



Reading Newsletter

Issue 2

April 2021

Hello again everyone,

Welcome back to our reading newsletter! Since our last issue, we have celebrated World Book Day—it was fantastic to see all of the exciting activities you participated in whether you were at home or in school. We also discovered that we have lots of fantastic story tellers in our school!

Next month it is National Share-a-Story month. This year, the theme is 'Myths, Magic and Mayhem'; if you have any great recommendations for books that fit this theme, let your teacher, or Miss Cornish, know so that we can include them in May's issue.

My reading challenge for you this month is to try and read something new: a new author, a new genre or a new series. You might find some new recommendations in this month's newsletter!

Happy reading, Miss Cornish



Author of the Month **Jess Butterworth**



Hi! My name's Jess Butterworth and I love to write adventure stories that are grounded in the wild places that exist on earth. My most recent book is called '**Where the Wilderness Lives**' and is set on the canal in England and the wilds of Wales. I also have '**Running on the Roof of the World**' which is set in Tibet/India; '**When the Mountains Roared**' which is set in Australia/India and '**Swimming Against the Storm**' which is set in the swamps of Louisiana. My next book will be called '**Into the Volcano**' and is set on top of a super volcano in Yellowstone National Park. My books all feature animals and the environment because those are very important to me. My favourite thing about reading is travelling to new places in the books and seeing the world through someone else's eyes.

Happy reading, everyone!



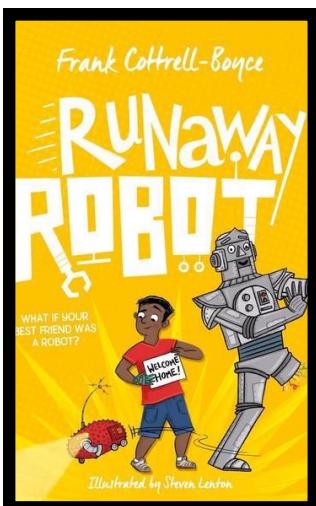
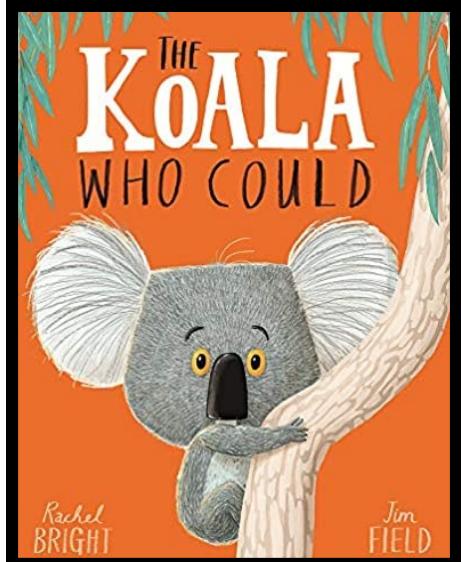
Recommended Read

EYFS/KS1

The Koala Who Could by Rachel Bright

Meet Kevin. A koala who likes to keep things the same. Exactly the same. But sometimes change comes along whether we like it or not... And, as Kevin discovers, if you step outside your comfort zone and try new things, you might just surprise yourself!

Rachel has also written: The Lion Inside and The Squirrels who Squabbled.



The Runaway Robot—Frank Cottrell-Boyce

When Alfie goes to Airport Lost Property, he finds more than he bargained for. A lot more. Because there's a giant robot called Eric hidden away on the shelves. Eric has lost one leg and half his memory. He's super strong, but super clumsy. He's convinced that he's the latest technology, when he's actually nearly one hundred years old and ready for the scrap heap.

Can Alfie find a way to save Eric from destruction – before Eric destroys everything around him?

Frank has written a whole host of fantastic books—he is one of the Year 5 teacher's favourite authors.

JKS2



THE PLANTABLE READING BOOK

Miss Hancock's friends, Tom and James, are the authors of 'Willsow Books': books that can be read and then planted to produce a vegetable!

'Hi! I'm Tom of Willsow books. Some time ago I discovered you could make business cards out of seed paper and grow a flower or plant from that card, pretty cool idea right? It certainly is, but I knew there was potential for more and eventually had the idea of making a children's book that you could plant and eventually 'bring to life' the main character to meet for yourself!'



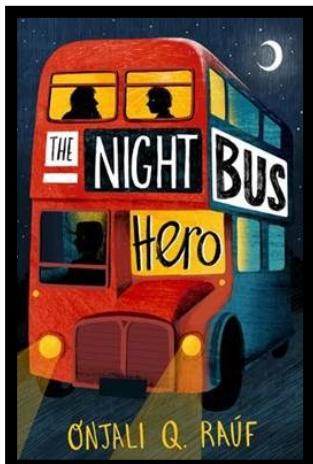
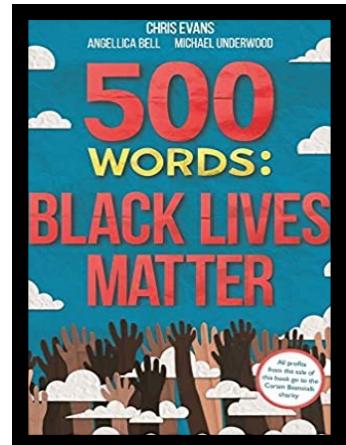
Miss Cornish has been reading...

