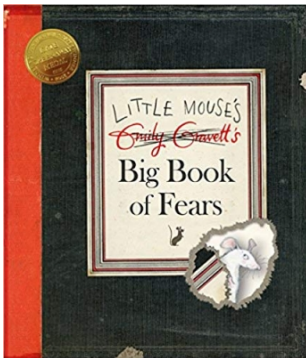


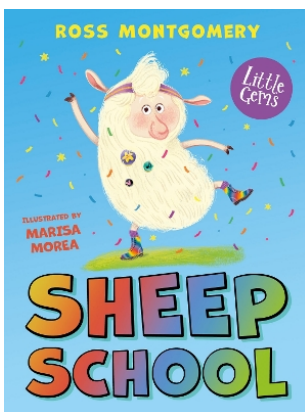
A selection of books especially selected for children in Year 3 (7 - 8 year olds) of average reading ability for the 2023/24 academic year.

If your child is a competent reader or has read all these titles then try the books from the Year 4 list. Alternatively if these books are a little challenging try books from the Year 2 list. Our overall mission is to promote reading for pleasure with quality texts that are perfectly pitched for the age group and the curriculum. We have particularly avoided blockbusters, classic or set texts, known to everyone, so that we can include poetry, stunning information texts and inspirational books in which all children and young people can find themselves reflected.

**Little Mouse's Big Book Of Fears**

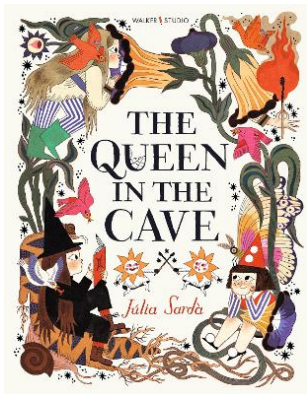
Author: Emily Gravett **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/08/2008

Winner of the 2008 CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal This award winning author-illustrator continues to create some of the most innovative and imaginative illustrated children's books. Through nursery rhyme stories follow Little Mouse as he confronts his many fears including Ablutophobia (Fear of Bathing) and Ligrophobia (Fear of loud noises). You can even make lists of your own fears to overcome! - Winner of the 2007 Nestle Children's Book Prize Bronze Award (6 to 8 category) Click [here](#) for a Little Mouse related activity sheet ! Be sure to check out Emily Gravett's other titles by clicking [here](#).

**Sheep School**

Author: Ross Montgomery **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 02/03/2023

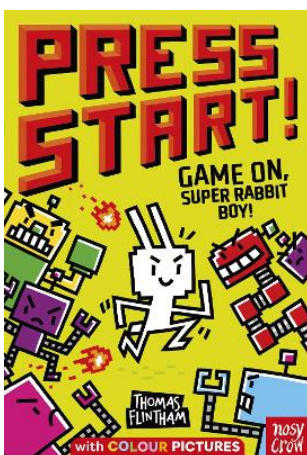
A thwarted thespian must use his talents to save his flock from a woolly situation in this hilarious gem from bestselling children's author Ross Montgomery. William the lamb just can't stand still. His feet are always tapping, ready to dance, and he loves nothing more than bursting into song. But his talents aren't always appreciated at Sheep School. Cast out of the flock, he wanders miserably away only to witness the rest of the sheep being captured by the Big Bad Wolf. Can William find a way to put his artistic skills to use to save the day?



The Queen in the Cave

Author: Julia Sarda **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 07/10/2021

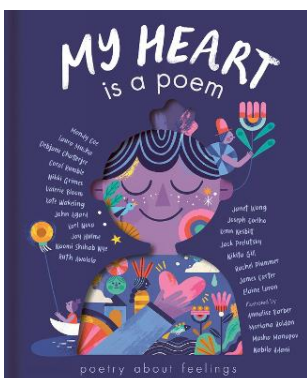
Julia Sarda spins an enthralling and evocative tale rich with layers of meaning to be unearthed. One night, Franca has a dream about a marvellous queen. And now she feels intrigued... Eager to know more about this mystical figure, Franca shares her dream with her two younger sisters. Together, they set out on an enchanting adventure to discover the kingdom of the queen in the cave. This is a riveting and atmospheric picture book that will surprise and enthrall young readers and dreamers.



