

IGNITING LEADERS CHANGING LIVES

**PiXL** Reading

# READING FOR PLEASURE



## WELCOME BACK!

We hope you all had a wonderful and restful summer break. As we embark on the Autumn 1 half term, we are excited to share our passion for reading and the joy it can bring to your family. Reading together is not only a fantastic way to bond with your children, but it also helps to develop their language and comprehension skills. In this newsletter, we have curated a selection of book recommendations that we believe will inspire and delight you and your children. Whether you are exploring magical worlds, solving mysteries, or learning about different cultures, we hope these books will become treasured favourites in your home.

### Happy reading!

**Please note that the following texts are suitable from the age group stated, but please do research the books before selecting them to ensure that they are appropriate for your child.**



## INTEGRATING READING INTO DAILY ACTIVITIES

We understand that families have busy lives and diverse routines, but integrating reading into your daily activities can be a fun and manageable way to nurture your child's love for books. Here are some simple and creative ways to incorporate reading into everyday moments, suitable for all families.

- 1. STORYTELLING DURING MEALS:** Use mealtime as an opportunity to tell stories. You can take turns creating a story together, with each family member adding a sentence. This activity encourages creativity and active listening.
- 2. BEDTIME STORIES:** Bedtime is a perfect time for a calming story. Reading a book together before sleep can become a cherished routine, helping your child unwind and look forward to bedtime.
- 3. AUDIOBOOKS ON THE GO:** Whether you are on a short trip to the shops or a longer journey, audiobooks are a great way to enjoy stories together. They can turn car rides into an engaging adventure and make travel time pass quickly.
- 4. READING LABELS AND SIGNS:** Involve your children in everyday reading by asking them to read labels, signs, and menus. This not only improves their reading skills but also makes them involved in daily decisions.
- 5. SHOPPING LIST READING:** When preparing a shopping list, have your child read out the items as you add them to the basket. This is a practical way to build their vocabulary and make them feel like a helpful part of the family.
- 6. CREATE A READING ROUTINE:** Set aside a few minutes each day for a family reading time. It could be right after school, before dinner, or any other time that fits into your schedule. Consistency helps in building a habit.
- 7. LIBRARY VISITS:** Make regular visits to your local library. Libraries offer a wide range of free resources and events that can introduce your children to new books and authors. It's also a great way to spend quality time together.
- 8. INCORPORATE READING INTO HOBBIES:** If your child enjoys cooking, read recipes together. If they are interested in animals, find books about wildlife. Aligning reading with their interests makes it more engaging and enjoyable.



**GETTING THE YEAR OFF TO A GOOD START**

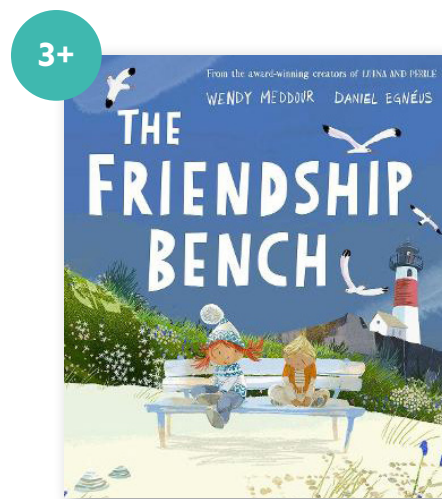
In case you've missed our previous newsletters, we wanted to share a few books which may be of use to you if you're nervous about the return to school or looking to approach this year differently. Starting a new school year can be both exciting and a bit daunting for pupils and parents alike. Here are some wonderful book recommendations to help ease the transition and set a positive tone for the year ahead.

**THE FRIENDSHIP BENCH**

BY WENDY MEDDOUR (AUTHOR), DANIEL EGNÉUS (ILLUSTRATOR)

Tilly has just moved to a new house, by the splash and curl of the sea. She loves doing cartwheels in the sand and playing catch with Mummy and Shadow the dog. But when it is time to start her new school, Shadow and Mummy must stay outside.

And inside is full of strangers. 'Why don't you try The Friendship Bench?' says her teacher, when Tilly is playing alone. 'It helps children find new friends to play with.' But when Tilly gets there, somebody is already on it.



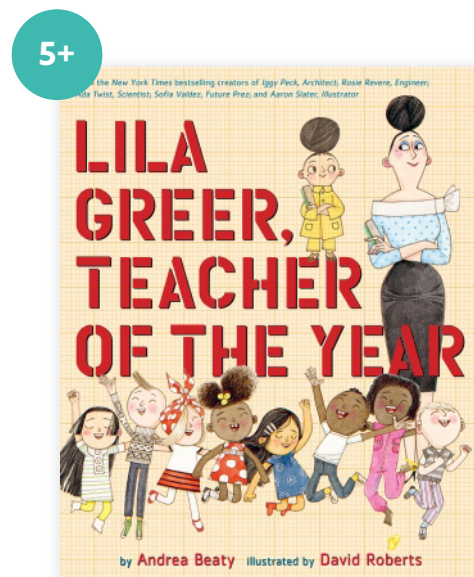
**LILA GREER, TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

BY ANDREA BEATY (AUTHOR), DAVID ROBERTS (ILLUSTRATOR)

A moving story starring the Questioners' teacher that's all about kindness, learning to face your fears, and the profound difference that one brilliant educator can make in a child's life from the #1 bestselling creators of Aaron Slater, Illustrator and Ada Twist, Scientist!

Lila Greer is full of worries. Even the smallest things - from cabbages to cardboard - fill her with dread and What Ifs. So when her family makes a big change - moving to a new town - the worry and What Ifs only grow. What if things go wrong? What if no one likes her?

At first, Lila feels right to be worried. In her new home, everything is strange. The new kids, the new smells. Lila feels alone and invisible. But there's one person who sees her: Lila's teacher, Ms. Kern. Through some creativity, blackboard erasers, and - most of all - kindness, Ms. Kern finds a way to make Lila feel welcome and open to new experiences. A lesson that will resonate with Lila long after second grade.



