



Lydgate Infant School

Reading Newsletter

Spring 2024



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 poet...

Kate Wakeling



Hello!

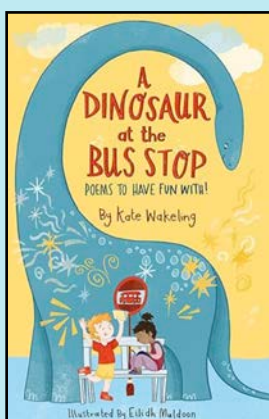
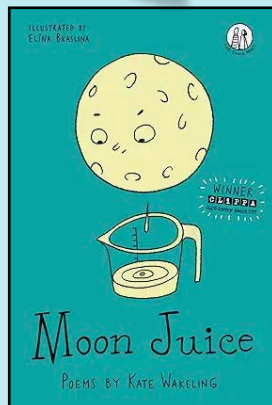
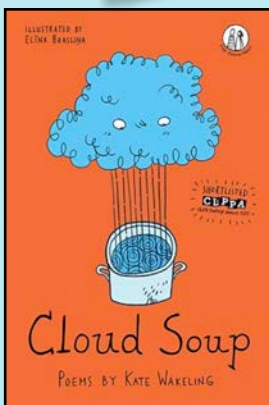
Thank you so much for welcoming me to your wonderfully friendly school earlier in March. It was a complete delight to spend two days sharing, discussing and creating poetry together and I left with my brains absolutely jam-packed with ideas for new poems. (This is always a very good sign.)

I especially enjoyed our trip aboard the poetry steam train and all your amazing joining-in for *Probably the Fastest Poem in the World*. You also solved my mini-beast riddles at lightning speed! I wanted to pass on too that I understand Mr Long is very pleased so many of you enjoyed hearing about his jelly-eating habits and teeth-cleaning choices. (Please do remember though never to play the drums with your nose or eat noodles with your toes.)

It was a real treat to spend time at a school so alive with imagination (the magical powers that some of the older children granted themselves in their workshops were truly spectacular) and I hope you all continue to enjoy exploring poetry - reading it, writing it, dancing to it - all through your time at the school - and beyond!

With warmest wishes to you all,

Kate



Our huge thanks to LISA for funding the event. Turn over to read more about Kate's recent visit!

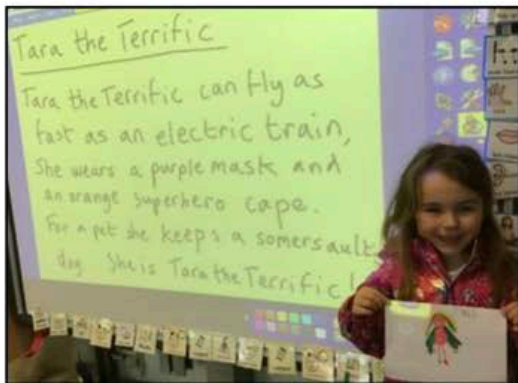
About Kate Wakeling

Kate Wakeling grew up in Yorkshire and Birmingham. She writes for children and adults. Her work has been commended in the Forward Prizes for Poetry, awarded the CLIPPA prize for children's poetry and nominated for the Carnegie Medal. Kate studied music at Cambridge University and has written scripts for storytelling concerts for the Aurora Orchestra and others.

You can listen to Kate performing some of her poems on the CLPE website <https://clpe.org.uk/search?search=Kate+Wakeling>

Poetry Workshops with Kate Wakeling

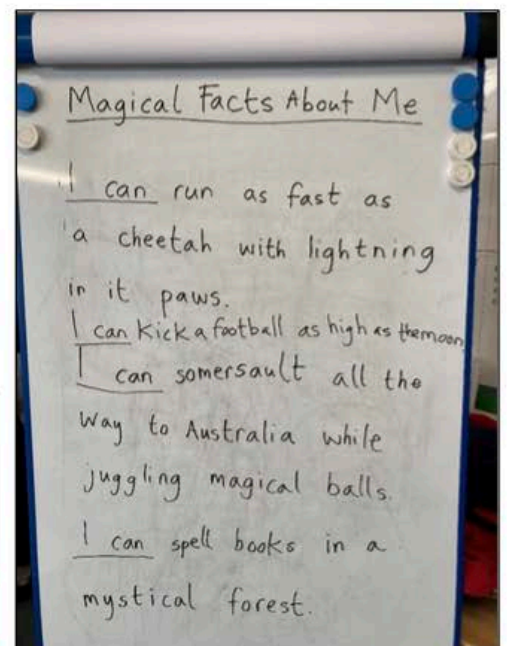
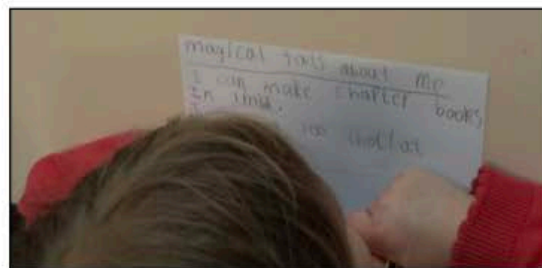
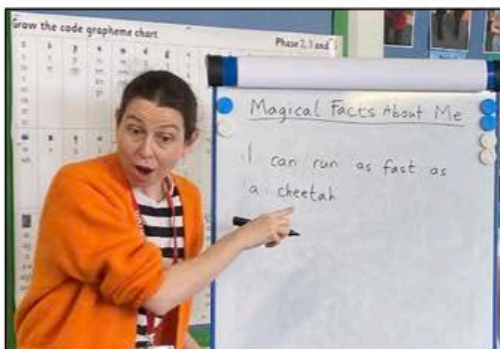
In Reception, we loved listening to Kate's poems and writing our own class poem together!



In Year 1, we created our own mixed up animal based on the poem 'My New Pet'. We shared our mixed up animals with the class.



In Year 2, Kate inspired us to write our own poems entitled: Magical Facts About Me



POEMS BY KATE WAKELING

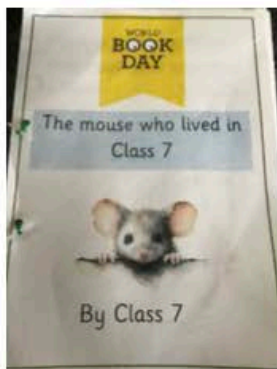
World Book Day 2024

WORLD
BOOK
DAY
7 MARCH 2024

We brought in our favourite books from home. We enjoyed sharing them with our friends!