Press Start! Game On, Super Rabbit Boy!

Author: Thomas Flintham **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 02/02/2023

Shortlisted for the Week Junior Book Awards 2023 For 5+ kids who love video games but aren't allowed to play as often as they'd like... Sunny's favourite game is Super Rabbit Boy and he loves to pit his skills against King Viking who hates fun and happiness and wants to steal Singing Dog and bring sadness to Animal Town FOR EVER! Can Sunny help Super Rabbit Boy get to Level 6 and rescue Singing Dog and restore joy to Animal Town? Only if he defeats the Robot Army, dodges the Robo-Crabs and Lakes of Lava before battling King Viking himself! Has Sunny got the skills? Has Super Rabbit Boy eaten enough super magical carrots (SPOILER: origin story)? You'll have to read and find out... The first in a full-colour series of graphic novels about - and for - kids who love gaming! Join Sunny as he and Super Rabbit Boy take on the world, one move at a time! Shortlisted for the Week Junior Book Awards 2023



My Heart is a Poem

Author: Various Authors **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 02/02/2023

This is a book of poetry for everyone. This beautiful collection of poetry celebrates the brilliant thing that is feelings. It explores all the different emotions we experience and how different situations bring these emotions to the surface. From feelings of uncontrollable excitement and inexplicable sadness to the electricity which surges from anger and pride, the poems in this anthology perfectly put into words all the different things we feel in our hearts. Vivid and stirring artwork from an array of talented artists brings breathtaking poetry from a range of voices to life. Featuring powerful poetry from: Mandy Coe Laura Mucha Nikki Grimes Naomi Shihab Nye Debjani Chatterjee Coral Rumble Kate

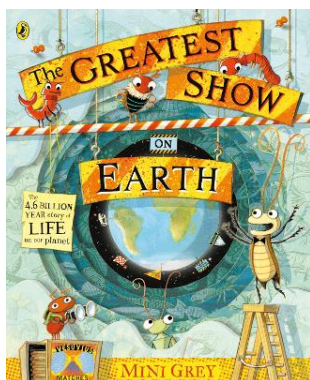
Wakeling John Agard Karl Nova James Carter Valerie Bloom Janet Wong Joseph Coelho Ken Nesbitt Jack Prelutsky Nikita Gill Jay Hulme Rachel Plummer Ruth Awolola Elaine Laron And awe-inspiring artwork from: Annalise Barber Mariana Roldan Masha Manapov Nabila Adani Also available: Courage in a Poem



Budgie

Author: Joseph Coelho **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 06/04/2023

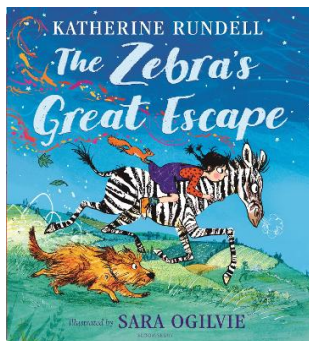
A Julia Eccleshare Pick of the Month April 2023 | Interest Age 5-8 Children's Laureate tells a beautifully rounded story full of his hallmark humanity and love of nature, and written in the best style of his poetry. Grumpy Mr Buxton seems to be keen to stop Miles and his friend enjoying the beautiful woods near where he lives. But, when Miles takes care of a lost little budgie, it leads him to finding a completely different side to Mr Buxton. Mr Buxton had been the previous owner of the budgie and it turns out he and Miles share a deep love of nature. Easy to read by readers of a wide range of ages, Budgie shows that stories that carry big emotions can be simply written.