**THE FEELING GOOD CLUB: SMASH YOUR WORRIES, BELLA!**

BY KELLY MCKAIN & JENNY LATHAM (AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR)

Join Bella, Archie and Shazmin as they help each other to feel good and face their worries. Bella couldn't be feeling worse about it being Feeling Good Week at school. With her best friend Rosh having moved away she's sad and lonely, and to top it all she has a Big Worry on her mind – the class talk.

Then Bella's partnered with Shazmin and Archie and is surprised to see the shoots of a new friendship growing. They even form The Feeling Good Club to share their problems and express their feelings. But when Shazmin and Archie try to help Bella with her Big Worry things go badly wrong. How can Bella show her new friends how she feels?

The first in a fresh new series of accessible stories told in journal format, highlighting the benefits of mindfulness activities and sharing your feelings.

**THE FINAL YEAR** BY MATT GOODFELLOW & JOE TODD-STANTON (AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR)

See that tall, skinny kid with the ball in his hand sayin see ya later to his mate? That's me: Nathan Wilder Nate.

10 years old and a week away from the end of Year 5. Life can be tough in your last year of primary school. Tests to take, preparing for the change to high school. Nate is ready for it all, knowing his best friend PS is at his side – they've been inseparable since Nursery.

But when they are put in two different classes and PS finds a new friend in Turner, the school bully, Nate's world turns upside-down. As he struggles to make sense of this and forge new friendships, he's dealt another blow when his youngest brother, Dylan, is rushed into hospital. His new teacher, Mr Joshua, sees a spark inside of Nate that's lit by his love of reading and writing and shows him how to use this to process what's going on. But with so much working against him, and anger rising inside him, will this be enough?

A powerful and lyrical story about finding your place in the world and the people that matter within it.



## INTERNATIONAL WEEK OF DEAF PEOPLE SEPTEMBER 23 - SEPTEMBER 29

From 23rd to 29th September, we celebrate International Week of Deaf People. This special week is all about honouring the rich culture and contributions of the Deaf community.

The focus this year is on 'Sign Up for Sign Language Rights'. This theme emphasises the importance of making sure Deaf individuals feel included in all aspects of society, not just within their own community. By learning about Deaf culture and sign language, we can build stronger connections and foster greater understanding. Let's break down barriers and promote positive change by becoming more educated on how to communicate effectively with Deaf people.



### **DACHY'S DEAF** BY JACK HUGHES (AUTHOR)

Dachy wears a hearing aid. But sometimes, when his friends get too noisy, he likes to turn it off to get some peace and quiet. One day, when his hearing aid is off, Dachy falls asleep and ends up floating down the river towards a waterfall and a hungry crocodile. Can his friends rescue him in time?

Read and approved by The National Deaf Children's Society, this gentle story shows children that everyone is different and might have difficult situations to deal with, but with love and support they can get through anything.





7+



**EL DEAFO** BY CECE BELL (AUTHOR)

El Deafo is a funny, deeply honest graphic novel memoir for middle graders. It chronicles the author’s hearing loss at a young age and her subsequent experiences with a powerful and very awkward hearing aid called the Phonic Ear.

It gives her the ability to hear – sometimes things she shouldn’t – but also isolates her from her classmates. She really just wants to fit in and find a true friend, someone who appreciates her, Phonic Ear and all.

Finally, she is able to harness the power of the Phonic Ear and become El Deafo, Listener for All. And more importantly, declare a place for herself in the world and find the friend she’s longed for.

**SONG FOR A WHALE** BY LYNNE KELLY (AUTHOR)

A stirring and heart-warming tale of a young deaf girl who is determined to make a difference, the perfect read for fans of Wonder. Iris was born deaf, but she’s never let that define her; after all, it’s the only life she’s ever known. And until recently she wasn’t even very lonely, because her grandparents are both deaf, too.

But Grandpa has just died and Grandma’s not the same without him. The only place Iris really feels at home anymore is in her electronics workshop where she loves taking apart antique radios. Then, during a science lesson about sound waves, Iris finds out about a whale who is unable to communicate with other whales. The lonely whale awakens something in Iris. She’s determined to show him that someone in the world knows he’s there. Iris works on a fool-proof plan to help the whale but she soon realises that that is not enough: Iris wants to find the whale herself.

One stolen credit card, two cruise ship tickets, and the adventure of a lifetime later, Iris and the whale each break through isolation to help one another be truly heard in ways that neither had ever expected. Winner of the Schneider Family Book Award, Young Children category, for books that embody an artistic expression of the disability experience.

9+



## NATIONAL POETRY DAY OCTOBER 3, 2024

This nationwide annual celebration of poetry takes place on the first Thursday of October, which in 2024 falls on October 3rd. Each year, National Poetry Day embraces a unique theme, and for 2024, the theme is 'Counting'. It's a wonderful opportunity for everyone to delve into the world of poetry, exploring how numbers and counting can inspire creativity and expression. Whether you're reading, writing, or listening, join us in celebrating the magic of poetry and the myriad ways it enriches our lives.

Creating poetry together is a delightful way for parents and children to bond, spark creativity, and explore the magic of words. Writing poems can be both fun and educational, providing an opportunity to express thoughts, feelings, and observations in a unique and imaginative way. Whether you're new to poetry or a seasoned poet, these prompts will inspire you to craft beautiful verses together, making memories that will last a lifetime. Dive into these poetry prompts and let your creativity flow!

