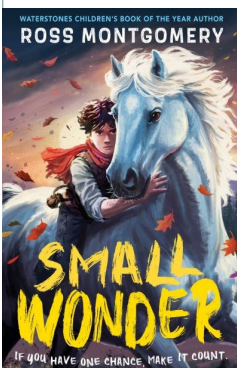
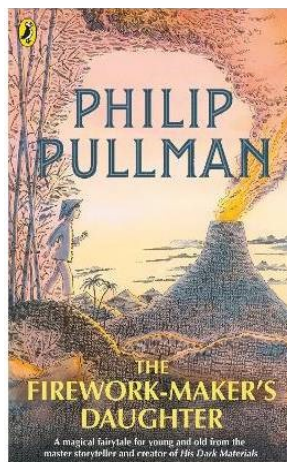




Reading Newsletter.

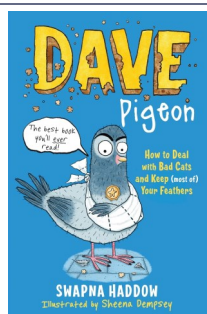
Welcome to the first Reading Newsletter for this school year. I hope to share with you some amazing books that might inspire and interest you! Many of the books you will find in our school library or they may be brand new books that you may wish to read in the future.

My first book recommendation is **Philip Pullman's The Firework-Maker's Daughter**. It is a sparkling adventure full of heart, humour and heroism. Lila's quest to become a firework-maker defies tradition and celebrates courage, creativity, and friendship. With vivid imagery and lyrical prose, Pullman crafts a tale that inspires young readers to chase their dreams—even when the path is fiery and uncertain. A joyful, empowering read.

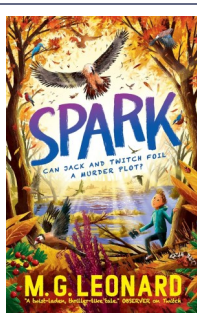


If you're looking for a story that balances action with emotional depth—and leaves readers cheering for its heroes—**Small Wonder** by **Ross Montgomery** truly lives up to its name. A gripping tale of survival, courage, and love between two brothers—Tick and Leaf—who must flee their woodland home to escape an invading army. With only six moons to reach the safety of King's Keep, their journey is filled with peril, unexpected allies, and a relentless assassin on their trail. A great new read.

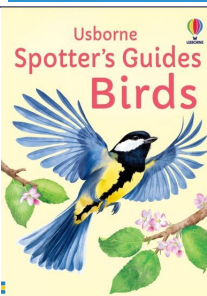
Four books for readers who love birds.



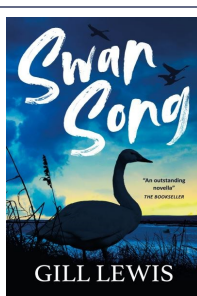
Dave Pigeon by **Swapna Haddow**. This is Dave's guide to how you defeat a mean cat! Laugh out loud. A great book to build reading confidence. Fun!



Spark by **MG Leonard**. An eco-thriller adventure where nature fights back. Twitch is back to uncover dark secrets and save the world.



Explore nature with this inspiring illustrated guide - the perfect companion for budding bird-watchers of all ages.



When Dylan is sent to live in the countryside, he finds a world of wildlife—including a swan that helps him feel brave and calm

My Book Choices by Mrs Morris

What was your favourite book when you were a child?

My favourite childhood story was *The BFG* by Roald Dahl. I just found it easy to immerse myself in the book, with the whimsical and slightly cheeky storytelling.



The way the BFG spoke in his unusual phrases (human beans, whizzpopping and snozzcumber) was both funny and comforting.

Who was your favourite character and why?

It's just got to be the BFG himself. Even though he's a giant which was initially quite scary, leaning into bedroom windows with his dream trumpet He is also brave and so very kind and protective of Sophie even ending up at Buckingham Palace having tea with Her Majesty the Queen! What isn't to love about this book.



If you could only keep a copy of one children's book which one would it be?

That's a tough one, as at my Grandma's house I just loved my mum's copy of *Wind in the Willows*. I think it was purely because of the amazingly vivid and beautiful illustrations.

Is there a book you wanted to read but never got around to reading?

I did read *The Hobbit*, but didn't read *The Lord of the Rings*. I think the size of the book was quite intimidating as a child.

Riddles— Guess the book characters described in these four riddles.