The Greatest Show on Earth

Author: Mini Grey **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 06/04/2023

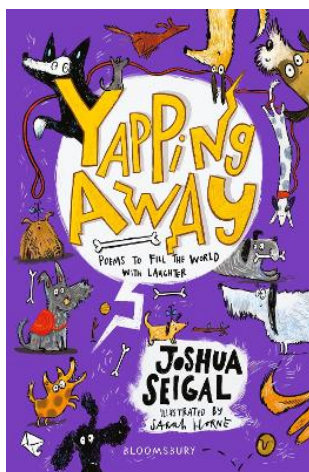
Shortlisted for the UKLA Book Awards 2023: Information Books 3 - 14+ Prize winning illustrator Mini Grey has used her many talents to create this wonderful tour of the development of our planet and all its inhabitants. Our guide in this amazing show is Rod the Roach and he and his insect pals all put on the most amazing stage show illustrating each of the developmental stages of the world. Where the stages' wings would be there are side panels packed with information, small illustrations, and useful guides to how life might have been. The orchestra pit is where we can see the tape measure which gives us a timeline with lots of annotations, tiny illustrations and notice of when all the ice ages or warm ages happened. This is a visual delight that will have children poring over it as they look at the amazing planet that we live on. Each double page spread has so much to read and marvel at on it, that children will find it engrossing and informative in equal measures. I can see this being a classroom favourite for many years to come. This reader certainly gained a lot more knowledge about microbes than she had ever thought possible - and in such an entertaining way. The last double page spread is a full glossary of all the unusual and difficult terms that readers may not have come across before. This makes it into so much more than just an illustrated book but into a vital information resource for young readers.



The Zebra's Great Escape

Author: Katherine Rundell **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 01/09/2022

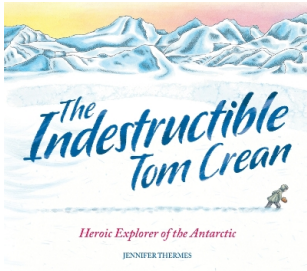
Mink likes doing things fast and wild, and, like the creature she's named herself for, is also fiercely loyal and not afraid to bite. When a lost little zebra comes looking for help, of course Mink volunteers and with the help of grouchy dog Rainbow and her new-found ability to understand what animals are saying, tracks down the missing zebra parents. They've been taken captive by the wicked Mr Spit, neatly completing his alphabetically organised wild animal collection. Nasty as Spit is, he's no match for Mink, especially when she's backed up by furious animals with newly found fire inside them. (Mink's dad thinks being asked for help gives us the chance to change the world, lighting up a fire inside us). With her plaits, her resourcefulness and courage, there's definitely something of Pippi Longstocking about Mink, and the story moves as fast as she could wish for, driven by a sense of justice and of all the possibilities open to children. Sara Ogilvie's illustrations are gorgeous, full of energy one minute, tenderness the next.



Yapping Away: Poems by Joshua Seigal

Author: Joshua Seigal **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 19/08/2021

September 2021 Book of the Month The opening poem in Joshua Seigal's sparkling new collection invites readers to 'fill the world with words', and he does a very good job of doing just that in poems that represent his audience's world perfectly. Here are poems about classrooms, playtime, grandparents, chocolate biscuits – all just right to read aloud and deliciously easy to remember. There are poems that deliver jokes, poems that play with sense and their shape, poems that sneak in deeper meanings too as they describe familiar emotions. One thing is for certain, everyone will find a favourite in this collection, a poem they'll want to read to someone else. It ends with a selection of Seigal's tips for children on writing poetry and I think lots of readers will be inspired to add their own poems to the world as a result.



The Indestructible Tom Crean

Author: Jennifer Thermes **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 19/01/2023

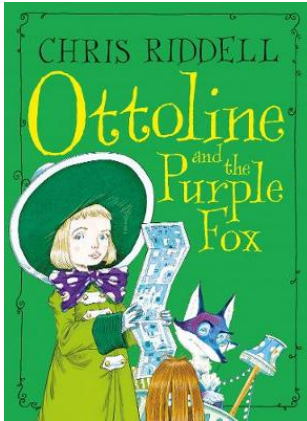
At the turn of the 20th Century, scientists and explorers were in a race to unlock the secrets of the last great uncharted place on Earth - Antarctica. This is the true story of Tom Crean, the legendary Irish explorer and crewmate of three of the most important and famous expeditions in British history - Discovery, Terra Nova and Endurance. Through his story, we discover the events that took place on these voyages which were often thrilling, inspiring and heart-breaking.