Class 7 wrote their own story! Every child added a page to the story and we now have a wonderful new book for read aloud time. This inspired us to write our own books to take home!
We also made puppets to retell our favourite book.



Class 11 designed their own front covers!



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

Supporting Readers at Home

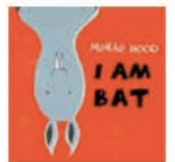
Open University research suggests there are three important ways to support readers and a love of reading.



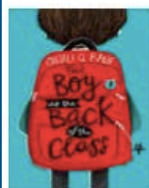
Reading aloud to your children shows them reading is a pleasure, not a chore. Older children can read to younger ones too.



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



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.



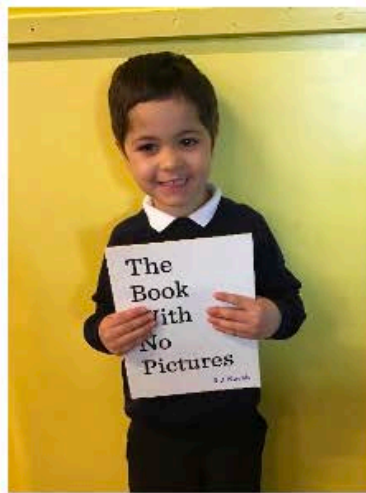
For more information visit:
bit.ly/RfPHome

Our favourite class reads!

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



Class 1
Spinderella
By Julia Donaldson and
Sebastien Braun



Class 2
The Book With No Pictures
By B.J. Novak



Class 3
There's a Bear on my Chair
By Ross Collins



Class 4
I say Oh You say No
By John Kane



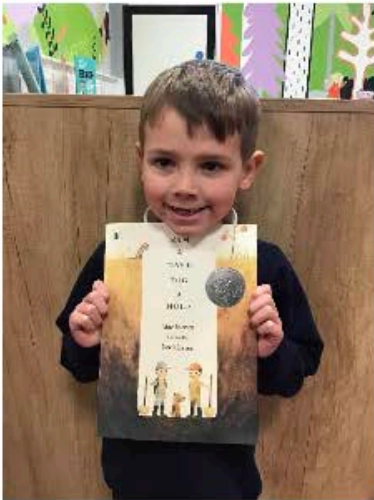
Class 5
The BFG
By Roald Dahl



Class 6
Knuffle Bunny
By Mo Willems

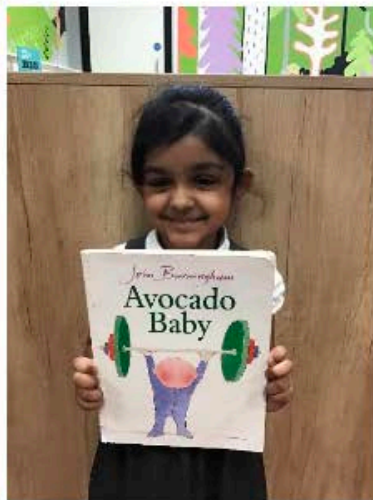
Our favourite class reads!

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



Class 7

Sam and Dave Dig a Hole
By Mac Barnett and
Jon Klassen



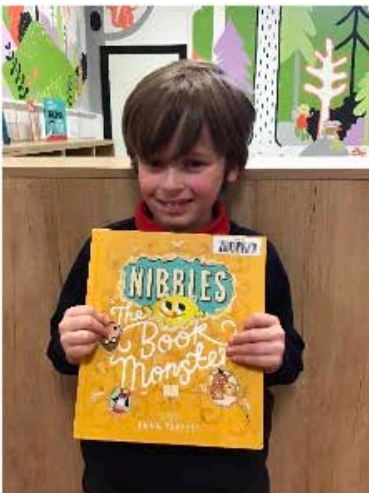
Class 8

Avocado Baby
By John Burningham



Class 9

That Is Not a Good Idea!
By Mo Willems



Class 10

Nibbles The Book Monster
By Emma Yarlett



Class 11

Dick the Delightful Duck
By Kaye Umansky and
Ben Mantle

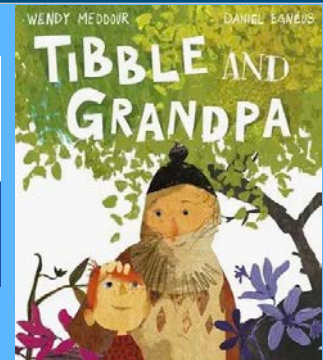


Class 12

My Encyclopedia of Very
Important Things

Parent Workshop: Reading for Pleasure

On 7th March, a Reading for Pleasure (RfP) parent workshop was held in school. Mrs Varley and Miss Whitehead began by outlining the work we have been undertaking in school linked to our two-year involvement in the Open University's Reading Schools Programme (all geared towards inspiring a love of reading in our pupils). Professor Teresa Cremin and Kelly Ashley from the Open University then led a virtual workshop where they discussed why RfP is important for our children, and shared really useful tips on how to engage and sustain children in reading for pleasure at home. Professor Cremin also brought us together by reading aloud the poignant picturebook, *Tibble and Grandpa* by Wendy Meddour and Daniel Egneus. There was not a dry eye in the house! Parents were also able to browse a wide variety of high quality picture books, early chapter books, information books, poetry, graphic novels, comics and children's newspapers. Many thanks to all the parents and carers who attended either in person or online.



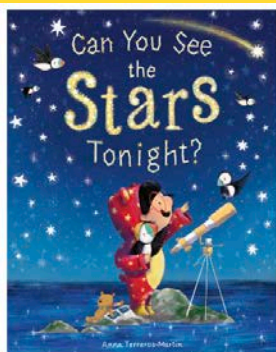
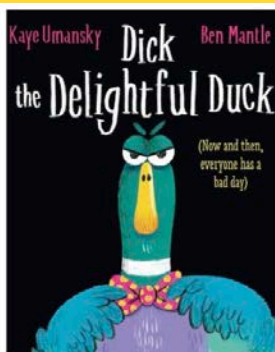
Spotlight on a Reading for Pleasure advocate: Mrs Roper!

Mrs Roper provides cover sessions for teachers when they are on their allocated Preparation, Planning & Assessment time. She has sought out and gathered together (in her travelling RfP basket) a variety of engaging picture books, information books and graphic novels for the children to choose and read during those sessions. The children love browsing the texts and reading them with their friends. The National Geographic books are currently the most popular read. We love this RfP idea, Mrs Roper!



