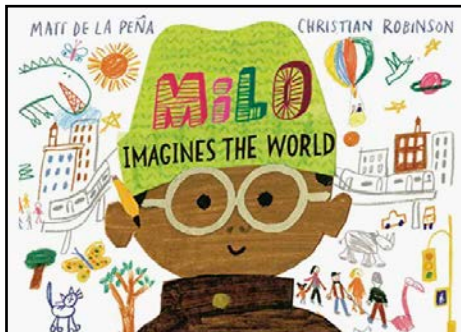


Award-winning author Patrice Lawrence explores the harsh reality of the criminal justice system for young people.

Charlene is a demon knitter. It's the only thing she enjoys and the only thing she believes she's really good at. So when her foster mum's son destroys her latest creation, Charlene loses it and stabs him in the hand with her knitting needle. It damages a nerve and she gets sucked into the criminal justice system for assault. Charlene's not sorry and she's never apologised to anyone in her life. But people keep telling her that if she says sorry, they'll go easier on her. Can she bring herself to say it and not mean it when her freedom's at stake?

Lydgate Infant School Staff Book Club

It's not only the children in school that love reading! Staff have been reading and talking about books as part of our newly established staff book club. Below are the books that we have read so far. Have you read any of these? Do let us know your thoughts if you have!



News and Upcoming Bookish Events

Parent & Carer Book Swap Shelf

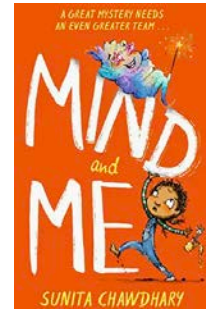
Have you visited it yet?

We know that many grown-ups love to read too, so we have created a book swap shelf in the school main entrance for the use of parents and carers. If you read something amazing, please do leave a brief recommendation!



Year 2 Author-Illustrator visit

Year 2 are looking forward to welcoming author-illustrator Sunita Chawdhry into school for a special assembly on March 31st. Sunita will be telling us about her debut chapter book and giving us some top drawing tips! Many thanks to Rhyme and Reason for organising this event.



Broomhill Library



<https://www.broomhill-library.org.uk/>

Opening times

Monday 10am-5pm
Tuesday 10am-1pm
Wednesday 10am-5pm
Thursday - closed
Friday 10am-5pm
Saturday 10am-1pm
Sunday - closed

Book Donations

Any book donations (good quality please) would be greatly appreciated by the library staff. The donated books are sold to raise funds for the library.

Rhyme and Reason - our local independent bookshop



Opening times

Monday - Saturday 9am-5pm
Sunday 11am - 3pm

Rhyme & Reason Bookshop
681 Ecclesall Rd
Sheffield
S11 8TG
0114 2661950



We hope that some of the books suggested in this newsletter might spark your interest. If not, don't worry. There are so many more wonderful books out there to discover. Here are some websites to browse for other book ideas:

- BookTrust

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/our-recommendations/>

- LoveReading4Kids

<https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/>

- EmpathyLab

<https://www.empathylab.uk/2021-read-for-empathy-collections>

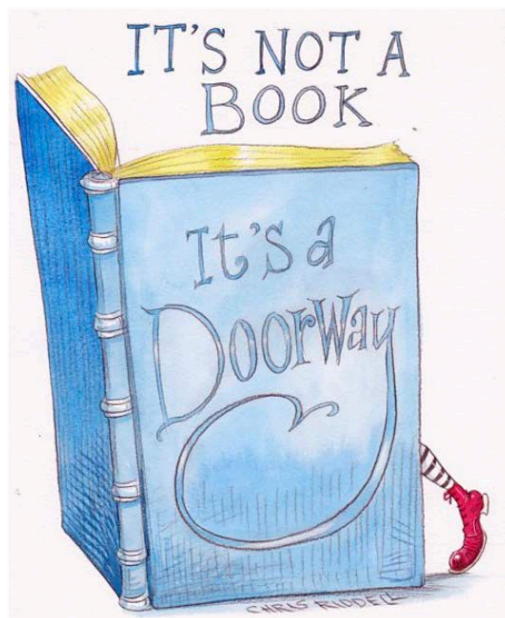


Illustration by Chris Riddell

If you or your child read any of the books mentioned in the newsletter, please let us know what you thought of them. You could even send us a photo of your child reading the book!

Does your child have any great books that they would like to recommend to other children in our school? We would love to receive an email with details of the book or even a photo of your child enjoying it.

Please use this email address to contact us:

read@lydgate-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Happy reading,

Mrs Varley & Miss Whitehead