Reading Newsletter

Spring 2025

This term's guest editors: Year 6 Reading Ambassadors

World Book Week (because a day just won't do!)

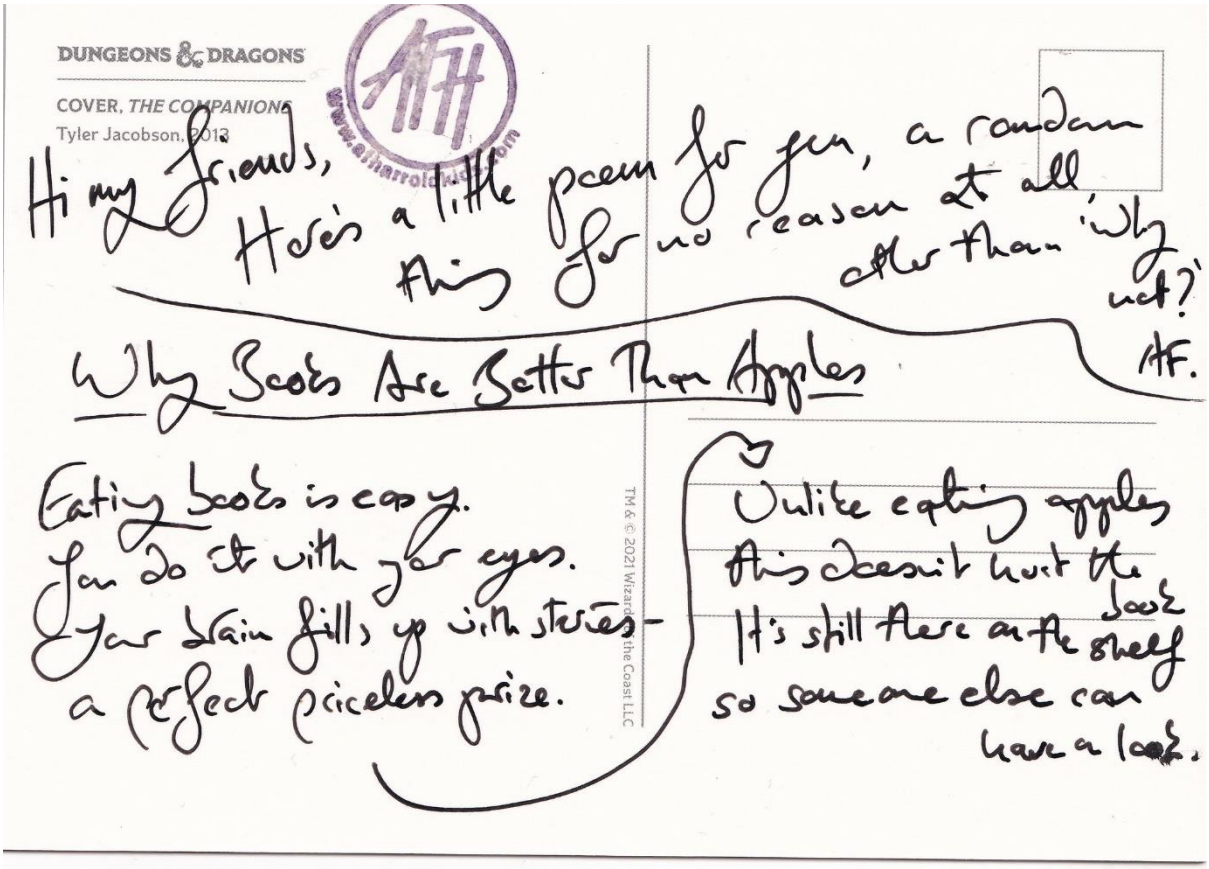
by Carla, Suki and Evelyn

On World Book Day, March 6th, Strand yet again hosted many fun events. In the morning, Year 4 and 6 went to the reading cafe in the hall where each student was offered biscuits and juice as they shared their costumes, characters and favourite book with one another. Afterwards, Year 3 and 5 had their turn.

After filling ourselves up with biscuits, the whole school gathered into the front playground for the traditional World Book Day parade. The theme this year was Read Your Way, which means people were encouraged to read the way that's best for them, so people had the option to wear cosy clothes or dress up as their favourite book character. Each child got to show off their fabulous, creative costumes.

