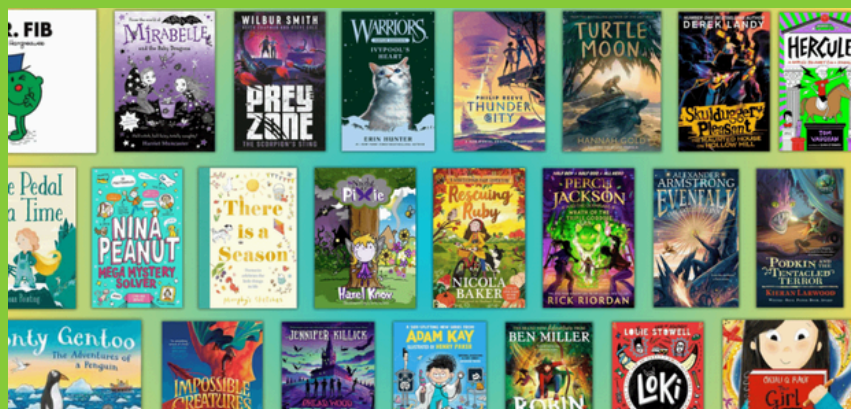




# WE LOVE BOOKS



The Children's Literacy Charity has found that discussing books is vital for developing a child's literacy skills. Talking about what your child is reading can happen while walking to the shops, at the dinner table or as part of a bedtime routine. Showing interest and asking questions can also be so important to building enjoyment around reading.



According to the School Library Association, children are more likely to enjoy reading a book if they have chosen it themselves, with 89% saying their favourite books were self-selected. The library is a great place for children to explore different genres. Don't worry if the books they choose seem too easy - what matters most is building their confidence and fostering a love of reading.

The library is currently running a Winter Mini Challenge which they describe as a "bite-size version" of the Summer Reading Challenge. It runs until 20 February, so there is still plenty of time to enter. The challenge is to read 3 books before then, and there are lots of suggestions on the website. Just go to [www.wintermini.org.uk](http://www.wintermini.org.uk).

World Book Day is coming up on 6 March, but did you know that you can listen to free children's audiobooks on the World Book Day website?

We are so grateful to have already received some amazing books from our Amazon Wishlist, and we are so excited to get these out for the children to borrow. If you are interested in donating a book, the link is [https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/249ZT3EFL9M1I?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/249ZT3EFL9M1I?ref=wl_share). Please remember that the books do not need to be new, or even bought from Amazon. There are lots of websites online that sell second hand books, or you may be able to find some in charity shops.

# PICTURE BOOKS



**Imperfectly Perfect** by Perry Emerson & Hoang Giang

When Maria tears a page in her brother's favourite book, she is devastated. Bea shows her a bowl she once repaired, and takes her on a walk to find more "imperfectly perfect" things like a flower growing in a pavement crack and even wrinkles and scars, helping Maria to see beauty in imperfection.

**Monster Post** by Emma Yarlett

Beast catches a child he calls "Dinner", and plans a feast with all his friends. But Dinner doesn't want to be eaten and suggests lots of fun activities instead. Will Beast realise that friendship is better than feasting? A wonderful book with lots of fun letter flaps to open.

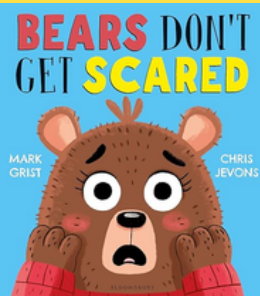
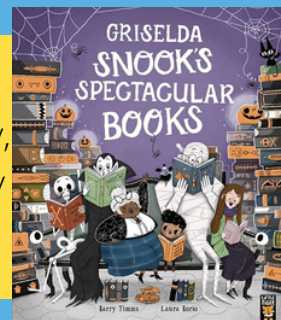


**The Chattysaurus** by Rachel Bright & Chris Chatterton

This is a wonderful addition to the DinoFeelings series, this time about the importance of listening and friendship. When Chattysaurus falls into a hole, he doesn't understand why no one warned him about it. With the help of Moleasaurus he realises that sometimes it is good to listen, too.