Change Sings

Author: Amanda Gorman **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 10/08/2023

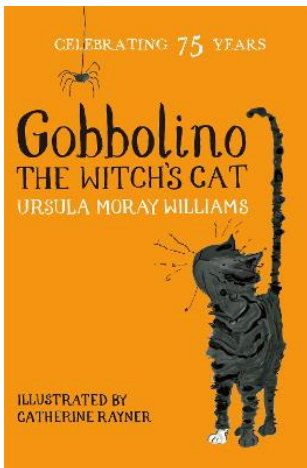
August 2023 Debut of the Month After the triumph of her performance at the inauguration, this first picture book from poet Amanda Gorman has been hotly anticipated and it certainly does not disappoint! The combination of the lyrical writing with the luminous illustrations from the acclaimed Loren Long, is a marriage made in heaven. From the first page, where we meet the young girl with her guitar, centre stage on a white page and she announces "I can hear change humming/ In its loudest, proudest song./ I don't fear change coming,/ And so I sing along," we are swept along by her gentle, quiet confidence. The second spread is a glorious technicolour image of an inspiring community mural of Martin Luther King and we see her meet a light skinned boy carrying a tuba. She offers him a rubbish bag and together they begin to clear litter from the park. As page follows page they continue to reach out to others, "though it might take some courage" and to model little acts of kindness: feeding the destitute, delivering groceries to an elderly person, constructing a ramp for a disabled child and all the time building the song, gathering instruments and changing their community for the better; building towards a glorious symbolic mural of their own. We end as we began with our narrator on a white page, this time looking directly at us with an invitation to carry the song onwards and leaving the reader with a belief in collective action for positive change. Powerful words and images that repay multiple visits and leave an indelible impression. A must have addition to school collections and children's bookcases.



Ottoline and the Purple Fox

Author: Chris Riddell **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 17/05/2018

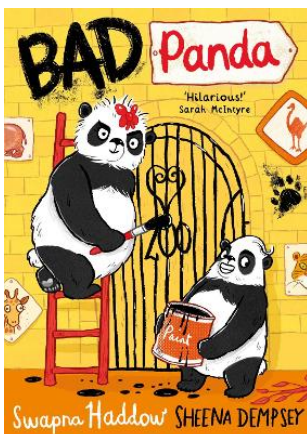
This is the fourth adventure for Ottoline and her best friend Mr Munroe, and it is every bit as enchanting, witty and surprising as the first. The emphasis is on friendship in this story: with her parents still roving the world for interesting items to add to their ever-growing collection of objects, Ottoline holds a dinner party. Guests include the dashing Purple Fox, a new friend, who has introduced Ottoline to some of the city's most exciting inhabitants and hidden secrets. She's able to repay him by drawing his attention to something lovely that he's failed to see. Chris Riddell's illustrations are as dazzling as ever; it's worth lingering over every page to revel in the fluency of his line and to look out for the myriad little details. Ottoline is a delight for readers of all ages.



Gobbolino the Witch's Cat

Author: Ursula Moray Williams **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 07/09/2017

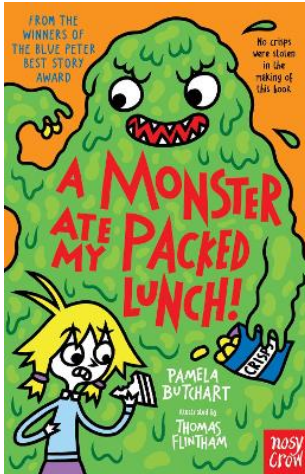
A timeless and always appealing tale getting a well deserved new lease of life with delightful illustrations from award winning Catherine Rayner.