1. **Nature Walk Poem:** Take a walk outside and write a poem about what you see, hear, and smell. Describe the trees, the sky, the sounds of birds, and anything else that catches your attention.
2. **Acrostic Poem:** Choose a word that your child likes, such as their name, a favourite animal, or a season. Write the word vertically and use each letter as the start of a line in your poem.
3. **Five Senses Poem:** Write a poem that describes something (an object, a place, or an experience) using all five senses – sight, sound, touch, taste, and smell.
4. **Story Poem:** Think of a simple story or an event that happened recently and turn it into a poem. It could be a trip to the park, a visit to the zoo, or baking cookies together.
5. **Favourite Things Poem:** Write a poem about your child's favourite things. It could include favourite foods, activities, toys, or colours.
6. **Animal Poem:** Choose an animal and write a poem from that animal's perspective. What do they see, feel, and think about their environment?
7. **Colour Poem:** Pick a colour and write a poem about all the things that are that colour. Describe how the colour makes you feel and what it reminds you of.
8. **Emotion Poem:** Write a poem about a specific emotion, such as happiness, sadness, excitement, or fear. Describe what it feels like and what things make you feel that way.
9. **Seasonal Poem:** Write a poem about your favourite season. Describe the weather, activities, and holidays associated with that season.
10. **Dream Poem:** Write a poem about a dream or an imaginary place. Describe what it looks like, who is there, and what happens in this dream world.
11. **Counting Poem:** In line with the National Poetry Day theme for 2024, write a poem that incorporates counting. For example, count the stars, steps, or favourite things in your poem.
12. **Rhyming Poem:** Choose a simple rhyming pattern and write a poem together. Take turns coming up with lines that fit the rhyme scheme.

## RECOMMENDED READING

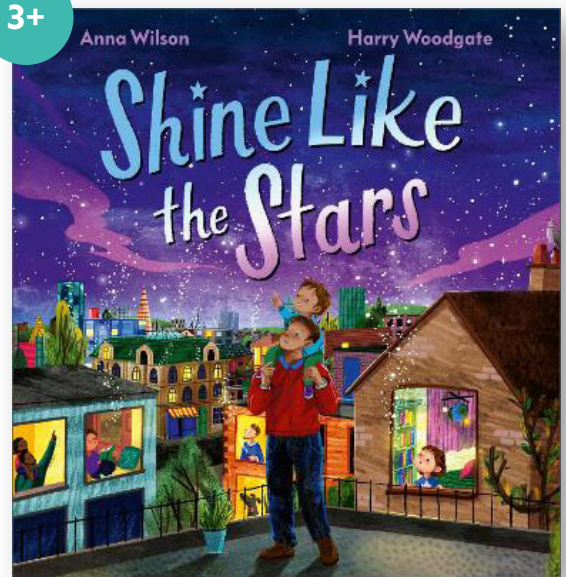
**SHINE LIKE THE STARS**

BY ANNA WILSON & HARRY WOODGATE  
(AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR)

You are part of this earth. You grow like the seed.  
You shine like the stars. We are all connected to the natural world, and it is connected to us. And just as the stars shine brightly in the night sky, so can you.

Told from the point of view of the natural world, this exquisite and thought-provoking story invites us to connect with the world around us and achieve our potential.

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**IF I WERE PRIME MINISTER**

BY TRYGVE SKAUG & ELLA OKSTAD (AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR)

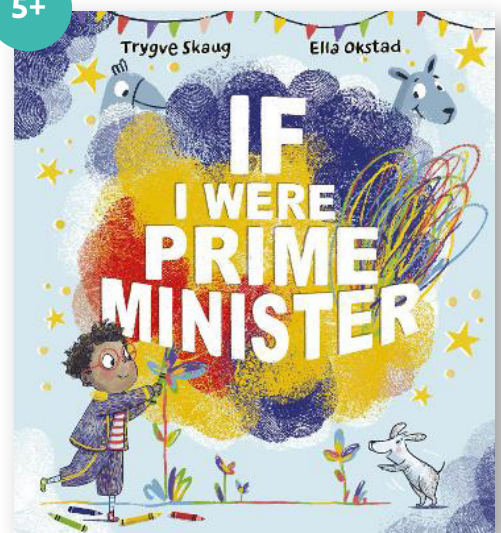
With disarming frankness, a young boy gives his perspective on several things the grown-ups running the country could do differently. His recommendations are both playful and profound.

How much happier would we be if all the adults went to nursery once a month to remind themselves how to play?

How much safer would we be if Christmas lights were left up all year round to light everyone's way home?

This gorgeously illustrated picture book is for all those children who dare to dream big and for all those adults who want to look on the world with fresh eyes.

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**A PASSING ON OF SHELLS**

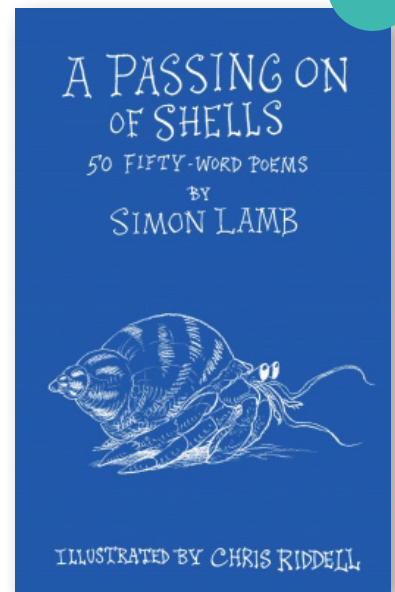
BY SIMON LAMB & CHRIS RIDDELL (AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR)

Scallywag Press proudly present Simon Lamb's dazzling debut collection of poetry, featuring fifty luminous poems, each written in exactly fifty words, fully illustrated throughout by much-loved former Children's Laureate Chris Riddell.

With subjects ranging from family, identity, and growing up, to the need for hope, the wonder of nature, and the very concept of poetry itself, Simon offers his poems as small nuggets of wisdom, warmth and wit to help readers of all ages navigate their lives.