Spark Book Awards and Virtual Author Visits

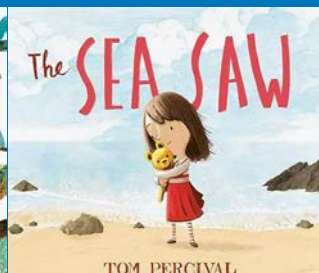
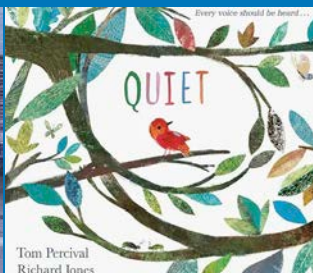
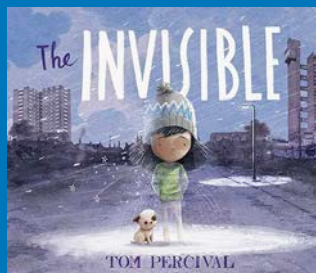
We are excited to be taking part in the Spark! Book Awards again this year. Mrs Varley was lucky enough to be on the shortlisting panel! The whole school has been reading the books and we have been watching live virtual author visits with the four shortlisted picture fiction creators in the Early Readers category. In May, the children will be voting for their favourite. The winner will be announced in a live show in July! Which one is your favourite?!



Dick the Delightful Duck by Kaye Umansky & Ben Mantle
Can You See the Stars Tonight? by Anna Terreros-Martin
Out of the Blue by Robert Tregoning & Stef Murphy
Mr Mornington's Favourite Things by Karen George

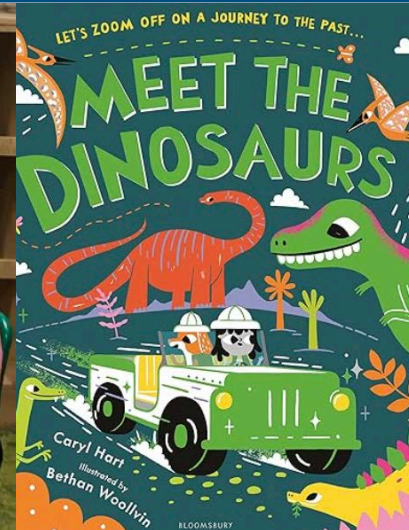
Meeting one of our picture fiction creator heroes!

On Saturday 16th March, Miss Wood, Mrs Varley and Miss Whitehead headed down to Nottingham for the Open University/UKLA Reading for Pleasure Spring Conference. They heard from some great speakers and picked up lots of ideas for enhancing our Reading for Pleasure offer even further at LIS. The keynote speaker was award-winning author and illustrator, Tom Percival. Most excitingly, we got a sneaky peak at Tom's newest book (The Bridges) that hasn't even been published yet! If you aren't aware of his books, there are a few of our favourites below. Mrs Varley and Miss Whitehead also had the honour of leading a teacher workshop with Professor Teresa Cremin. What an incredible day!



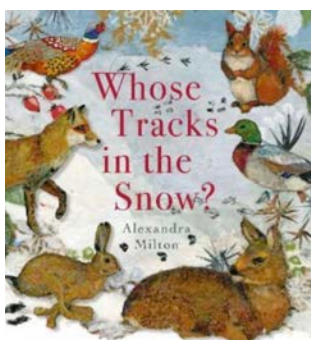
Bethan Woollvin visits LIS

Last year, award winning author-illustrator Bethan Woollvin came to LIS to paint a stunning mural on the walls of our library. Earlier this term, she popped back in to see the library following the completion of its refurbishment. Our school council (24 children) had lots of questions to ask her, and they were treated to a read aloud of Bethan's latest book, *Meet the Dinosaurs* (written by Caryl Hart and illustrated by Bethan)!

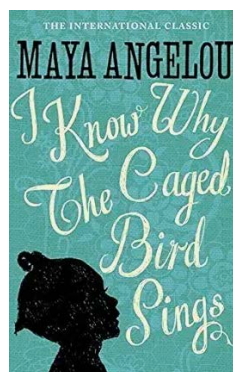


Lydgate Infant School Staff Book Club

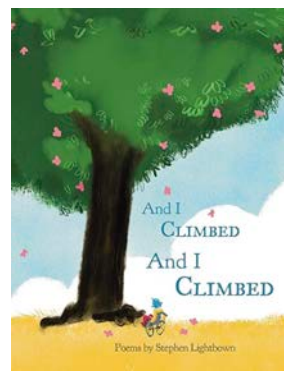
It's not only the children in school that love reading! Staff have been reading and talking about books as part of our staff book club. Below are the books that we have read this term. Have you read any of these? Do let us know your thoughts if you have!



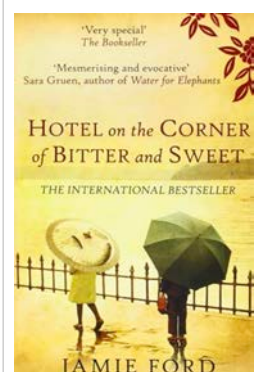
Whose Tracks in the Snow?
by Alexandra Milton
(Ages 3+)



I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings
by Maya Angelou
(Adult autobiography)

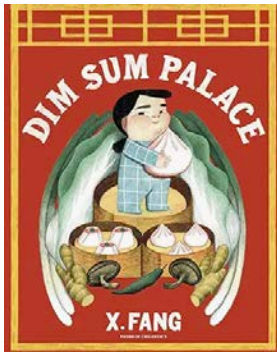


And I Climbed And I Climbed
Poems by Stephen Lightbrown & illustrated by Shih-Yu Lin
(Ages 9+)
Highly recommended!!