I'm a boy who never grew,
I fly and fight and crow and woo.
With pixie dust and pirate foes,
To Neverland my shadow goes.

I'm a bear from darkest Peru,
With marmalade and kindness too.
My hat is red, my manners neat,
I'm always polite, even on the street.

I'm a wizard with a lightning scar,
I ride a broom and catch a snitch from afar.
With spells and friends and a castle grand,
I fight the dark with wand in hand.

I'm a spider with words to weave,
My friend's a pig you won't believe.
I spell out hope in silky thread,
To save a life, enough is said.

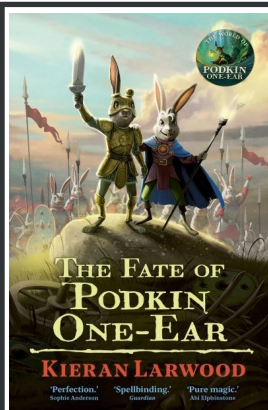
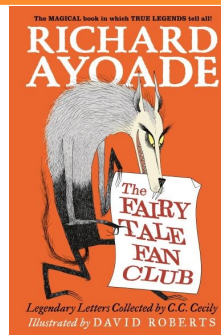
Author Profile: Onjali Raúf

This award-winning British author and activist known for her powerful, compassionate stories that tackle real-world issues through the eyes of children. Her debut novel, **The Boy at the Back of the Class**, won the Blue Peter Book Award and Waterstones Children's Book Prize, praised for its heartfelt portrayal of a refugee's experience. Raúf's books often explore themes of kindness, justice, and empathy, making them ideal for KS2 readers



A wonderful, funny book of fairy tales with a twist, with equally fabulous illustrations. **The Fairy Tale Fan Club** by **Richard Ayoade** is a fun collection of reimagined letters from your favourite fairy tale characters.

Is the Big Bad Wolf actually that bad? When will Sleeping Beauty get out of bed? And what makes frogs so kissable? This book just might make you chuckle out loud!

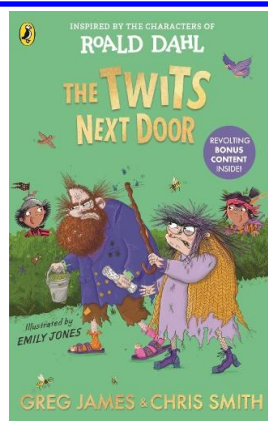
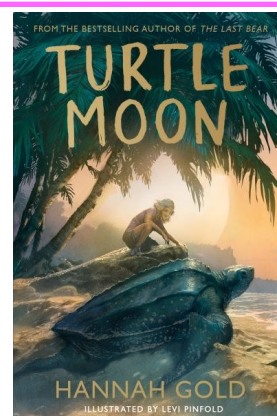


The Fate of Podkin One Ear by **Kieran Larwood**. We have reached the last instalment in the adventures of Podkin One Ear. Kieran Larwood masterfully concludes his nine-book epic with a tale that's both grand in scale and deeply personal. Podkin, now Keeper of the Gifts, must unite the tribes of the Five Realms—rabbits, wolves, forest wardens, and bone dancers—for a final stand against the Gorm. Podkin's journey from reluctant child to legendary warrior comes full circle, offering readers a satisfying and stirring conclusion. **The Fate of Podkin One Ear** brings the beloved Five Realms saga to a thrilling close with courage, unity, and unforgettable magic.

Hannah Gold, who also wrote the beautiful **The Last Bear** and **The Lost Whale**, returns with **Turtle Moon**.

Silver joins a daring jungle adventure to rescue stolen turtle eggs, discovering bravery, friendship, and hope in Costa Rica's wild beauty.

Turtle Moon is perfect for KS2 readers who love nature, animals, and exciting missions. Haunting, lyrical, and mysterious—**Turtle Moon** pulses with emotional depth. Don't forget to check out her other wonder books too!



Did you love the **Twits** by Roald Dahl? I certainly did. Well you are going to love this brand new tale involving the same wicked pair. New adventures, new horrible antics.

Mr and Mrs Twit are just about as nasty and revolting as two people can get. The only thing that brings the two of them pleasure is playing pranks on one another.

The Twits Next Door is a deliciously revolting story, brilliantly written by bestselling authors **Greg James** and **Chris Smith**

If you would like to write a *book review* to be part of the Reading Newsletter, or if you have a request for a book you would like me to review next time then please see **Mr Rotherham**.