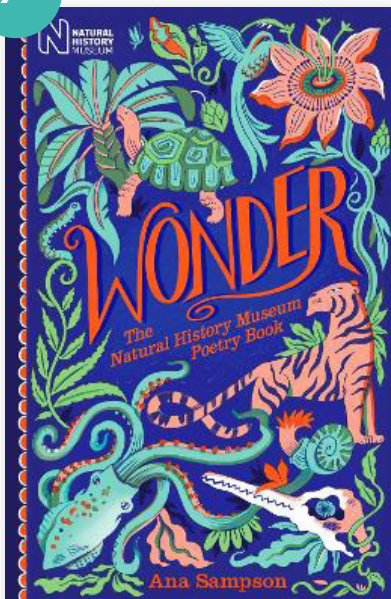
Complementing the always-present three-dimensional sense of drama and interaction with the reader, every poem is gifted its own double-page spread, each one exquisitely illustrated by Chris Riddell, with his distinctive insight and flair adding new layers of meaning and joy to these already magical poems.

7+

**WONDER: THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM POETRY BOOK**

BY ANA SAMPSON (AUTHOR)

9+



Each section includes an introduction and some footnotes about particularly interesting species. The museum has a collection of over eighty million objects and behind the scenes of its twenty-eight galleries of preserved specimens, libraries of rare books and artworks, wonders gathered on some of the most famous voyages in history, rooms packed with pressed plants, warehouses teeming with stuffed animals and freezers full of DNA.

As well as a museum, it is a state-of-the-art centre for discovery with over three hundred resident scientists and over ten thousand visiting researchers each year, investigating everything from dinosaurs to life on other planets.

The collection is made up of brand new and classic poems and is illustrated with botanical drawings and engravings from the museum's collections.

**EXPLORE NEW AND NOTEWORTHY FICTION WITH YOUR CHILDREN**

Dive into the enchanting world of new and noteworthy fiction with your children. Our carefully curated selection features the latest and greatest in children's literature, perfect for sparking imaginations and creating shared moments of wonder. From thrilling adventures to heart-warming tales, these books offer a range of stories that will captivate young readers and provide excellent opportunities for family reading time. Discover these fresh titles and enjoy the magic of storytelling together!

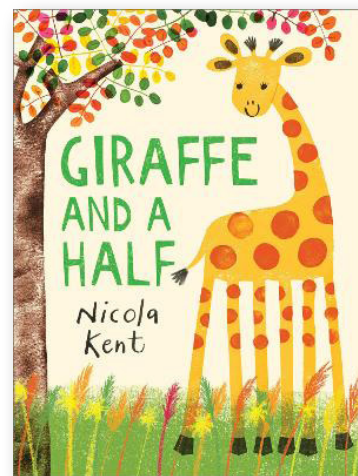
**SUITABLE FOR EYFS****GIRAFFE AND A HALF**

BY NICOLA KENT (AUTHOR)

Giraffe and a Half believes her difference stops her from making friends, but can Bird and a Third help her to overcome her shyness?

Giraffe and a Half has six legs and three ears, which is brilliant for dancing and listening, but not so good for making friends. But one day, playing on her own, she meets Bird and a Third, who knows that sometimes, it's our insecurities that hold us back the most.

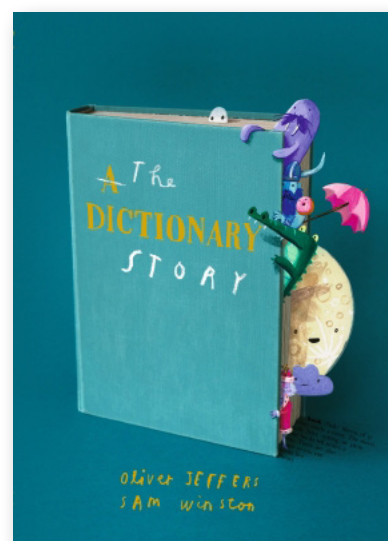
This delightful story will encourage children to embrace their differences. Based on Nicola Kent's own experiences as a child with disabilities, and her belief that although ongoing health issues can bring many challenges to life, having lovely friends doesn't need to be one of them.

**THE DICTIONARY STORY**

BY OLIVER JEFFERS &amp; SAM WINSTON (AUTHOR &amp; ILLUSTRATORS)

***The much-anticipated new picture book from the bestselling and award-winning creators of A Child of Books.***

Dictionary wishes she could tell a story just like the other books. So one day she decides to bring her words to life. How exciting it is, she thinks, that an adventure is finally happening on her very own pages! But what will she do when everything gets out of control, all in a jumble, and her characters collide causing the most enormous tantrum to explode. This isn't what she wanted at all! How on earth will she find sense in all this chaos? Her friend Alphabet knows exactly what to do and sings a song that brings calm and order to Dictionary's pages once again.



**CHANGING TIDES**

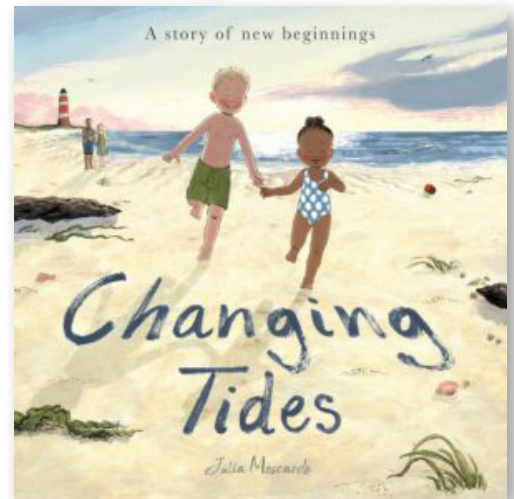
BY JÚLIA MOSCARDÓ (AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR)

When Theo and his mother, Simone, become part of Lula's family, she isn't sure what to expect. As they all spend a holiday at the seaside, the new siblings learn to work together to create a beautiful sandcastle. But once disaster strikes, will their relationship weather the storm?