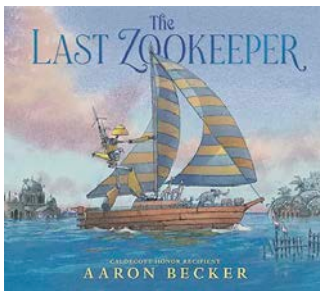
Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet
by Jamie Ford
(Adult fiction)

Picturebook Recommendations



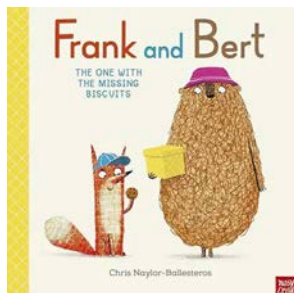
[Dim Sum Palace](#) by X.Fang

Liddy is too excited to sleep! Tomorrow she's going to the Dim Sum Palace with her family, so when a tempting smell wafts into her bedroom, she has no choice but to follow it... to a real palace! There are dumplings, baos, buns and more tasty treats than one girl can possibly eat. But before Liddy can take a bite, she slips and falls into a bowl of dumpling filling. The chefs are so busy making dim sum, they don't notice they've prepared a most unusual dish for the Empress - a Liddy dumpling! (F2-Y2)



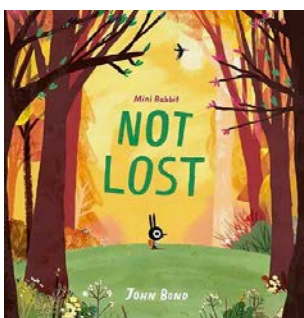
[The Last Zookeeper](#) by Aaron Becker

A master of the wordless form imagines a futuristic Noah's Ark in a luminous sci-fi parable for our changing world. Earth has flooded. The only signs of humankind are the waterlogged structures they left behind. Peeking out from the deluge are the remnants of a zoo, home to rare and endangered animals, survivors of long neglect. Tender-hearted NOA is a construction robot who's found new purpose as the caretaker of the zoo's beleaguered inhabitants. Bracing for the next storm, NOA builds an ark from the wreckage in search of new land, only to discover something even more profound. (Y2+)



[Frank and Bert: The One with the Missing Biscuits](#) by Chris Naylor-Ballesteros

Frank and Bert are off for a picnic in the countryside. And Bert has brought a delicious surprise! But when he falls asleep, Frank can't resist taking a peek . . . WOW! Bert has made Frank's favourite biscuits! Surely, he won't mind if Frank eats one . . . or two . . . or three . . .(F2-Y1)



[Mini Rabbit Not Lost](#) by John Bond

MiniRabbit is making a cake.
 Cake, cake, cake!
 But he's run out of berries. No berries, no cake.
 No cake? No way!
 So off he goes to look for some...
 He's not cold, not too small.
 And no, no, definitely NOT LOST...
 Or is he?



[A Swift Return](#) by Fiona Davies & Howard Gray, and Arabic text by Maysoon AbuBlan

Aria has her head in the clouds. Yusuf keeps his feet on the ground. But when they work together to save a bird who has lost her way, something magical happens. When Swift loses her way on her epic migration. Aria and Yusuf come to her rescue and are inspired to think big about looking after the sky above their city. Bilingual text. (F2-Y2)

Picturebook Recommendations



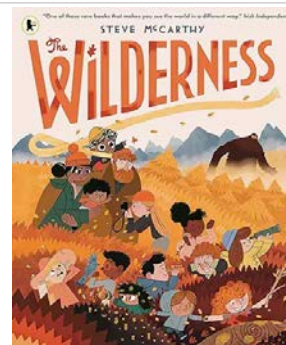
Lizzie and the Cloud by Eric Fan and Terry Fan

It's a little out of fashion to buy a pet cloud, but Lizzy doesn't mind. She's not looking for a big one or a fancy one, just one that's right for her. And she finds it in Milo. She loves her new pet and includes him in all her fun activities. But what happens when Milo gets too big for Lizzy to handle? What about when he storms across the skies and Lizzy can do nothing about it? Or when he's uncomfortable in Lizzy's small bedroom? This is the story all about the power of letting go of what we love when the time is right. (F2-Y2)



The Boy Who Loves to Lick the Wind by Fiona Carswell and You Rong

The boy next door loves to lick the wind. "You should try it," says his mum. "All the best winds are at the beach." And so begins an amazing afternoon by the sea for two boys. One doesn't always speak with words and likes throwing stones - the other likes to collect shells and make sandcastles. But the sea works its magic and by the end of the day the boys discover they both love to lick the wind - together. The story conjures how it feels to be autistic, and how it feels to be friends with someone who has autism. (F2-Y2)



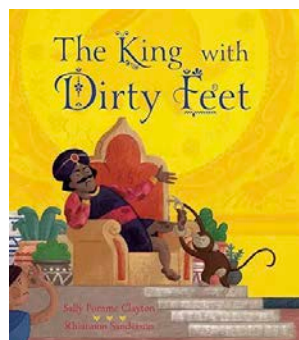
The Wilderness by Steve McCarthy

The Vasylenko family are adventurers. They all love the wet and the wild, the thrill of exploring the outside world. All that is ... except Oktober. But tomorrow, Oktober has to join his family on a trek into the slimy, grimy and climby wild, where he sees only danger and worry and fears a creature called "The Wilderness"! Failing to keep his wits about him could be dangerous though - it may even get him a bit ... lost. But perhaps getting lost is just what Oktober needs to find himself. (F2-Y2+)



April's Garden by Isla McGuckin and Catalina Echeverri

April and her mother have been housed in temporary accommodation. Promised a brighter future by her mother, April finds her life there to be filled with things that are old, broken and impersonal. She longs for her own things and for some beauty in her life but experiences only frustration and disappointment until one day she plants some seeds... (F2-Y2)

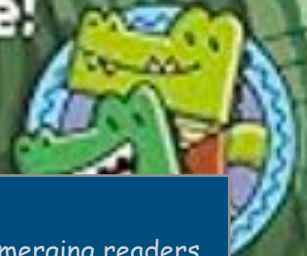


The King with Dirty Feet by Sally Pomme Clayton and Rhiannon Sanderson

There once was a king who hated baths so much that he never washed. He was a very smelly king! The king is finally persuaded to bathe in the river but no matter how clean the rest of him is, his feet stay dirty. The people sweep away all the dirt in the land - but the air is choked with dust. An enormous tapestry is sewn to cover the whole kingdom but now nothing will grow on the land... What is to be done? At last one old man steps forward with leather and a pair of scissors ... and to the king's amazement he creates - the first ever pair of shoes! (F2-Y2)

An InvestiGators Adventure!

