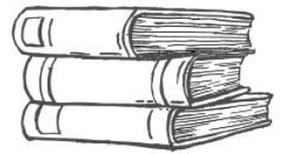


# Kader Academy Reading Newsletter



## Autumn term 2021

Welcome to our very first reading newsletter! Whether your child hasn't been able to put a book down recently, or if you've struggled to get them to pick one up, this newsletter is for you!

This newsletter has been published to give you a chance to find out about new, high quality fiction, non-fiction and poetry as well as a chance to get tips and up-to-date information about helping your child with their reading journey.

Mrs Burton (English lead)

## A very special message...

Dear Kader Academy,

Hello and welcome back to the new school year! I hope you had a lovely summer holiday and are fresh and ready for the term ahead.

As always, this new year will bring changes, hopefully for the better, as we settle back into some normalcy. But some things remain constant, and for me, reading is one of them. It's an escape into different worlds that are always there for me, and I find that really comforting. This is one of the reasons I became an author – just remembering the magical times in childhood when I could experience adventures through a book, and wanting to spread that magic to other children now.

Some of the new books I've read lately are *The Way to Impossible Island* by Sophie Kirtley, *Good News* by Rashmi Sirdeshpande, *Otherland* by Louie Stowell, *Between Sea and Sky* by Nicola Penfold, and *The Shark Caller* by Zillah Bethel. Every one of them had a new world just waiting to be discovered.

In addition, I've been writing my next book, and that's taken me to a different world too. My first book, *The Girl Who Stole an Elephant*, is about a girl who steals from the rich to help the poor – getting herself, and her friends, into a lot of trouble. And yes she really does steal an elephant. The second is about a fisherboy who meets a gigantic whale while hunting missing treasure and dodging villains. I'm editing the third now, set in the same world and featuring another marvellous animal.

I hope your term is filled with lots of good things – seeing your friends and teachers again, immersing yourself in your school activities, and I hope lots of new discoveries through your reading and writing.

Best wishes and happy reading adventures,

Nizrana F

[www.nizranafarook.com](http://www.nizranafarook.com)



Sri Lankan born, Nizrana Farook is one of my favourite authors at the moment. Every page in her wonderful books is bursting with fast-paced adventure, loveable heroes, firm friendships and pesky villains! But I am not the only fan! 'The Girl Who Stole an Elephant' was voted Waterstones Book of the Month (and featured on Blue Peter!) and her latest adventure, 'The Boy Who Met a Whale' was voted Indie Book of the Month in January 2021.



And, hearing about how amazing you all are, Nizrana has a very special September message for you all....

# The Importance of Reading for Pleasure

## HERE'S THE IMPACT OF READING 20 MINUTES PER DAY!

A student who reads    A student who reads    A student who reads

20:00

minutes per day

5:00

minutes per day

1:00

minute per day

will be exposed to  
**1.8 MILLION**  
words per year  
and is more likely  
to score in the  
**90th PERCENTILE**  
on standardized tests

will be exposed to  
**282,000**  
words per year  
and is more likely  
to score in the  
**50th PERCENTILE**  
on standardized tests

will be exposed to  
**8,000**  
words per year  
and is more likely  
to score in the  
**10th PERCENTILE**  
on standardized tests

Source: Nagy, Anderson and Herman, 1987

**SCHOLASTIC**

There is overwhelming evidence that literacy has a significant relationship to people's life chances. Reading for pleasure is more important than either wealth or social class as an indicator of success at school.

If your child isn't a 'book worm' yet, don't worry! There are so many wonderful and exciting authors out there, that there's a book to engage and inspire your child out there... they just may not have discovered it yet!

## Why we love books...

**Don't just take our word for it- our pupils LOVE to read and be read to. Here's why...**

"I believe that when you open a book you are transported to another dimension...it's like opening a door to another world."

"I love going to the library to pick out my next adventure!"

"When you read them, you are in a world of your own."

"It is so enjoyable as you have wild adventures whether in the depths of the jungle or in the times of Ancient Egypt."

"My mum and I read together and it really helps my understanding of books and words."

"Today a reader; tomorrow a leader."

"Some people say they don't like reading but they just haven't found the right book yet. I love helping people find the special book that lights their passion for reading."

"What I love about books is that they are very imaginative...I read books because they're fun and thrilling and every book has a different story under its cover. You can become immersed into another world where you don't have any worries or fears."

"I can sit with a book for hours on end and never get bored."

"Reading is a great way to get relaxed."

"I love reading with my little sister, talking to her about books and showing her new things in them."

# Acklam Library

**We know how much you love visiting your local library and thankfully they are starting to open up once again!**

Acklam Community Hub and Library is open part-time for click and collect. For click and collect, please call or email in advance so your books can be prepared. Like a book on our reading newsletter? Ask them if they have it! If not, they can get it in stock for you to borrow.

## Opening times:

**Tuesday:** 9:30am to 12pm, then 1pm to 4:30pm

**Thursday:** 9:30am to 12pm, then 1pm to 4:30pm

**Friday:** 9:30am to 12pm, then 1pm to 4:30pm

**Phone:** 01642 817810

**Email:** [acklam\\_library@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:acklam_library@middlesbrough.gov.uk)



## Pupil Picks!

Our Year 6 Reading Ambassadors have been squirreling away with their reading and reviewing a few books that they think you will love!