This beautiful picture book by Júlia Moscardó explores the challenges and joys of forming a new family and gaining a sibling.

With evocative illustrations and beautiful text, this book will immerse your little reader in the world of the seaside and in the ups and downs of forming new friendships.

A timeless story with particular poignancy for children from blended families.





## SUITABLE FOR KS1

### ONE-BUTTON AND THE SEA

BY SARA STANLEY & VIVIANE SCHWARZ (AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR)

A poignant collaboration between author and artist, celebrating the importance of community and the power of hope.

'Grandpa, tell me the story again of when we went to sea.

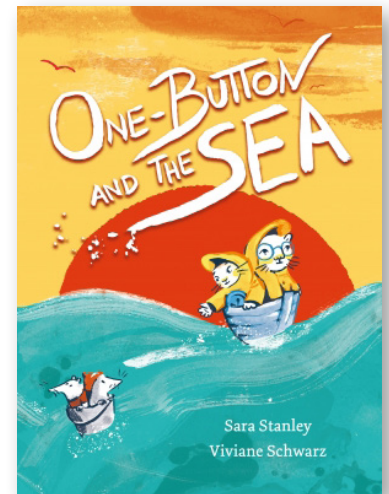
That's a BIG story, One-Button.

How does it begin?

It begins with the uprooting...

And so Grandpa tells the story of how he and One-Button and their whole community were uprooted from their everyday lives, and how they all had to take to sea in different boats. Sometimes the sea was dangerous and they were frightened, sometimes it was calm and they felt peaceful, sometimes they had fun watching films, singing and knitting.... But always they helped each other - and always they kept their spirits up together.

Until one day, the 'change' happened and they were able to return home and resume their previous lives ... different, but the same





## GINA KAMINSKI RESCUES THE GIANT

BY CRAIG BARR-GREEN & FRANCIS MARTIN (AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR)

Gina Kaminski is back in this empowering retelling of Jack and the Beanstalk that challenges the traditional narratives we are told, with a confident, autistic character at its heart.

Meet Gina Kaminski. She's here to tell you three facts.

1. The story of Jack and the Beanstalk is FULL of BIG mistakes.
2. She has a plan to fix them.
3. Her plan does NOT involve magic beans (but there will be cake).

Gina is off to fairy tale land again, and this time she's rescuing the giant! Just like the first book in this bold new series by Craig Barr-Green and Francis Martin, this is not your typical fairy tale as Gina takes the narrative lead and tells the story in her own distinctive way.

With lovable narrator Gina Kaminski, this is the ideal book to empower every child to be the hero of their own story. Fans of fractured fairy tales like *Little Red* by Bethan Woollvin, and strong, character-led stories like *Luna Loves Dance* by Joseph Coelho and *Fiona Lumbers and Look Up!* by Nathan Bryon and Dapo Adeola will love *Gina Kaminski Rescues the Giant*.



## THE BRIDGES

BY TOM PERCIVAL (AUTHOR)

Mia feels alone; so alone that it's as if she lives on a small island, far out to sea. But then one day, Mia is given a book - the first she has ever been able to call her own. As Mia reads the book, bridges appear and her island fills with colour and life. And the more Mia reads, the stronger the bridges become, opening up a world of connection and hope...

Because a book can take you anywhere...

Celebrate the power of books and reading in this moving picture book by Tom Percival, author of *Ruby's Worry* and *The Invisible*, among many more.

## SUITABLE FOR LKS2

### ODDNEY'S OTHERLAND

BY SARAH MATTHEWS & RODNEY MATTHEWS  
(AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR)

What would you do if you found a tunnel beneath your shed?

What if you knew it led to a whole other world?

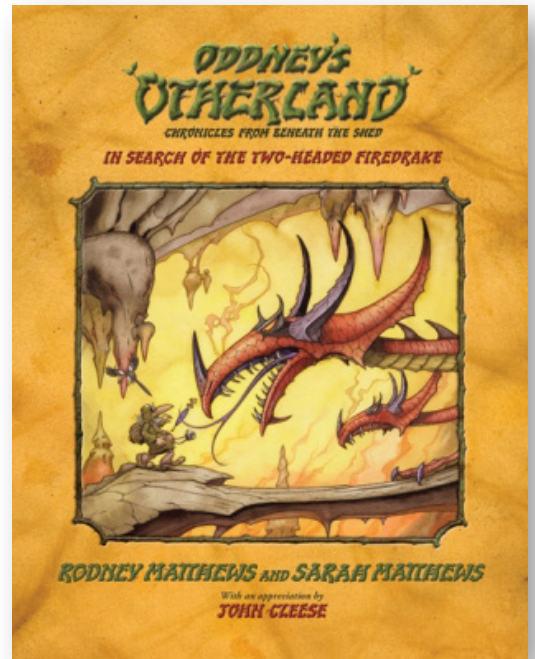
And what if that world was home to a dragon with two heads?

Upon discovering Uncle Cuthbert's old journal and a mysterious tunnel under the garden shed, retired naturalist Professor Oddney and his loyal magpie friend, Magnus, embark on a daring and delightfully absurd journey into the hidden world of Otherland.

Their mission: find the mighty beast known as The Two-Headed Firedrake. In this secret realm, they encounter a fantastic cast of characters and creatures, including a short-tempered Hobgoblin, the Rhubarbarian, the Great Leaping Buttock Biters, and the despicable Dragoner. As they navigate this strange new world, they must find out who to trust and who might help them in their quest.

Brimming with illustrations by acclaimed fantasy illustrator Rodney Matthews, and a whimsical and fun-filled story by Sarah Matthews, this book will captivate young readers.

Perfect for fans of fantasy, adventure and DRAGONS!



**BRONTE TEMPESTRA AND THE ICE WARRIORS**

BEX HOGAN & HANNAH MCCAFFERY (AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR)

Bronte Tempestra is back for another fun-filled adventure at Sir Sebastian’s School for Squires!