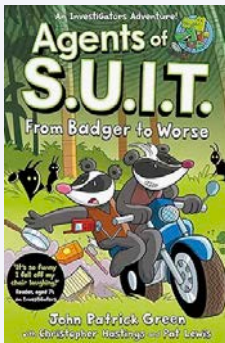
Agents of



Graphic Novel Recommendations

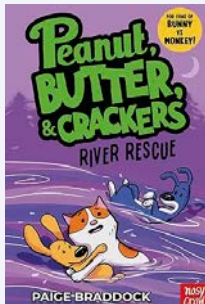
Emerging research shows that comics and graphic novels are motivating, support emerging readers and enrich the skills of accomplished readers. Find out more about the benefits of reading comics and graphic novels here:

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



Agents of S.U.I.T 2: From Badger to Worse by John Patrick Green

Bongo and Marsha, the super-spy Badgers, are on the case . . . and way over-budget! When S.U.I.T. realises just how much money the Badgers waste with their gadgets, spy vehicles and custom toys, they're sent to Bora Bora to investigate a case the old-fashioned way. The bees – that's 'bee-ee-ee' like the insect – who run the resort are hiding something under the tropical sands, and Marsha and Bongo are just the bumbling agents to crack this pineapple-flavoured case wide open. It's time for the B-Team to show why they're so un-B lievably B-loved! (Y2+)



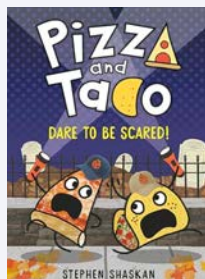
Peanut, Butter and Crackers: River Rescue by Paige Braddock

Peanut, Butter and Crackers are off to the great outdoors in a camper van. But when indoor cat Butter discovers that their human forgot to pack a litter tray, he's sure there must be one in the forest – how else do cats go to the toilet?! Together with puppy Peanut, he sets out to find one ... only to get lost. And things go from bad to worse when Butter and Peanut fall into a river! Can Crackers pull off a river rescue and help his two friends get back home? (Y1-Y2)



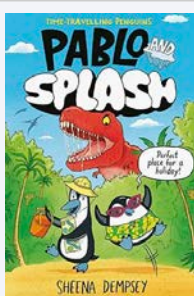
Kitten Ninja by Marcie Colleen, Colleen A.F. Venable & Ellen Stubbings

Before Cat Ninja grew up and became Metro City's greatest defender, he was tiny, adorable Kitten Ninja and he battled much tinier foes. (Hey, everybody has to start somewhere, right?) In this spin-off prequel to the enormously popular Epic Original Cat Ninja series, our favourite feline hero takes on everything a kitten-size ninja has to battle on the way to his heroic destiny: a sun spot that won't stay put, an irresistible ball of yarn, and—every cat's arch enemy—snow! (F2-Y1)



Pizza and Taco: Dare to be Scared by Stephen Shaskan

Pizza and Taco aren't afraid! To prove it, they dare each other to be scared. Dark closets and scary movies are a piece of cake...kind of. They're ready for the ultimate test... Ghost Pepper hunting! Pizza and Taco are sure they won't get scared...they made a list, after all! (Y1-Y2+)



Pablo and Splash by Sheena Dempsey

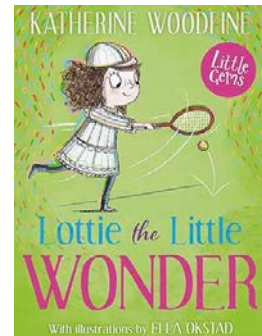
Antarctic penguins Pablo and Splash are polar opposites and besties for life. Pablo is a home-bird and a careful planner. Splash is easily bored and hungry for adventure. Sick to her flippers of the harsh, freezing weather, Splash persuades Pablo to go on a holiday with her. But far from the luxury beach destination that Splash has in mind, the pair end up in a time-travel machine that takes them back to the age of the dinosaurs! Suddenly their icy homeland doesn't seem so dull. (Y1-Y2+)

It's I for chair
Read on InvestiGators

Chapter Book Recommendations

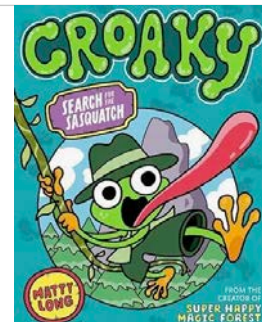
Lottie the Little Wonder: The Inspiring Story of Tennis Superstar Lottie Dodd (Little Gems) Katherine Woodfine and Ella Okstad

"Girls can't play tennis as well as boys? What a lot of nonsense!" Lottie Dod is determined to show that girls can be just as good as sports as boys. She runs and jumps and leaps after the ball – playing tennis makes Lottie feel wonderful. After beating her brothers, she eventually goes on to reach the finals of the most important tennis competition of them all – Wimbledon! (Y1-Y2)



Croaky by Matty Long

Croaky Hopper isn't like other little frogs. He dreams of hopping across crocodile-infested waters, or being chased by a giant boulder, just like the famous TV explorer Tennessee Toad. But where can an energetic amphibian like Croaky find real-life adventure? When his Aunt Lilly signs him up for the Woggle Scouts, scout leader, Winston the Puffin, takes the scouts on a dangerous expedition to search for a legendary sasquatch. (7+)



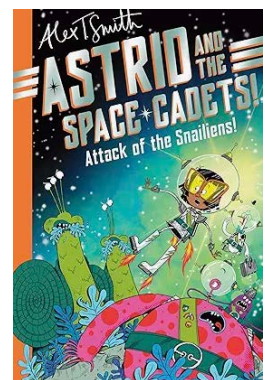
Big Sky Mountain: The Sky Eagles by Alex Milway

When Rosa wakes one morning to find Grandma Nan missing, she must use all of her survival skills to uncover her grandma's whereabouts. With the help of the mountain community, Rosa's investigation leads her to the very summit of Big Sky Mountain, where a family of eagles are facing huge problems of their own. Through helping the eagles, Rosa realises she really is at home on Big Sky Mountain. (5+, 7+)



Astrid and the Space Cadets: Attack of the Snailiens by Alex T. Smith

Astrid Atomic, a six year old human person, goes to bed every night but unlike many other six year olds she doesn't stay there. The minute the lights are off and the coast is clear the Space Cadet siren goes off, her uniform goes on, and 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 - WHOOSH! - she blasts off on board the spaceship Stardust! Along with her best pals Beryl, Professor Quackers and Zoink, Astrid is given her mission from The Chief - to clean up the Milky Way! But when a nearby alien is in trouble and with giant snailiens around, things aren't likely to go to plan (5+, 7+)