**Griselda Snook's Spectacular Books** by Barry Timms & Laura Borio

A spectacular book that is definitely not just for halloween. When Henry finds a key, it opens up a world of imagination that is Griselda's bookshop. Henry doesn't really like books, but a tour of the bookshop might just make him change his mind.

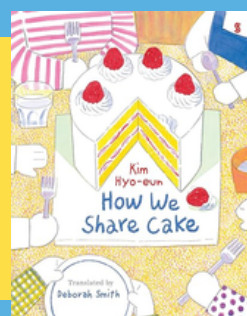


**Bears don't get Scared** by Mark Grist & Chris Jevons

Bella is very excited to have a main part in her school play, but then she gets the "wibbly-wobbles" and has no idea why. Surely bears don't get scared? It's only after a conversation with Granny that Bella understands that she is not alone in being scared and that this may be her chance to be brave.

**How We Share Cake** by Kim Hyo-eun & Deborah Smith

Sharing is not always easy in a big family. When a scooter ride ends in a fall, one child gets to enjoy undivided attention and her own snacks. But when choosing her birthday cake, will she keep it all for herself, or will she decide to share?



## Mrs Levin recommends...

Having just come across this in the library, I highly recommend this vibrant and colourful storybook by Joseph Coelho and Allison Colpoys. With the right support from an inspiring teacher, a little girl finds her voice. The beautiful illustrations and thoughtfully chosen words build a vivid picture of how the girl is feeling throughout. This wonderful book is a powerful reminder that we all have a beautiful voice inside us if we can just find the right key to unlock the door.

# CHAPTER BOOKS FOR YOUNGER READERS



**The Magician Next Door** by Rachel Chivers Khoo & Alice McKinley

This charming book is full of magic, adventure and heartfelt moments. Callie is struggling with homesickness after a move to Northern Ireland, and is surprised by a magician's house crashing into her garden. Can Callie and her new friend Sam help Winnifred find her lost magical wanderlust?



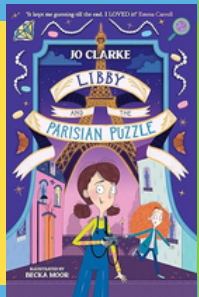
**Badgers are Go!** by Susannah Lloyd & Nici Gregory

Lulu, a young badger who loves birdsong and daydreaming, is recruited into the Rumpington Academy of Badgering. There, she learns that important humans are actually Badger Operated People (BOPs). Can Lulu complete a secret mission to secure world peace, or will a double agent sabotage everything?



**Bird & Squirrel** by James Burks

Bird is carefree and clueless, whilst Squirrel is cautious and likes to wear an acorn cup for a helmet, just in case. Their adventure begins as they head south to escape Cat and continues in the second story with the threat of a killer whale. A brilliantly fun graphic novel, perfect for reluctant readers but will be loved by all.



**Libby and the Parisian Puzzle** by Jo Clarke & Becca Moor

When Libby joins her aunt's travelling school, she soon finds herself searching for the truth when her aunt is accused of a crime and arrested. Along with her new friend Connie, Lizzy races around the streets of Paris trying to solve the mystery and clear her aunt's name. A little bit of peril and a few red herrings make this a fun detective story.



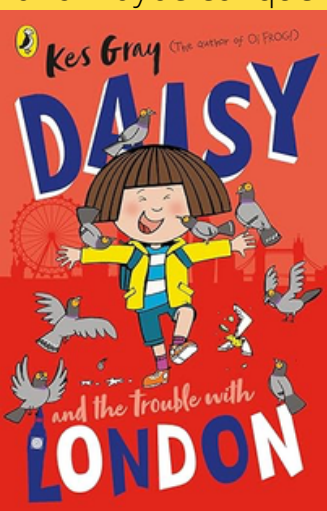
**There's no such thing as a Silly Question** by Mike Rampton & G. Karsten

This brilliant non-fiction book is packed with great questions and hilarious, factual answers. Ever wondered how knights in armour went to the toilet, how many people are in the sky right now or if spiders ever get caught in their own webs? A fun book to read from cover to cover, or for reluctant readers to dip into.