When a snowstorm engulfs Sir Sebastian’s at the end of the winter term, it looks like all the knights will be stuck at school for the holidays! But Bronte suspects there’s more to the weird weather than meets the eye . . . and when ice sculptures come to life it looks like she has another quest on her hands!

As Bronte ventures through deep tunnels and into the heart of a blizzard to confront her frosty foes, can she show she’s truly the knight she dreams of being?

The next adventure in this fun-filled fantasy series for readers aged 7 and up, packed with illustrations.

Perfect for fans of Rainbow Grey, Witch Wars and The Princess in Black.

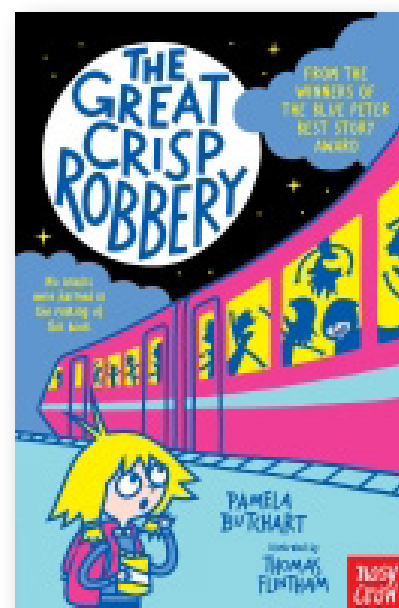


**THE GREAT CRISP ROBBERY**

BY PAMELA BUTCHART & THOMAS FLINTHAM (AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR)

Another hilarious tale of primary school life from the Blue Peter award-winning team. Nothing is as it seems for Izzy and friends, and the drama is always off the scale...

Izzy and friends are excited to find that their school trip involves an overnight train ride. But when they get on board, they’re shocked to discover that EVERYTHING is STRANGE. And the BUNK BEDS are TINY! And then their teacher disappears... OH NO! Miss Jones has been kidnapped! EVERYONE PANIC!!!



SUITABLE FOR UKS2

SHIPWRECKED

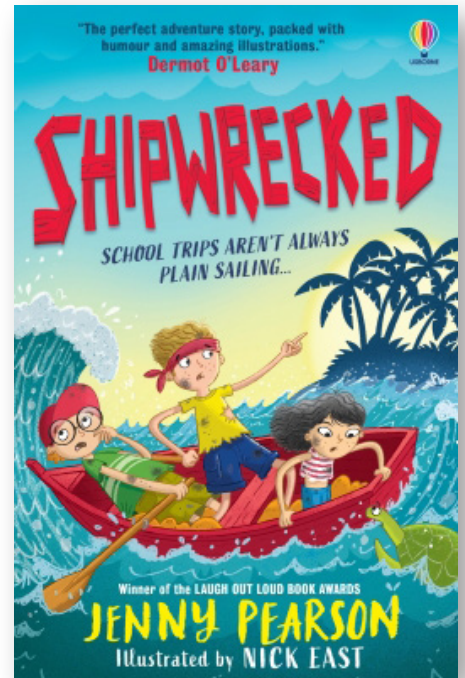
BY JENNY PEARSON & NICK EAST (AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR)

Three kids face shipwrecks, survival and pirates in the latest adventure from bestselling and award-winning author Jenny Pearson.

Sebastian Sunrise and his two best friends, Lina and Étienne, are in a bit of trouble. They are stranded on a desert island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, after a rowing race went very, very wrong.

The friends have no idea how long they might have to stay on the island, so they make a plan. They will try to survive, look after the island's baby turtles, and have fun, if they can. But Sebastian's life has never gone to plan, and they quickly face jellyfish stings, burnt bums and an out-of-control goat.

But when a boat arrives, bringing pirates who want to hunt the island's baby turtles, the friends face their greatest danger yet...





**DREAM HUNTERS**

BY NAZIMA PATHAN (AUTHOR)

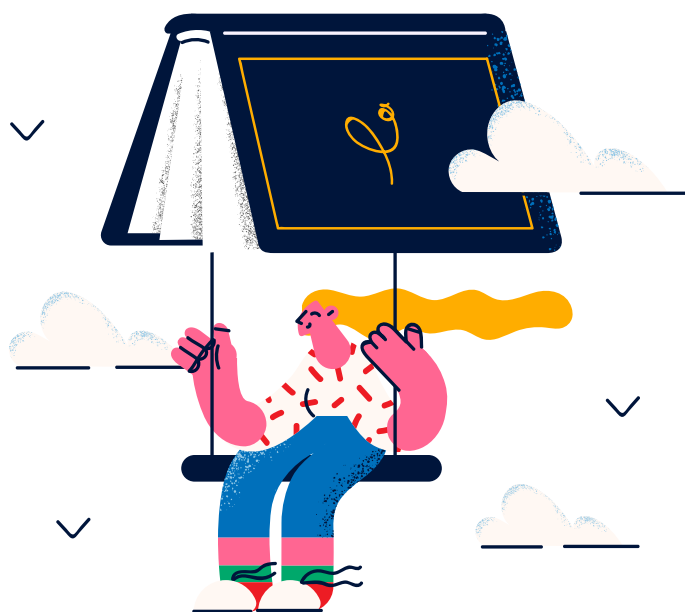
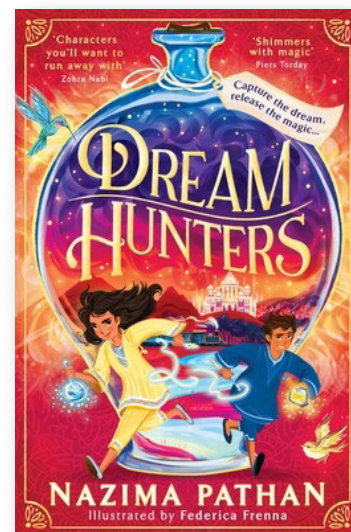
Set in a fantasy, reimagined India where dreams can be captured and bottled, young Mimi Malou must go on a quest to save the king and rescue her parents. A gorgeous adventure dripping in magic from debut author Nazima Pathan, perfect for fans of Starfell, The Hatmakers and The Kingdom Over the Sea.