Bad Panda

Author: Swapna Haddow **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/07/2021

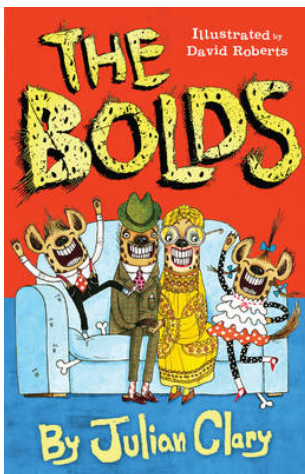
Lin is seriously cute, even for a panda. In fact, she's the sort of cute that reduces everyone to inarticulate cooing and desperate requests for cuddles. It's part of the genius of Haddow's book that lots of small children will identify with that, and with Lin's utter disgust at this response! When she's sent away from her brother and best friend Face-Like-A-Bag-Of-Potatoes to a different zoo, and advertised as The World's Fluffiest Panda, Lin flips: she'll do anything to get back. Her plan, in which she is ably assisted by new friend Fu, involves being so bad the keepers will have to send her home. Readers will love Lin's comic adventures and race through the story. Sheena Dempsey's two-colour illustrations are as lively as Lin, and the story often slips into comic strip, making it super-readable as well as super-fun.



A Monster Ate My Packed Lunch

Author: Pamela Butchart **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/07/2021

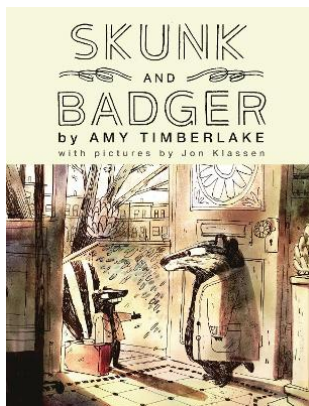
Number 11 in the Baby Aliens series, *A Monster Ate My Packed Lunch* sees Izzy and her class plus their long-suffering teachers heading off on a school activities trip. On the official agenda is raft-building, a nature walk and a ropes course, but, as we've come to expect, things turn out to be a lot more surprising, risky and dramatic. Together the gang has seen off Yetis, Demon Dinner Ladies and Vampire Rats, but can they cope with Camp Mentors' monster? As always in this hugely popular series, the story is laugh-out-loud funny, the humour driven by Butchart's exuberant imagination and perfectly captured child's-eye-view of life. Packed with illustrations by Thomas Flintham, this is just right for newly confident readers. The LoveReading LitFest invited Pamela to the festival to talk about *A Monster Ate My Packed Lunch*. The digitally native, all year round, online literature and books festival, with new content released every week is a free-for-all-users festival. What are you waiting for? Check out a preview of the event and sign up to become a member.



The Bolds

Author: Julian Clary **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 30/07/2015

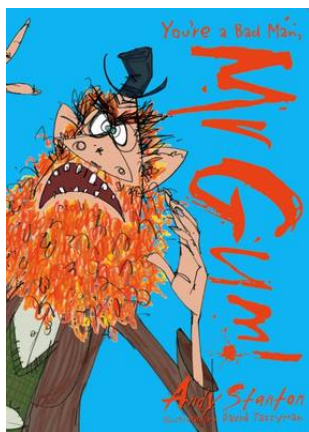
One of our Books of the Year 2015 - A Reader Review Panel Pick of the Year 2015 Comedian, entertainer and 'national trinket' Julian Clary now turns out to be a talented children's writer too. *The Bolds*, his first book for children, is a real treat – a funny story with a ludicrous but hugely enjoyable plotline, lots of jokes, some nail-biting moments and wonderful characters. The Bolds live happily in Teddington where Mrs Bold sells hats and Mr Bold writes the jokes for Christmas crackers, jobs for which they are perfectly suited. Hardly anyone knows they are actually hyenas! Their secret nearly comes out when they attract the attention of their grumpy next-door neighbour, but maybe he's got things to hide too. David Roberts' illustrations are a joy to behold and perfectly catch the stylishly dressed Bolds' blithe, carefree happiness. A very special book. Books in The Bolds Series: 1. *The Bolds* 2. *The Bolds in Trouble* 3. *The Bolds to the Rescue* 4. *The Bolds on Holiday* 5. *The Bolds' Christmas Cracker* 6. *The Bolds Go Wild* 7. *The Bolds Go Green*



Skunk and Badger

Author: Amy Timberlake **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 03/09/2020