Back in class, each class focused and studied a specific book for The World Book Day festivities. Year 3 read The Disgusting Sandwich by Gareth Edwards, Year 4 did Harold Snipperpot's Best Disaster Ever by Beatrice Alemagna, Year 5 did activities around Loki by Louis Stowell and Year 6 looked at The Journey by Francessca Sanna.

A.F. Harrold



Eating books is easy.

You do it with your eyes.

Your brain fills up with stories – a perfect priceless prize.

Unlike eating apples this doesn't hurt the book.

It's still there on the shelf so someone else can have a look.

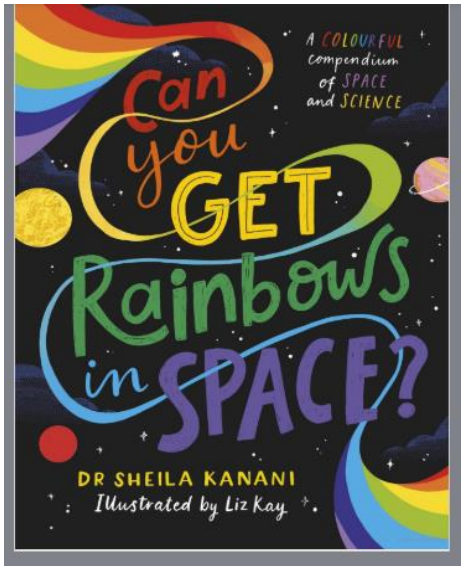
English poet, performer and author, A.F Harrold visited us on World Book Day, so each year group trooped up to the gym to hear what he had to say. A.F's books consist of: The Imaginary, The Song from Somewhere Else, What You Find in a Poet's Beard, The World we Leave Behind and many, many more. He shared his funny and interactive poems in year groups 3-6. He shared a piece of his debut book, The Worlds We Leave Behind.

Royal Society Young People's Book Prize

Strand on the Green was one of almost 800 schools across the UK that took part in the Royal Society Young People's Book Prize 2024. We had to try to read 6 books to then rate them on a number of things out of 5 stars.

Professor Dorothy Bishop FRS, Emeritus Professor of Developmental Neuropsychology at University of Oxford and Chair of the shortlist judging panel, said, "Narrowing them down to just six was an almost impossible task, but we are thrilled with the shortlist and hope the young judges enjoy reading them as much as we did."

There was a wide range of books: All Bodies Are Wonderful by Beth Cox, An Expanding World Of Data by Tom Jackson, Can You Get Rainbows In Space? by Dr Sheila Kanani, Where Are You Really From? by Adam Rutherford, Engineers Making A Difference by Shini Somara and Mission: Arctic by Katharina Weiss-Tuider.



And the winner was... Can You Get Rainbows In Space? by Dr Sheila Kanani, illustrated by Liz Kay

Overall, it was a fun reading challenge to take part in. By reading for a challenge you may come across many different books that you might have never considered reading!

By Marni

What is missing from our library shelves?

We want your recommendations. Are there any obvious gaps or would you just like to see more or a particular type of book? After Easter, you will be able to send a postcard in the library to let us know.

Book Swap

Bring a Book, Take a Book!

Clean out your bookshelves and bring as many (gently used) books as you would like! To share the love of books we have decided to host a book swap; please bring any books you have finished (in good condition).

Strand has been thinking about bringing back the good old book swap for eager readers who need new books every week! So please consider bringing any books that may intrigue others but please no magazines.