**Destiny Ink: Sleepover Surprise** by Adeola Sokunbi

Destiny is excited, but nervous, about camping in her friend's garden for a sleepover. Practising with a tent in her room, she tries to ease her fears by drawing but nothing works - until a monster appears in her tent. Now, Destiny must help him face his fears and maybe conquer her own, too.



## Mrs Thomson recommends...

This is part of a wonderful series of books about Daisy by Kes Gray. This time we follow Daisy on an exciting day trip to London with her grandparents, taking in all the sights and making friends with Cooey the pigeon! Everything about the trip is an adventure for Daisy, from preparing a packed lunch, to going on the train and navigating the ticket machines. Daisy's awe and wonder at visiting London for the first time are beautifully captured, and there is lots to laugh at in this excellent book.

# CHAPTER BOOKS FOR OLDER READERS

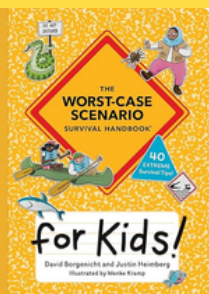


**Birdie** by J P Rose

Birdie, growing up in a children's home for mixed race children in 1950s Leeds, is sent to live with her aunt in the Yorkshire Dales. Experiencing racism and cruelty, she befriends a pit pony and resolves to save his life. A powerful and heartfelt story of friendship, belonging and identity for fans of Michael Morpurgo.

**Chronicles of Whetherwhy: The Age of Enchantment** by Anna James

Juniper and Rafferty live in Whetherwhy, where everyone's magic is tied to the seasons. When Juniper learns she has magic from all four seasons, she heads to Thistledown Academy for Enchantment. Rafferty follows her and, when he uncovers a secret society, the twins must unite against the dark magic.

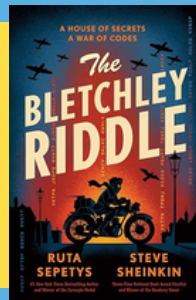


**The Worst-Case Scenario Survival Handbook for Kids** by David Borgenicht, Justin Heimberg & Wenke Kramp

This is a hilarious book full of fun facts and survival tips from finding water in the desert to dealing with a charging moose, escaping from a crocodile and even how to go to the toilet in the woods. A great laugh-out-loud read.

**The Bletchley Riddle** by Ruta Sepetys & Steve Sheinkin

A fast-paced and exciting book about a brother and sister who end up working at Bletchely Park, with Jakob working on code-breaking and Lizzie trying to find out more information about their mother's disappearance. A great mystery with lots of puzzles to unravel.

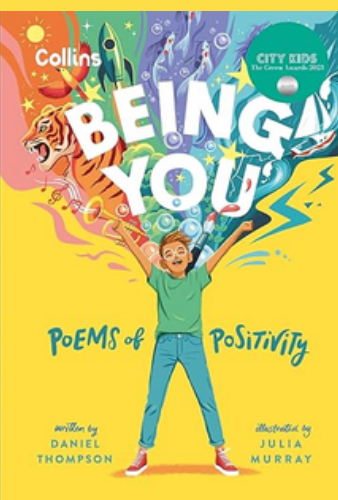
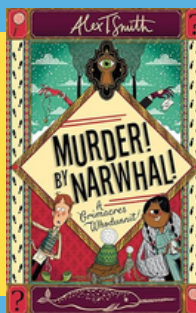


**Maisie vs Antarctica** by Jack Jackman

Maisie's dad writes exciting survival books but Maisie thinks he is boring because he's never actually done any of the things he writes about. But when she joins him on a trip to Antarctica, strange things start happening. Is her dad perhaps not as boring as she thinks?

**Murder! by Narwhal!** by Alex T Smith

When grouchy Ignatious Gristle is murdered and the family have no way to contact the police due to a snowstorm, it is up to his granddaughter, Edna, and her tortoise, Charles Dickens, to find the killer and solve the case in this fantastic, twisty mystery with a wonderful cast of quirky characters.



## Miss Stopps recommends...

This is a great book for both boys and girls, with 50 poems to help children overcome their worries and to spread kindness. The themes include celebrating differences, friendship, self-belief and embracing change. This collection of poems can be enjoyed as a whole family or read when a quiet five minutes are needed to create a little breathing space in a busy day. An inspirational book covering important topics in a creative way.