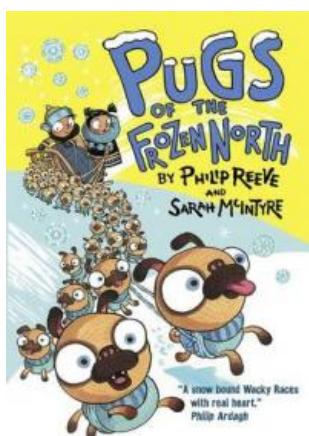
Meet Skunk and Badger. The first time Badger saw Skunk, he thought, 'puny' and shut the front door. There was simply too much slick in this Skunk's stripe. Too much puff in his tail. Also, there'd been that grin, and the way he'd stuck out his paw as if he had been looking forward to meeting Badger. Badger knew what to make of that. He shut the door before the fellow got any ideas . . . But Skunk is Badger's new roommate, and there is nothing Badger can do about it. When Skunk bursts into Badger's life, everything Badger knows is upended. Tails are flipped. The wrong animal is sprayed. And why-oh-why are there so many chickens?



You're A Bad Man, Mr Gum!

Author: Andy Stanton **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 07/08/2006

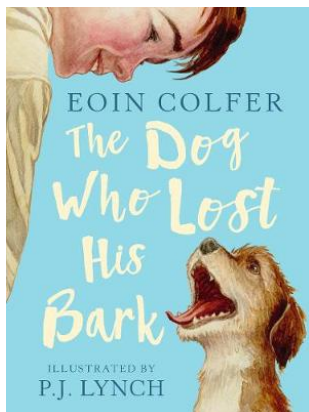
Winner of the Blue Peter Prize 2007 'Most Fun Story with Pictures.' Shortlisted for the Branford Boase Award 2007. Joint winner of the Richard and Judy "Developing" 7+ category. What the judges' said: 'an illogical, surreal romp with some great one-liners and the kind of book that will make readers out of children that never knew they wanted to read' Mr Gum may well be a 'bad man' but rest assured the author Mr Stanton is a 'funny man'. There's a wonderful sense of humour throughout. Fans of Roald Dahl will love it. And a must for ALL Mr Gum fans - the Mr Gum Quiz book - FREE TO DOWNLOAD - and test your knowledge - [click here](#) (but it's pretty big so it might take short while!)



Pugs of the Frozen North

Author: Philip Reeve **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/09/2016

Shortlisted for the UKLA 2017 Book Award Award winning author partners Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre head north for their latest adventure. When the cabin boy is abandoned by his shipmates when their ship is stranded in the ice. He's completely alone, except for 64 little pugs, part of the ship's cargo! He soon teams up with Shika, a girl desperately seeking dogs to pull her grandpa's sled in the Race to the Top of the World, a once in a lifetime contest to win your heart's desire. The eccentric competitors mean there's something of the Wacky Races about all of this, but amongst the crazy - and very entertaining - scenes there are surprising notes of poignancy, as well as some lovely descriptions of the True Winter, fifty types of snow and all.



The Dog Who Lost His Bark

Author: Eoin Colfer **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/08/2019

Longlisted for the UKLA Book Awards 2020 | Shortlisted for the Children's Book Awards 2019, Books for Younger Readers

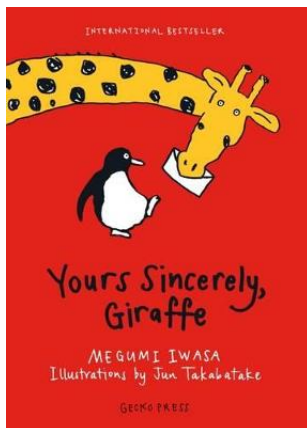
Category Patrick is delighted to go to stay at his grandparents' house, especially when he is told he can choose a rescue puppy. Oz, the puppy has had a terrible start but Patrick is determined to help, until his own life falls apart and he doesn't love his dog. Colfer explores his subject with an empathy which makes the characters and dilemmas very real. A great read.