How it works

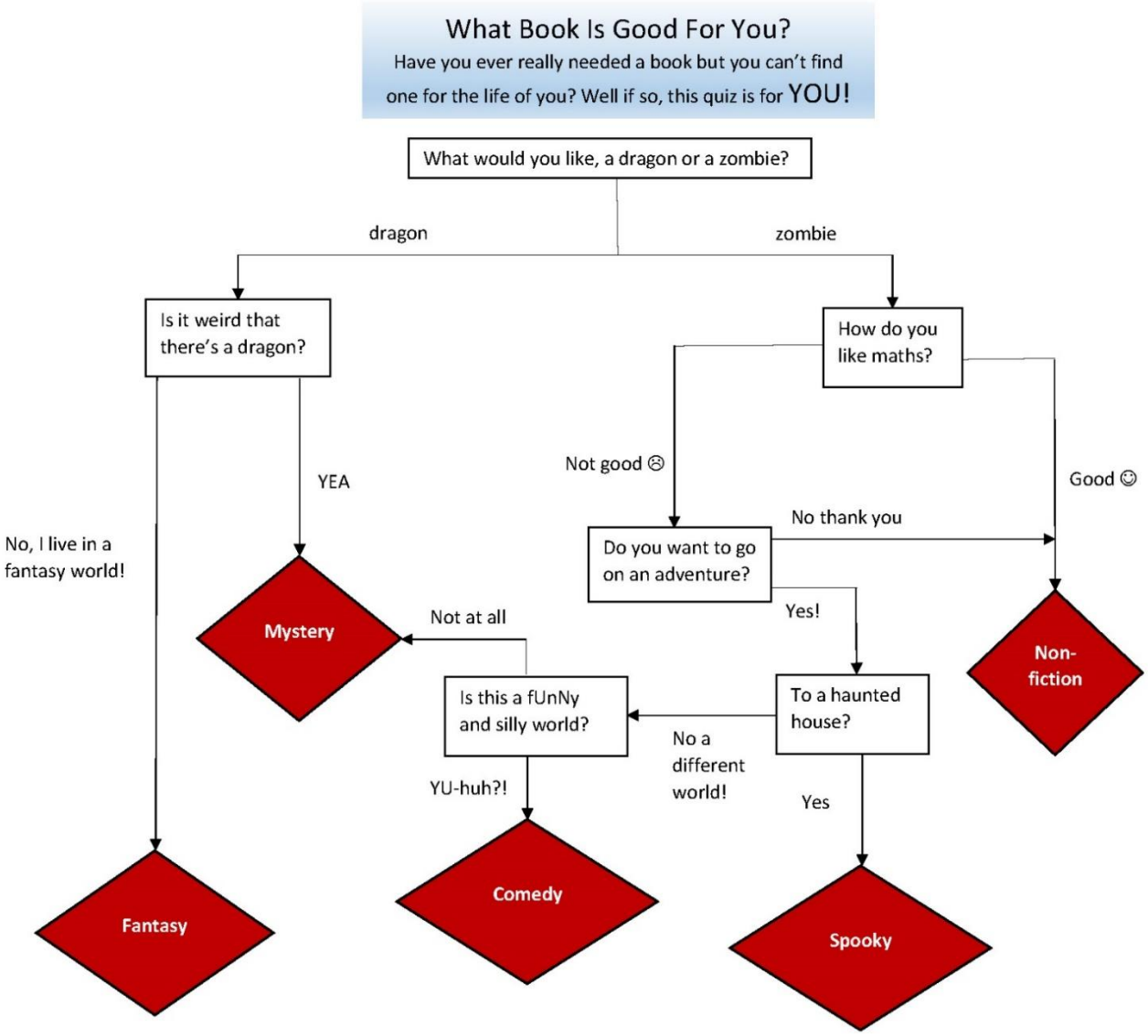
You may bring as many books as you want. Please make sure that these books are still readable and in good condition. We are not a book bin! We strongly encourage you not to crowd the book swap as it will block the path for others. What you will need to do is if you want to take a book from the book swap you may keep it but you need to bring one of your own (depending on how many you are taking out).