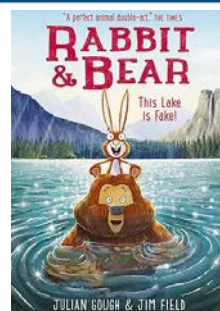
Adventuremice: Mice on the Moon by Philip Reeve & Sarah McIntyre

The heroic Adventuremice have been summoned by an inventor-mouse! Millie's Uncle Bernie has built a spaceship and he wants the brave and clever Adventuremice to fly it. BOOM! Pedro and his friends blast into outer space, where they become the first mice on the moon. Or so they think... (5+, 7+)



Chapter Book Recommendations

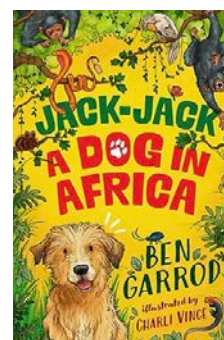
Rabbit and Bear: This Lake is Fake by Julian Gough & Jim Field
Rabbit is fed up. Spring has come, but it's not as perfect as he thought it would be. Bear thinks that if they work hard, they can make it better. But Rabbit has a plan. He sets off across the lake in search of a perfect world. Crossing the water together, Rabbit and Bear learn many things, and discover that their perfect world may be closer at hand than Rabbit had thought. (5+, 7+)



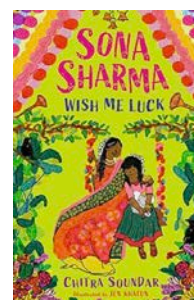
Murray and Bun by Adam Stower
Murray is a cat. Murray loves snoozing, fluffy blankets, and peace and quiet. Bun is a bun. Sometimes Murray's enchanted cat flap leads to the garden, but mostly it leads to adventure! And when Murray and Bun travel through the cat flap and find themselves in a land of Vikings, they are given a VERY IMPORTANT MISSION: to travel to Troll Island and rescue Eggrik the Viking... if he hasn't already been gobbled up by the trolls, that is. (7+)



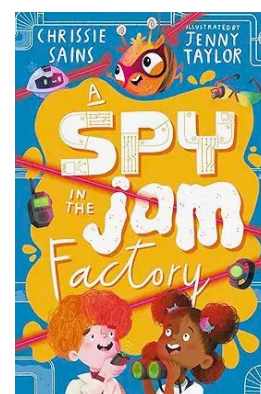
Jack-Jack: A Dog in Africa by Ben Garrod
Jack-Jack, the world's coolest dog, looks after orphaned chimpanzees in Africa; he's about to embark on his biggest adventure ever!
I spend my days playing with baby chimps. When I meet Ben, suddenly, I have more baths than ever (previously none). I wave goodbye to my pet fleas, and prepare to fly thousands of miles. I've never been on a lead or in a car, so what will an aeroplane be like? (7+)



Sona Sharma: Wish Me Luck! by Chitra Soundar & Jen Khan
Sona Sharma lives in India with her busy family, where she learns about the ups and downs of family, friendship and life. Sona and her friends are excited to learn their beloved teacher, Miss Rao, is getting married - but then they panic that she might leave their school for ever after her wedding! They try all kinds of tactics, like wishing on a peacock feather and even starting a petition to keep Miss Rao. But at the wedding, there is a surprise in store! (7+)



A Spy in the Jam Factory by Chrissie Sains and Jenny Taylor
The fourth and final book in the series. Scooter and his friends decide it's time to launch Operation: Make Fizzbee Look Good to reassure the villagers that Fizzbee isn't dangerous. Unfortunately, someone else is getting to work on Operation: Make Fizzbee Look Bad. Agent Fleur De Vious, the one and only spy in the Alien Intelligence Agency, believes Earth should be alien-free. After she receives a request from Fizzbee's family to visit her, she decides enough is enough - she's going to find evidence of Fizzbee's wrongdoings and have her evicted once and for all. Will Scooter be able to stop her in time? (7+)



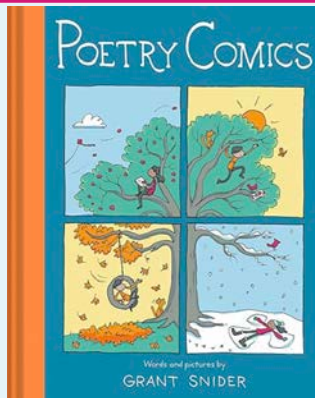
If I Were a Tree

Imagine how
high I could

high-fiving
clouds

singing w
birds

Poetry Recommendations



Poetry Comics by Grant Snider

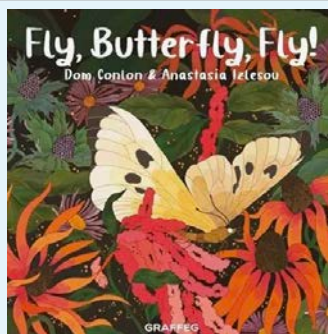
These poems for kids are brightly illustrated in graphic novel-style panels, adding a delightful new element to approaching poetry. Perfect for visually oriented readers and young people who already love comics, cartoons, and graphic novels. From the cloud-gazing hours of early spring to the lost bicycles of late autumn, Poetry Comics will take you climbing, floating, swimming, and tumbling through all the year's ups, downs, and in-betweens. (Y1-Y2+)



The Spider and the Fly

by Mary Howitt and Tony Diterlizzi

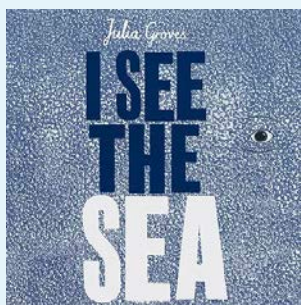
'Will you walk into my parlour,' said the Spider to the Fly...' is one of the most recognized and quoted first lines in all of English verse. But do you have any idea how the age-old tale of the Spider and the Fly ends? This enduring verse from Mary Howitt dates back to the nineteenth century, but its warning - to beware the wiles of flattery - remains today as relevant as ever. Discov (F2-Y2+)



Fly, Butterfly, Fly

by Dom Conlon and Anastasia Izlesou

From the single beat of stain-glass wings, Butterfly emerges from his cocoon to explore a many-patterned world of climates, snakes, birds and frogs. Another beautiful text in the Wild Wanderers series. (Y2+)



I See the Sea by Julia Groves

Plunge into this exploration of the ocean, with poetic text and beautiful illustrations by Julia Groves. A die-cut hole encourages children to look carefully through the book and adds to the sense of discovery. (F2-Y2)

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owls...