Our Tower

Author: Joseph Coelho **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 02/08/2022

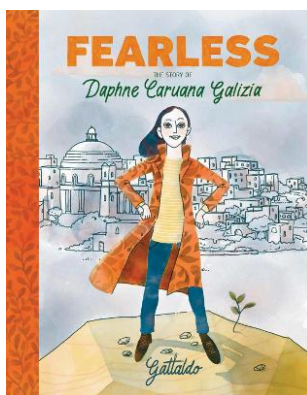
The new Children's Laureate grew up in a tower block in Richmond and that lived experience and the stunning illustrations which unmistakably portray that very location gives this remarkable book a deeply personal authenticity. But the book's message is universal and completely relatable regardless of where you live, although it will seem very special indeed to any child living in their own tower block today. The story follows three children who leave their grey dismal tower in search of the marvellous green tree they can see from their windows. As they move through the wood gradually more colour seeps into the images and when they find their tree and discover an entrance to a magical underground world the palette changes entirely to magical purples and blues and the lovely lyrical text becomes joyously rhyming too. But their real discovery is the gift of the old man of the tree which enables them to see that magic exists in the real world too, when we do not forget our connections to nature and can see and appreciate the beauty of community. A truly beautiful and special text that is a perfect example of words and pictures working together to create a deep and lasting impression on readers young and old.



Yours Sincerely, Giraffe

Author: Megumi Iwasa **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 14/07/2016

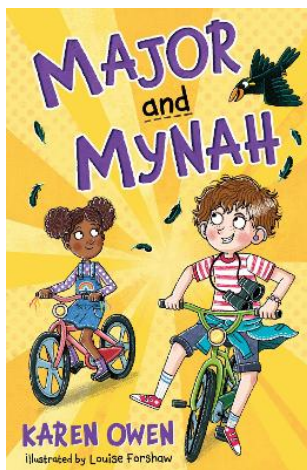
Shortlisted for the UKLA 2018 Book Award Giraffe is bored, as usual. He'd love a friend to share things with. So he writes a letter and sends it as far as possible across the other side of the horizon. There he finds a pen pal—Penguin. Giraffe knows nothing about penguins and his letters are full of questions. What does a penguin look like? Where is a penguin's neck? And so the letters begin to fly from horizon to horizon.



Fearless The Story of Daphne Caruana Galizia

Author: Gattaldo **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 08/10/2020

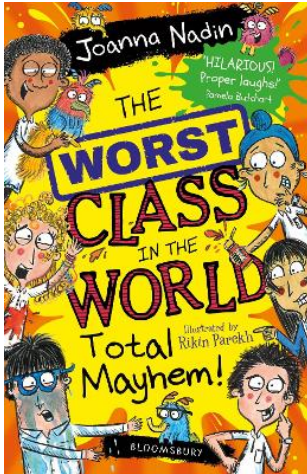
What does it take to be an investigative journalist and discover the truth against all the odds? Daphne Caruana Galizia had a happy childhood with her family on the small island of Malta, loving books, stories and writing. When she succeeded in her ambition to become a journalist, she discovered that there was much to write about in her home country. She found that greedy and corrupt politicians were making themselves rich rather than working for the good of their people. Fearlessly, Daphne exposed criminal and dishonest activities. Her enemies responded with threats and insults to discourage her from revealing more. But nothing could dissuade Daphne from fighting for what she believed in.



Major and Mynah

Author: Karen Owen **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 05/05/2022

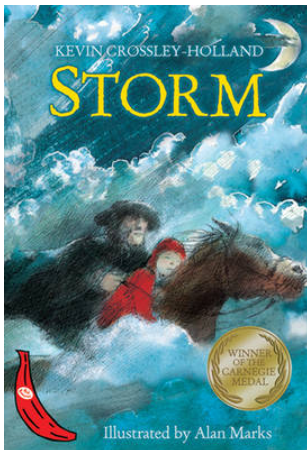
Longlisted for the UKLA Book Award 2023 ages 7-10 | Shortlisted for the Week Junior Book Awards 2023 Join SPUD, the Super Perceptive Undercover Detectives, on their first fast-paced detective adventure. A new mystery series, illustrated by Louise Forshaw and perfect for reluctant readers.



The Worst Class in the World Total Mayhem!