Over the Easter Holidays, I read some fantastic books that I need to share with you! They all have themes of difference and understanding that it is our differences that make us who we are and that we should be proud of them!

One for everyone

500 words: Black Lives Matter- Written by children aged 5-13

500 words is a national writing competition. In 2020, the phrase 'Black Lives Matter' became a huge conversation point and the competition chose this theme so that young people could share their views. I was blown away by some of the short stories and poems I read in here; it was hard to believe that some were written by children as young as 5! The stories are inspirational, thought-provoking and poignant (sometimes make you feel a bit sad).



The Night Bus Hero –Onjali Q Rauf Review by Miss C

The Night Bus Hero is a fantastic book written by a fantastic author (seriously, you should read some of Onjali's books!). Hector is the main character, the class bully who enjoys spending his time making other people's lives a misery. He is a boy who has no sympathy, especially not for the local homeless people. When a spate of robberies occur in London, Hector is adamant that they are being carried out by the local homeless people; however, once he has laid the blame he realises he has made a huge mistake and is then in a race against time to ensure that justice is served.

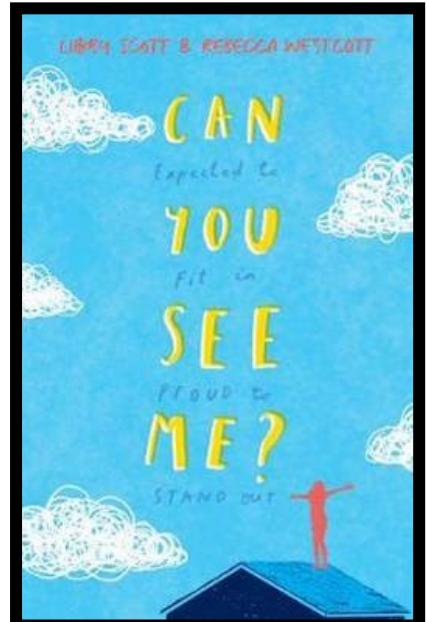
A story that teaches you not to judge a book by its cover and that it is never too late to change- absolutely worth a read!

Can you See Me? -Libby Scott and Rebecca Westcott

'Expected to fit in, proud to stand out'

This story was by far my favourite for many reasons. Tally is an 11 year old girl about to start secondary school and is anxious about many things. Her main worry is that she knows she is different: she is autistic which means she sees and copes with the world differently to her friends and family. This makes life difficult for Tally; she tries her hardest to fit in, to act in the way others deem as 'normal'. But what is 'normal'?

Rebecca Westcott is the author of this story who chose to write in collaboration (with) Libby Scott, who is herself autistic and writes diary entries as Tally to give her perspective on the world.



Tips for Adults and Children

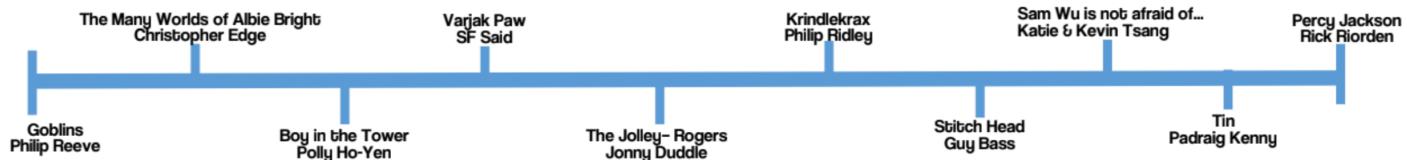
This month's top tips can be used by both adults and children!

Do you find yourself always reading books written by the same author or that are the same genre? This is great if you've found something you love! However, sometimes certain authors or series use the same sort of style and vocabulary which makes you read more passively (reading without really taking in what you are reading). In the library, we have our 'Reading for Pleasure Lines' which help children to choose books based on authors they already enjoy reading. We are also going to be introducing 'Reading Roads' which are linked to certain genres. is an example to help you choose some new books. You can also visit [Reading For Pleasure Tube Map | mister bodd \(wordpress.com\)](http://Reading For Pleasure Tube Map | mister bodd (wordpress.com))

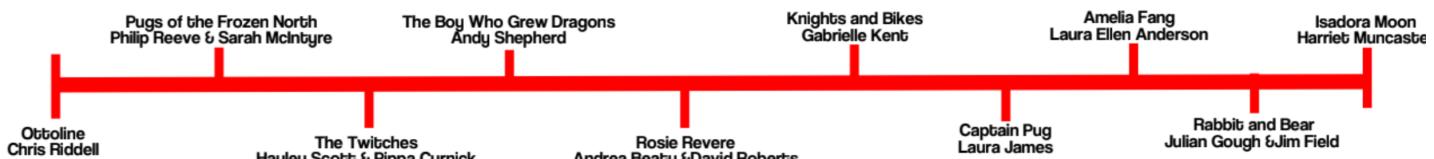
If you like Harry Potter you might like...