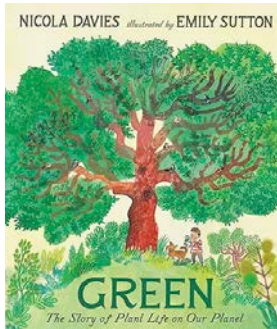
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Information Book Recommendations



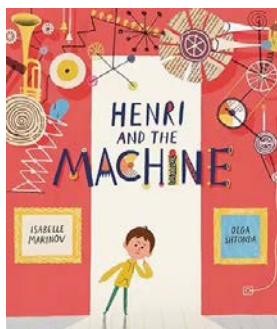
Martha Maps it Out in Time by Leigh Hodgkinson

Step back in time with Martha's amazing maps, packed with cool facts and fun details. She meets dinosaurs, woolly mammoths, and ancient sea creatures as she travels all the way back to the beginning of time . . . and forwards to some of the fantastical things the future might bring! Martha learns on her time-travelling adventure that time never stops - and so she resolves to enjoy each little bit of it. (F2-Y2)



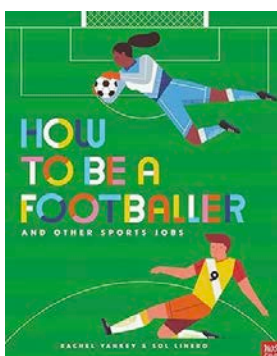
Green: The Story of Plant Life on Our Planet by Nicola Davies & Emily Sutton

This tree doesn't look like it's doing very much: it just stands there in the sunlight, big and GREEN. But this tree is busy... Starting with the secret workings of a tree, this book transports readers billions of years into the past; back to the moment when plant life first appeared on our planet. Covering its evolution, the steady emergence of fossil fuels and the extraordinary communities of plants around the world today, Nicola Davies and Emily Sutton combine essential biology with a powerful message - a call to protect the most precious colour on Earth ... GREEN. (Y2+)



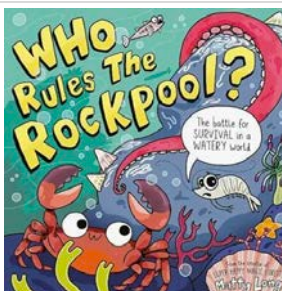
Henri and the Machine by Isabelle Marinov

What's the point of art? This is the question Henri asks himself when on a trip to the local art gallery. Who wants pictures of old soup cans or melting watches? But when he encounters a painting with the most perfect blue, it creates a beautiful feeling. It's blueberries, oceans, summer skies and butterflies all rolled into one. And then he wanders into a room with a chair and a sign that reads "Is this really a chair?" Henri decides to test it out, unleashing an explosion of creativity! Finally Henri understands what art is all about...(F2-Y2)



How to be a Footballer by Rachel Yankey & Sol Linero

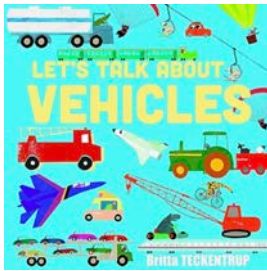
Learn all about football and the incredible sports jobs you could do, from training to become a player or team coach to running the game as a referee, scouting young players for talent or even working inside the stadium. This book will inspire any girl or boy who wants to kick start their interest in playing football. (Y2+)



Who Rules the Rockpool? by Matty Long

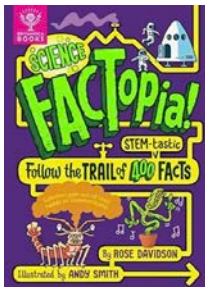
Crab is a big crab in a small rockpool and he RULES THE ROCKPOOL . . . or so he thinks. When a big wave sweeps him and Prawn into an even larger pool, he has to reevaluate his place in the hierarchy. If Crab doesn't RULE THE ROCKPOOL, who does? Readers can feast on a diet of facts about the ecosystems of a rockpool and laugh out loud at the same time. (Y2+)

Information Book Recommendations



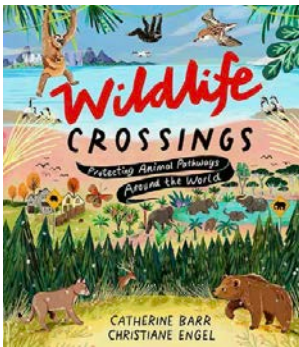
Let's Talk About Vehicles by Britta Teckentrup

Rolling, flying, noisy, bouncy, fast, floating and gigantic vehicles! This bright and bold book is bursting with transport of every shape and size for every environment. So let's talk about vehicles with this entertaining, and informative book, perfect for sharing. (F2)



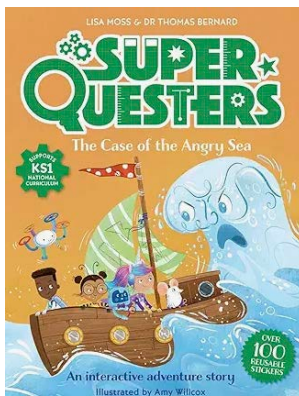
Science Factopia by Rose Davidson & Andy Smith

Follow an ingenious trail of 400 facts about space, animals, rocks and crystals, virtual reality, the body, coding, 3D printing, engineering, plants, fungi, maths and more, where each fact is connected to the next in entertaining and unexpected ways. Lavishly illustrated with witty illustrations that combine artwork and photography, and verified by the experts at Encyclopaedia Britannica. (Y2+)



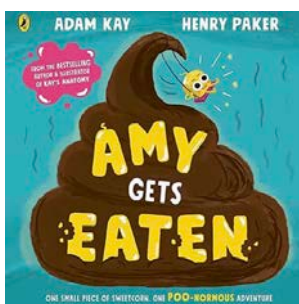
Wildlife Crossings by Catherine Barr & Christiane Engel

Our planet is criss-crossed by a network of ancient pathways, reflecting the journeys of millions of animal species in search of food, water, safety and mates. But human development is blocking these vital 'ribbons of life'. Animal habitats are shrinking into isolated and unconnected patches of nature. Track the journeys of seven amazing animals. Discover why they are in trouble, follow their journeys and find out how scientists and campaigners across the world are creating 'wildlife corridors' to keep animals safe and on the move. (Y2+)