Author: Joanna Nadin **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 08/06/2023

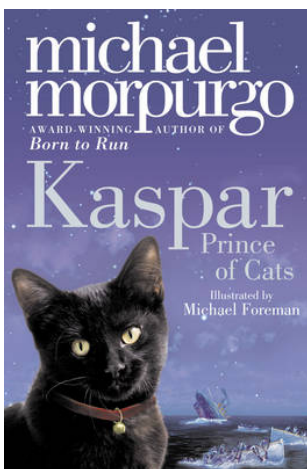
A laugh-out-loud young fiction series from bestselling author Joanna Nadin, perfect for fans of Horrid Henry. Head teacher Mrs Bottomley-Blunt thinks 4B is the WORST CLASS IN THE WORLD. She says school is not about footling or fiddle-faddling or FUN. It is about LEARNING and it is high time 4B tried harder to EXCEL at it. But best friends Stanley and Manjit didn't LITERALLY mean to get covered in newt pond water just before the Class Photo. And they really didn't LITERALLY mean to cause TOTAL MAYHEM by trying to get fake teeth to the very best tooth fairy. These things just happened, even though they had FOOLPROOF plans to get away with it all. Highly illustrated and featuring two hilarious madcap adventures in one book, these stories are just right for children ready for their first chapter books.



Storm

Author: Kevin Crossley-Holland **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/09/2001

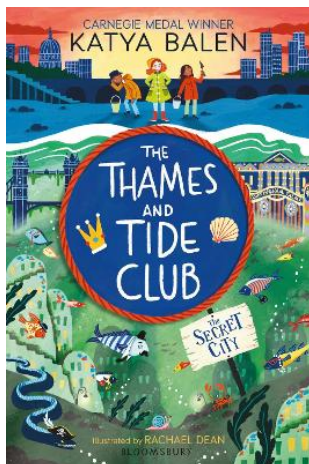
Winner of the Carnegie Award in 1985. A wonderful story of drama and adventure that is beautifully unraveled by award-winning author Kevin Crossley-Holland. The characters are superbly drawn and the narrative is simply but lyrically told. And there's a surprise at the end. (7+) To find out more about this book [CLICK HERE](#) to visit the Carnegie Greenaway site



Kaspar Prince of Cats

Author: Michael Morpurgo **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 07/01/2010

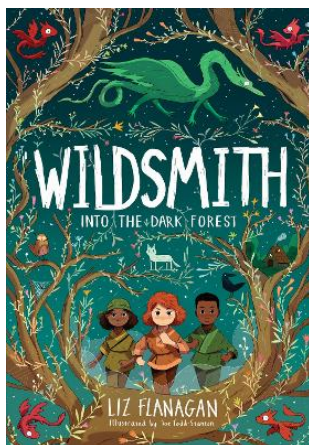
A wonderfully emotional but heart-warming tale from the pen of one of the foremost writers for children. Brilliantly interwoven in historical fact at the time of the sinking of the Titanic is the story of Kaspar the Savoy cat, who we also discover is a survivor of the sinking of the Titanic. The story is utterly compelling and brought to life still further by some really dreamy illustrations by Michael Foreman. A story to read aloud during those cold wintry evenings as much as a story to cuddle up with alone. Wonderful.



The Thames and Tide Club and the Secret City

Author: Katya Balen **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 11/05/2023

A Julia Eccleshare Pick of the Month May 2023 Award winning Katya Balen spins a delightfully funny and fanciful adventure story as mudlarkers Clem and her friends Ash and Zara find something really special hidden in the Thames riverside. Unearthing it sets them off on a madcap and very, very wet adventure in a London that it is at once familiar and totally unrecognisable. Katya Balen's vividly imagined and brilliantly controlled underwater world is perfectly captured in Rachel Dean's delightful illustrations.



Into the Dark Forest The Wildsmith #1

Author: Liz Flanagan **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 02/02/2023

Shortlisted for the Week Junior Book Awards 2023 When war threatens her beloved city, Rowan and her mother must flee to the Dark Forest, meeting Grandpa and his white wolf Arto for the first time. Though she misses her father, Rowan makes new friends - including a trio of powerful witches. When she rescues a baby dragon from poachers, she discovers the secret of her own identity. Could Rowan really be a wildsmith? Fostering a whole clutch of dragons, the summer speeds by. But when danger threatens, Rowan and Grandpa must call on all their friends for help. Shortlisted for the Week Junior Book Awards 2023