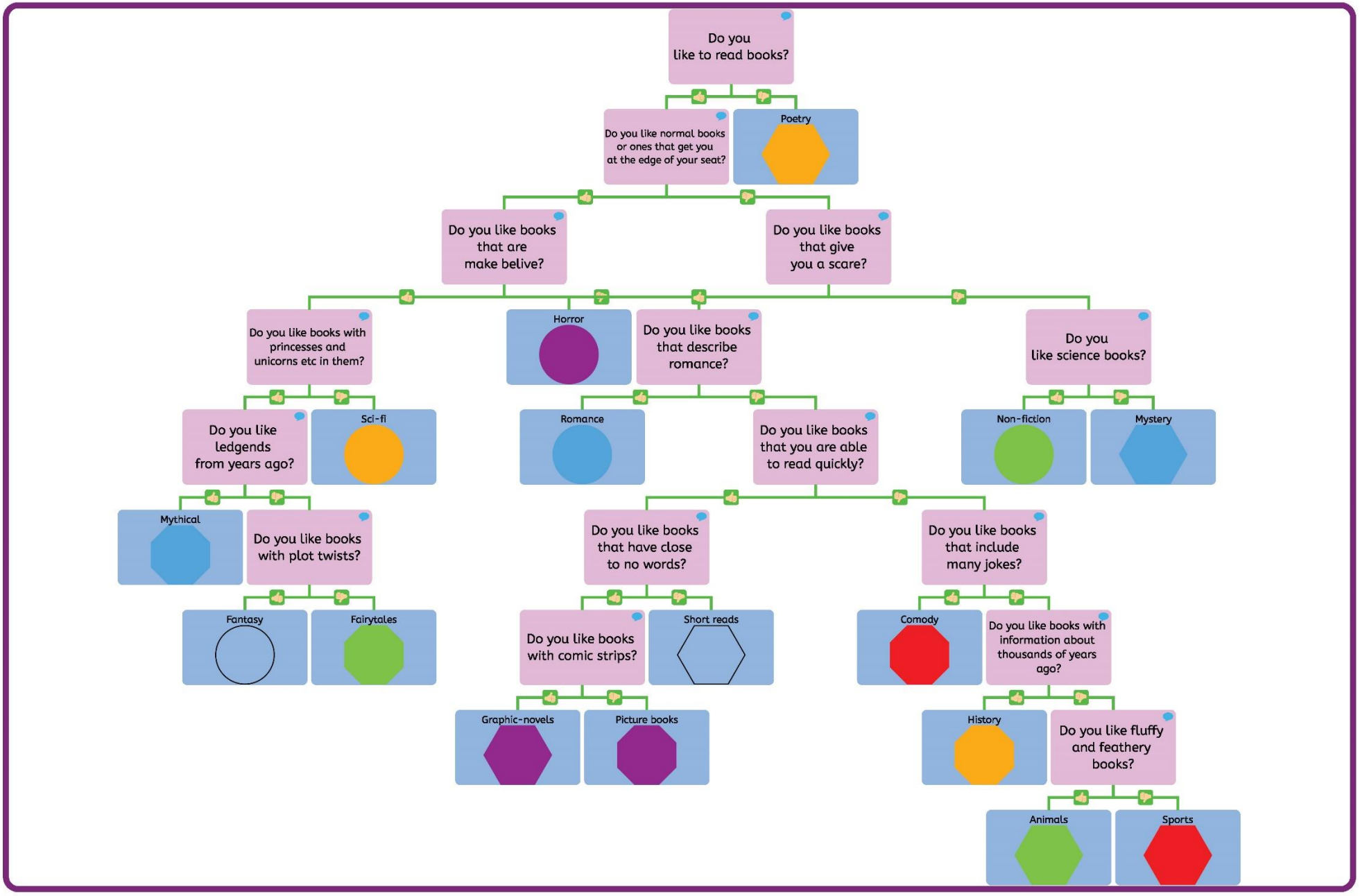
By Kennesaw and Warisha (more details to follow next term)

Stop Press!

As we go to press, it can be revealed that a very generous donor has bought us another reading shed to help us continue with our mission to improve the outdoor spaces at Strand. Thank you very much to this incredibly kind Secret Strandite! If you would like to also contribute to improving our outdoor reading areas, we have more options on the PTA's wish list such as waterproof cushions and beanbags.

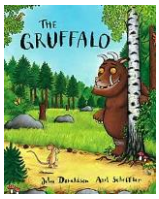
Find your favourite genre... (by Nia and Marlowe)



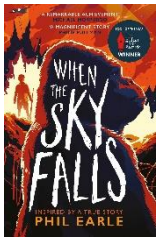

Do you like to read books?
Do you like normal books or ones that get you at the edge of your seat?
Poetry
Do you like books that are make belive?
Do you like books that give you a scare?
Do you like books with princesses and unicorns etc in them?
Horror
Do you like books that describe romance?
Do you like science books?
Do you like ledgends from years ago?
Sci-fi
Romance
Do you like books that you are able to read quickly?
Non-fiction
Mystery
Mythical
Do you like books with plot twists?
Do you like books that have close to no words?
Do you like books that include many jokes?
Fantasy
Fairytales
Do you like books with comic strips?
Short reads
Comody
Do you like books with information about thousands of years ago?
Graphic-novels
Picture books
History
Do you like fluffy and feathery books?
Animals
Sports

Enter our reading quiz competition (by Bella and Amia)

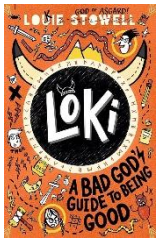
How well do you know books? We have created a quiz to test your book worm credentials...