In the Citadel, we hunt. Dreams are our prey. If we catch them before they melt into moonlight, they can be recycled and sold for great profit. My family has been hunting dreams for generations. Capturing them as they slip away, and storing them in a soaring, magnificent library.

Twelve-year-old Mimi lives with her Aunt Moyna in a centuries-old Citadel where she studies the ancient practice of making, capturing and recycling dreams. The Citadel was once run by Mimi's parents who have been imprisoned by the king, accused of treason.

When Mimi spies a royal visitor, she uncovers a plot to transform the Citadel from a place of gentle, healing dream craft to one of creating nightmares in order to poison the king.

With only her dream creature, Lalu, and her best friend Rafi by her side, Mimi must escape the Citadel and begin a perilous journey across India. There are few people she can trust, but saving the life of the king is in Mimi's hands alone...



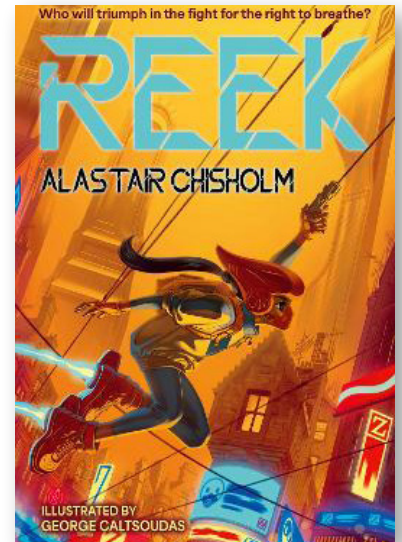
**REEK**

BY ALASTAIR CHISHOLM & GEORGE CALTSOUDAS  
(AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR)

Climate catastrophe leaves the people of Earth fighting for oxygen in this gripping dystopian thriller from bestselling sci-fi author Alastair Chisholm.

Sparrow lives in the world after the Reek. The atmosphere is toxically polluted, and Axel Brodie, the tech billionaire behind Zephyr Industries, is cashing in as the only supplier of clean air. Sparrow is struggling to help her family survive until her brilliant inventor friend, Miriam Fenn, comes up with a new form of technology that could break Zephyr’s stranglehold on the air supply. But men like Brodie are hard to defeat, and he will do everything in his power to stop Miriam and Sparrow.

Who will triumph in this battle to breathe?



**WITCHSPARK**

BY DOMINIQUE VALENTE (AUTHOR)

Eglantine Bury can’t find her Witchspark. But if her magic doesn’t appear, her family and their magical house will fall into the terrifying clutches of the evil Whistlewitch.

Across the land, Princess Victoria faces her own danger, as her secret magical powers start to spiral out of control and cause chaos in the Royal Palace.

Eglantine and Victoria both turn to the disgraced witch Miss Hegotty for help. Her witch lessons are difficult and powerful, but can this secret magic match up to the dangers these two hopeful witches face?

Two aspiring witches, one unusual teacher, a magical house, and a talking dragon-butler fight for what’s right, in this major new series from Dominique Valente, the bestselling author of Starfell.



**EXPLORE NEW AND NOTEWORTHY NON-FICTION WITH YOUR CHILDREN**

Uncover the wonders of the real world with our selection of new and noteworthy non-fiction books. Perfect for curious young minds, these titles cover a wide range of fascinating topics that will engage and educate your children. From incredible true stories to amazing facts about science, history, and nature, these books provide endless opportunities for learning and discovery. Dive into these captivating non-fiction reads and inspire your children's love for knowledge and exploration!

**IMPOSSIBLE THINGS**

BY DAN SCHREIBER & KRISTYNA BACZYNSKI (AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR)

Did dinosaurs beat us to the moon?

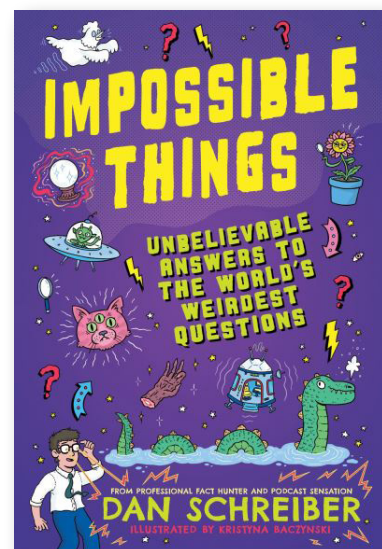
Is the Loch Ness Monster real?

Can imaginary friends come to life?

Should we all be learning to speak cat?

Want to impress your friends and family with some BANANAS but TRUE facts? Then discover the world of impossible things with fact detective Dan Schreiber. This book will give you the answers to all of your big questions, no matter how silly! From discovering if monsters are real to seeking out haunted sausage rolls, exploring the world's strangest curses to finding the truth about time travel, this book has everything!

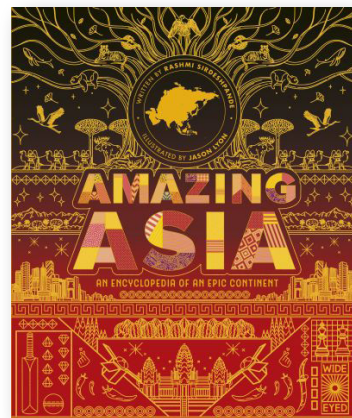
With hilarious illustrations and comic strips in every chapter, you won't want to put this book down!