Super Questers: The Case of the Angry Sea by Lisa Moss, Thomas Bernard & Amy Willcox

When Lilli, Bea and Leo need inspiration for how to clean up their local river, they journey to Questland to research ideas for a machine to clear up the rubbish. Upon their arrival, the trio discover the sea is full of oil and litter. The SuperQuesters set out to clean up the waters of Questland and rescue the sealife. Along the way, Lilli, Bea and Leo - and the reader - must use their STEM skills to save otters from the oil spill, rescue a narwhal and stop the pirate robots. (Y1-Y2)

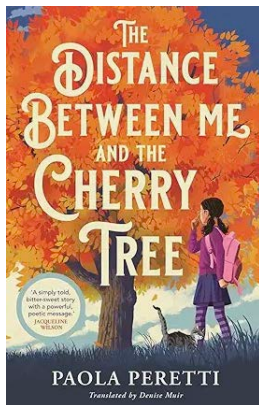


Amy Gets Eaten by Adam Kay & Henry Paker

This is the hilarious (and admittedly a tiny bit gross) tale of Amy, a small piece of sweetcorn who is eaten by Noah, a medium-sized boy. The story follows Amy on her funny, goopy and anatomically-accurate adventure through the human body as she discovers lots of facts about digestion. (Y1-Y2)

Children's book recommendation for the grown ups...

Children's fiction is not just for children! The best children's fiction 'helps us refind things we may not even know we have lost' (Katherine Rundell). Here are some incredible books that you might like to try.



The Distance Between Me and the Cherry Tree by Paola Perreti & Denise Moor

Nominated for the CILIP CARNEGIE MEDAL 2019 and the IBBY Honour List 2020. A translated text (Italian) for all ages about a young girl losing her sight, inspired by the author's own life story.

Mafalda is a nine-year-old girl who knows one thing: some time in the next six months her sight will fail completely. Can Mafalda find a way through a seemingly dark future and still go to school, play football and look after her beloved cat? With the help of her family, and her friends, Mafalda needs to discover the things that will be important to her when her sight has failed.



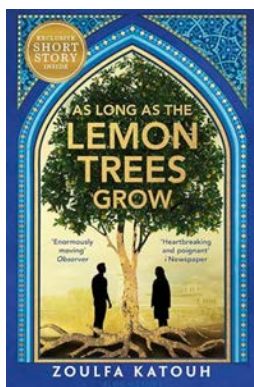
Where the Heart Should Be by Sarah Crossan

Ireland, 1846. Nell is working as a scullery maid in the kitchen of the Big House. Once she loved school and books and dreaming, but now she is scrubbing, peeling, washing and sweeping for Sir Philip Wicken, the man who owns her home, her family's land, their crops, everything. Upstairs in the Big House is Johnny Browning, newly arrived from England: the young nephew who will one day inherit it all. And as famine and disease run rampant all around them, a spark of life and hope catches light when Nell and Johnny find each other. This haunting, lyrical, powerful verse novel will blow you away. Another superb novel from the Carnegie Medal-winning author.



Where the River Takes Us by Lesley Parr

A thrilling adventure about the power of friendship, set in a Welsh valley in the 1970s, Shortlisted for the 2024 Tir na n-Og Awards and the UKLA Book Awards 2024. Jason and big brother, Richie are trying to make ends meet so they can stay together. They've got supportive neighbours and some great friends, but there's always the threat that someone will think they can't manage on their own since their parents died. It's February 1974 and working-class families have been hit hard by the three-day week. The reduced power usage means less work, and less money. Richie is doing his best, but to make enough money, he's been doing favours for the wrong people. An urban legend about a beast in the valleys catches Jason's eye in the local paper.. A reward is offered for proof of The Beast's existence. Jason's friends are desperate to help him, and they convince him that this is the answer to his and Richie's money problems. And so a quest begins...



As Long As the Lemon Trees Grow by Zoulfa Katouh

A year ago, before the revolution, Salama watched her brother marry her best friend, Layla, and wondered when her own love story might begin. Now she works at the hospital - helping those she can, closing the eyes of those she can't. Layla and her unborn baby are all Salama has left.

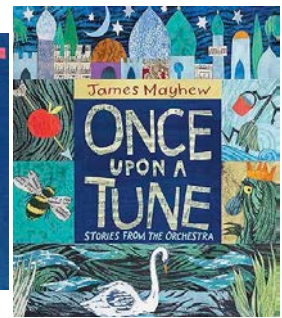
Until she crosses paths with Kenan, the boy with the vivid green eyes, who wants to stay and risk his life for everything Syria could be.. Shortlisted for the UKLA Book Awards 2024.

Other Bookish News

Once Upon a Tune: Royal Scottish National Orchestra

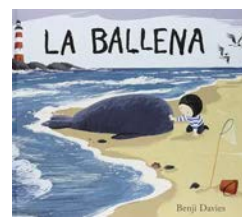
The RSNO's Once Upon A Tune is based upon the book of the same name by award-winning illustrator, author and presenter James Mayhew. Featuring popular tales from across the globe that inspired some of the greatest pieces of classical music, James brings these stories to life in a concert film featuring illustration and storytelling, accompanied by Scotland's National Orchestra. A free recording can be watched here:

<https://www.rsno.org.uk/project/once-upon-a-tune/>



Multilingual book donations

We are trying to increase the stock of multilingual books in our school library and would welcome good quality donations. Please drop them in at the office - thank you!



Fundraising for new books - how you could help!

When buying books online at Love Reading 4 Kids, 25% of the cover price is donated to a school of your choice. If you are buying books at <https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/>, please consider choosing Lydgate Infant School at the checkout!



Parent Book Swap

We know that parents like to read too, so please do take advantage of our parent book swap located just inside the main entrance next to the school office.



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.

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: class9@lydgate-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Here are some great websites that offer more book recommendations and reviews:

- Love Reading 4 Kids

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



- BookTrust

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



- EmpathyLab read for empathy collection 2024

<https://www.empathylab.uk/RFE-2024>



- Yoto Carnegie Medal shortlist 2024

<https://yotocarnegies.co.uk/illustration-shortlist-2024/>



- Books for Keeps announces the UKLA Book Awards Shortlist 2024

<https://booksforkeeps.co.uk/shortlists-announced-for-the-ukla-book-awards-2024/>



Happy reading,

Mrs Varley & Miss Whitehead