1. 

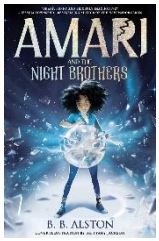
What is the first thing the little brown mouse says is the Gruffalo's favourite food?

2. 

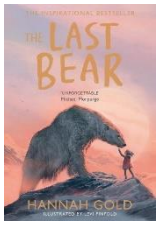
What is the name of the gorilla Joseph is looking after?

3. 

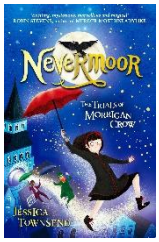
Loki was banished from Asgard and sent to live as a mortal boy on Earth as a punishment. What had he done?

4. 

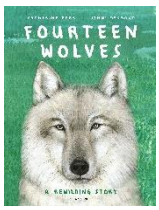
Which magical organisation does Amari join while searching for her brother?

5. 

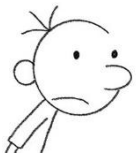
Who finds The Last Bear?

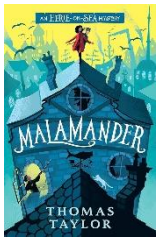
6. 

What is the name of the nine-star hotel where Morrigan Crow lives in Nevermoor?

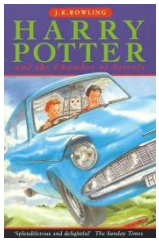
7. 

Which park reintroduced a pack of Fourteen Wolves?

8.  Who is this?

9. 

What is the name of the magical cat in the Eerie-on-Sea mysteries?

10. 

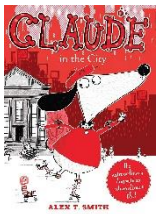
Harry and Ron used a flying car to get to Hogwarts. Where did they crash land when they arrived?

11.

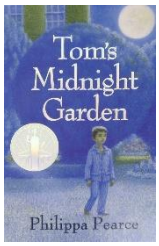
Who is the doorman at the Nothing to See Here Hotel?

12.

Which colour crayon complains of being overused?

13. 

What is the name of Claude's sock puppet sidekick?

14. 

Who does Tom meet in the garden when the clock strikes thirteen?

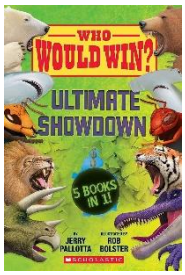
15. In which series of books would you find this character?

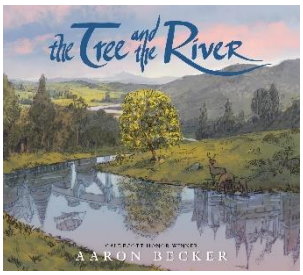
There is a task on Google Classroom or you can hand your answers in to your teacher. The closing date is Friday April 25th.

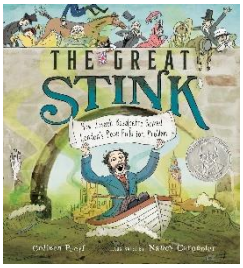
Holiday Reading

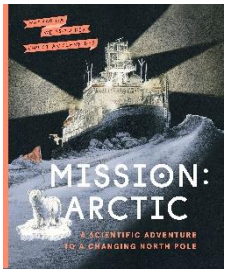
Here are some recommendations for books to read during the holidays. Click the images to open in Sora (instructions **here**).