## AMAZING ASIA

BY RASHMI SIRDESHPANDE & JASON LYON (AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR)

Welcome to Asia! Discover the incredible history and diversity of Asia in all its splendour, with this stunningly illustrated and fact-filled encyclopedia. We dive deep into this vast and epic continent, looking at its incredible past, its fascinating present, and its exciting future. Amazing Asia celebrates the five geographic regions – East, West, North and Central, South and South East.



Each regional section includes:

### Highly illustrated regional map:

Understand the geography and get to know the region's countries and fascinating facts about each of them.

### Historical timeline and history spotlight:

Time-travel back to explore Asia's magnificent empires and dynasties, rulers, leaders, protests and conflicts.

### People and culture:

Learn about the important regional foods, ways of life, industry, arts and crafts, music and dance.

### Wildlife and landscapes:

Explore breath-taking vistas, animal and plant life, such as the Bengal tiger, banyan trees, the Chocolate Hills, and the Mekong river.

### Spectacular sights:

Discover an awe-inspiring panorama with stunning, intricate details, such as Mount Fuji, Petra and the ancient city of Samarkand.

### Change makers and superstars:

Meet the region's most inspiring people from every area of life – e.g., Hayao Miyazaki, Professor Maryam Mirzakhani, Sachin Tendulkar, and Yip Pin Xiu.

### Today, tomorrow:

Wander across the region in the present day and take a glimpse at what its incredibly exciting future might look like.

From the Singing Dunes of Mongolia and the towering peaks of the Himalayas, to the rise of tech, artificial intelligence, mega-cities and superpowers, this is a breath-taking, thought-provoking and inspiring read for the whole family.

Celebratory and all-encompassing, this is the go-to illustrated children's reference on Asia. From the Singing Dunes of Mongolia and the towering peaks of the Himalayas – to the rise of tech, artificial intelligence, mega-cities and superpowers, this is a breath-taking, thought-provoking and inspiring read for the whole family.



**RUN LIKE A GIRL: 50 EXTRAORDINARY AND INSPIRING SPORTSWOMEN**

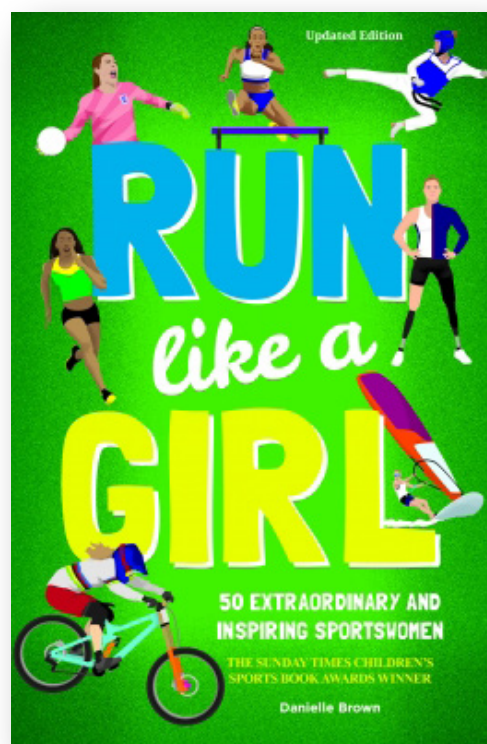
BY DANIELLE BROWN (AUTHOR)

If you've ever heard the words "You run like a girl!" then it's time to smile and put your game face on. Stand tall and be proud because they're right. You can be strong, brave, fierce, ambitious, resilient and tough... you be all these things and be them LIKE A GIRL.

All over the world, there are female athletes breaking barriers, pushing limits and achieving amazing things, but where did their journeys begin? And what challenges did they have to overcome to get where they are today? This revised and updated version of Run Like a Girl presents 50 inspirational biographies of the world's top female athletes, from boxing superstar Nicola Adams to record-breaking yachtswoman Ellen MacArthur and fearless mountain biker Rachel Atherton. This revised edition for the Olympics 2024 includes new additions Keely Hodgkinson, Mary Earps, Emma Wilson, Katerina Johnson-Thompson and Jade Jones.

There are so many amazing women around the world, shattering records and breaking through barriers. Every day they show talent, tenacity, and tireless commitment, redefining outdated stereotypes and delivering some breath-taking performances. Author Danielle Brown is a woman who has overcome her own challenges and adversity to become a double Paralympic gold medallist and five-time World Champion in archery and it's her current mission to inspire and empower people to unlock their potential, overcome adversity and achieve more.

In this book Danielle tells the stories of 50 extraordinary and inspiring sportswomen, many of whom she has interviewed. She lists their achievements accompanied with cool illustrations and it is all written for a readership of young women who can use this inspiration to fuel their own dreams. In addition to giving an insight into the influences, motivations and achievements of these women, each story reminds us that failing can teach us just as much as winning; success isn't limited to the sports field; and 'running like a girl' can lead you all the way to the top. Remember there is no limit to your potential.



## YOU CAN DO ANYTHING

BY JONNIE PEACOCK & ASHWIN CHACKO (AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR)

The world should be open to everyone, and everyone should be able to achieve their dreams if they have the right support. This non-fiction guide takes young people on a journey to get inspired, build confidence and learn that they can achieve anything, no matter their abilities.

Whether you enjoy sports, arts, maths or just spending time with your friends, this book helps readers discover what it is they love, and how to embrace it and maximise their potential. With inspiring chapters on finding your happiness, learning to make the most of it, taking on new challenges and coming back stronger. Jonnie pulls on his experiences as a Paralympian, taking the plunge on Strictly Come Dancing, and facing up to defeat and coming back from setbacks to bring his guidance to the attention of young readers.

With journaling opportunities and stories from other inspiring athletes, readers will learn that happiness is something that can be worked on and found – it's often down to hard work and a good mindset, and those are two things that you can learn with patience and determination, just like Jonnie.



# PiXL Reading

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