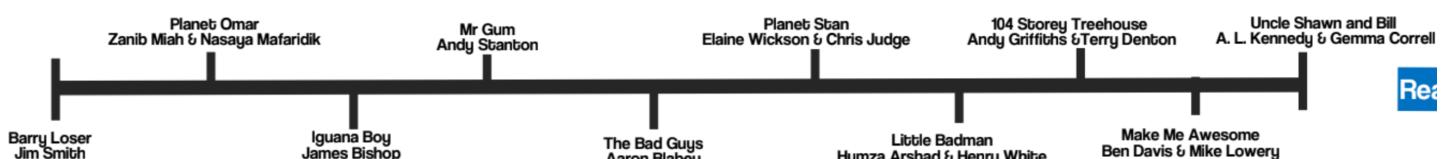
If you like Beast Quest you might like...



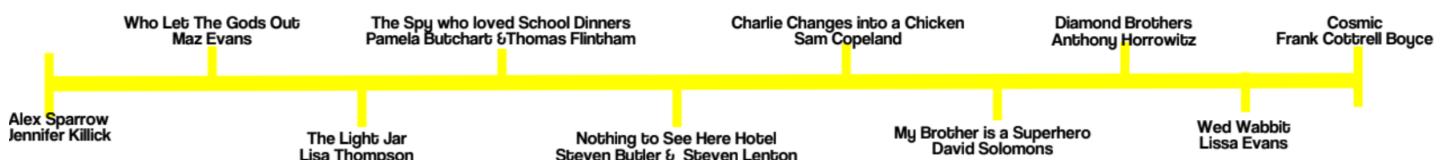
If you like the Rainbow Fairies you might like..



If you like Diary of a Wimpy Kid you might like...



IF YOU LIKE DAVID WALLIAMS YOU MIGHT LIKE...



Promoting Reading for Pleasure at Home

Why?

There is strong evidence that links reading for pleasure and educational outcomes; however, the benefits of reading for pleasure go beyond this and stretch throughout a person's life. Reading for pleasure helps us to understand our own identities, improves empathy and gives us an insight into the world view of others.

Reading role-models

As adults, we read all of the time but children often don't see us doing this or are unaware we are actually reading.

We need to make sure that children see that we are reading and why we are doing it.

The things that we read fall into 2 categories:

1. Reading to inform e.g. the news and instruction manuals
2. Reading for pleasure e.g. anecdotes and fiction books.



When reading, take the time to explain to your children what you are reading and why you are reading it. This will normalise the behaviour in the house and children will see it as an option of something to do rather than something they have to do for school.

Bedtime stories



This is one of the easiest ways to promote a love of reading, but the latest figures from The Book Trust suggest that only 28% of primary school aged children get a bedtime story every night. Reading to your child for just 10 minutes and day/night can improve their vocabulary, encourage them to read independently and also improve parent/child relationships (older children love a bedtime story too, even if they won't always admit it!).

Book talk

Sometimes children will just sit and listen to a story— that is absolutely fine, they don't need to be quizzed after every chapter they read! But sometimes, informal book talk can be a fantastic way to discuss what has been read. e.g. 'Ooh that character reminds me a bit of granny because...' 'Can you remember when we got lost in the woods?'

Book talk can happen in the following way:

1. Make links connections. Do the characters/settings remind you of anyone/anywhere? Have you been in a similar situation? Have you learnt about this from TV/School?
2. Make predictions. Can you guess what the story is about? What will happen next?
3. Discuss/ introduce vocabulary. If there is a tricky word, can you explain what it means? Use other words to describe a character, words that a child of their age may not be familiar with (they might then try to use it in their writing)
4. Discuss emotions. How does the story make you feel? Some children find it hard to articulate their feelings, so if it is modelled for them by adults it can help them understand their own feelings.

Audio books

Audiobooks offer a great option to reluctant readers. They are still getting to hear the great story and be introduced to some fantastic new vocabulary that they may not be exposed to. Fingers crossed this will show them that books can be fun and will encourage them to pick one up next time.

Reading is great - Reading for pleasure is greater! We hope that some of these tips will help your family's reading journey. Reading doesn't have to be expensive either. Local libraries have a great children's selection with lots of new exciting books.