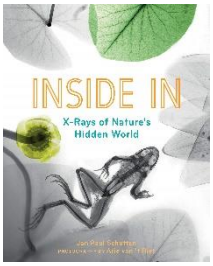
Look forward to Earth Day on April 22nd

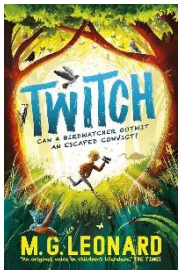


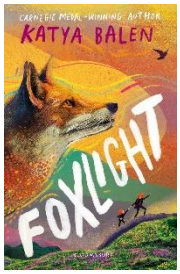


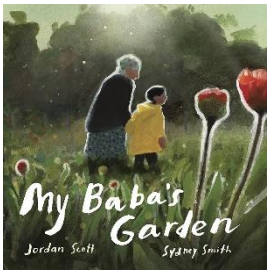


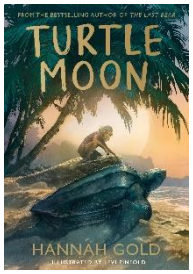


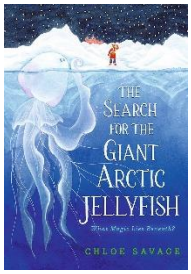


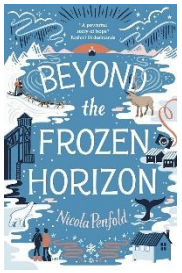






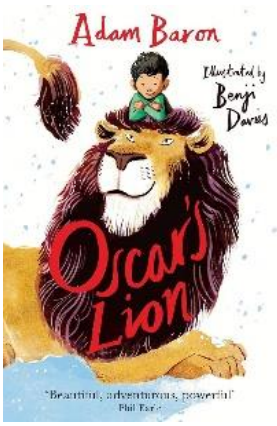


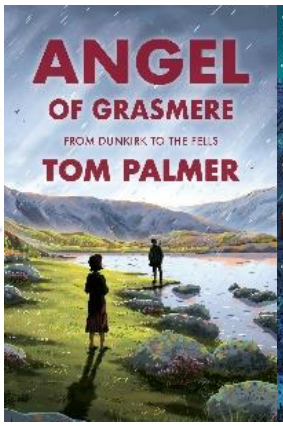


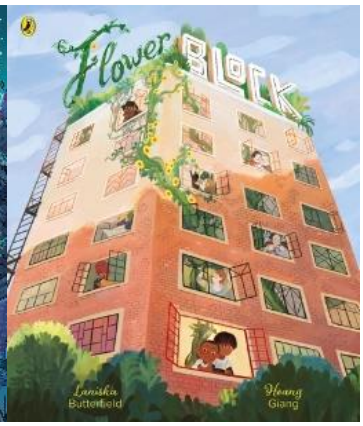


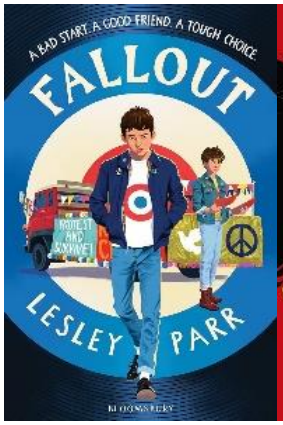
Book Awards

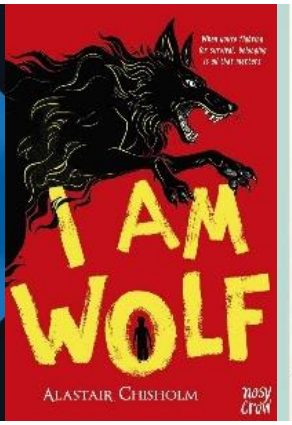
Check out some of the books our Spark! Book Award panels have been reading or investigate the Carnegies Longlist.











Classifieds

Do you love books? Are you in Year 5?
Do you have what it takes to get other people reading more?

If so, we may have the job for you….

We are looking for suitable candidates from Year 5 to fill the role of **Reading Champion** across the Juniors, taking over from the current Year 6 ambassadors in the Summer term. In the first instance, the role will include primarily organisational responsibilities, but the role could be expanded for the right candidates to involve creating and carrying out activities to promote a love of reading across the school.

Look out for posters across the school next term which will include details of what we are looking for in the right candidates and how to apply….

If you need more inspiration, Wrd About Books magazines are now available free online with lots of extracts, interviews and reviews. LoveReading4Kids has lots of brilliant recommendations in their Star Books or scroll through their Books of the Month. You get 10% off any books you buy from them while they contribute 25% for our school to get more books for our classroom shelves.