### Fazilla's pick

**Percy Jackson and the Sea of Monsters** – for ages 9+

Percy Jackson is a thrilling adventure novel full of mystery and Greek mythology. He and his demi-god friends live in modern America with an ancient twist. Can he defeat the Titan Kronos and his army in time? Only the Oracle knows...



### Shay's pick

**You're a Bad Man, Mr Gum!** – for ages 7+

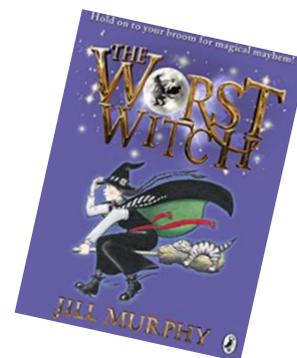
Mr Gum and the Cherry Tree by Andy Stanton is my all-time favourite book because of the humour. Mr Gum as a character is fantastic. Highly recommend!



### Freya's pick

**The Worst Witch**- for ages 7+

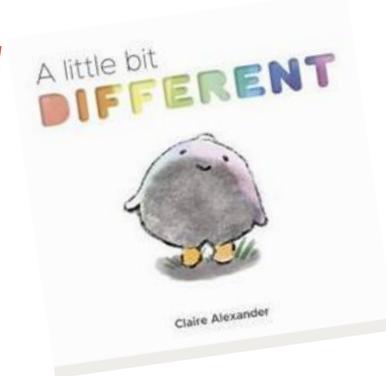
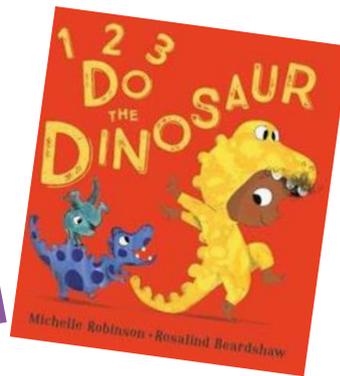
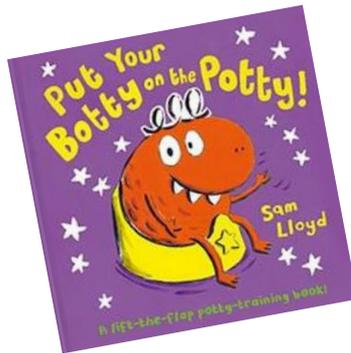
I am really into 'The Worst Witch' books at the minute. The thing I enjoy the most is that it tells the story of a witch who comes from a non-witching family. This means that she doesn't get treated the same as other children but she learns to develop confidence in her own skin. Younger kids will love it – I love it because I'm a little kid at heart.



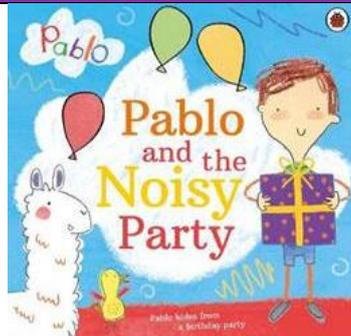
**If you would like to produce a book review of your own to be featured in our next newsletter, I would love to see it! Just let me know the book's name, who else would like it and why you enjoyed it so much! Please upload it to Seesaw for me to read!**

# Mrs Burton's Best Books

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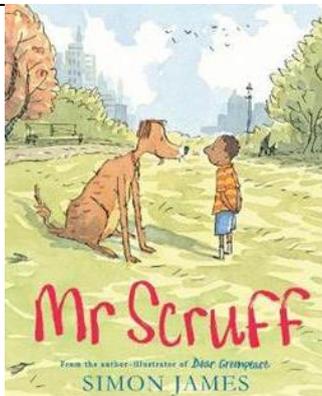


## Nursery and Reception



### **Pablo and the Noisy Party** by Andrew Brenner and Sumita Majumdar

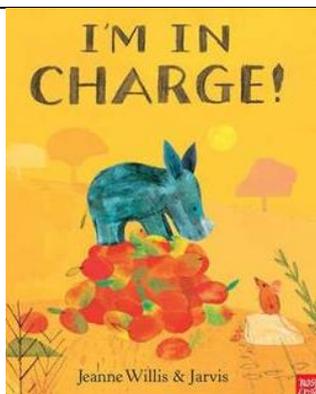
When Pablo is invited to his cousin's party, he finds the music and laughter just too overwhelming, and that's before he's even set foot inside the room. So he goes back to the car, where it's quiet. There, he gets out his crayons and starts to draw. Before long, his imaginary friends are there to help him explore and make sense of the situation. This empowering series competently reflects neurodiversity and like the TV series, has been developed by writers who are themselves on the autistic spectrum, and is based on real-life experiences.



### **Mr Scruff** by Simon James

Polly belongs to Molly, Eric belongs to Derek, Martha belongs to Arthur – everyone knows that owners and their dogs belong together in their own unique way. There's a poodle, a sausage dog and an old English sheep dog, and they are all suspiciously like their owners.

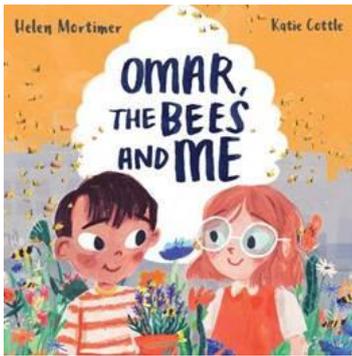
But for poor Mr Scruff, alone in the dogs' home, there is no one – until a very special little boy arrives looking for a friend...



### **I'm in Charge** By Jeanne Willis

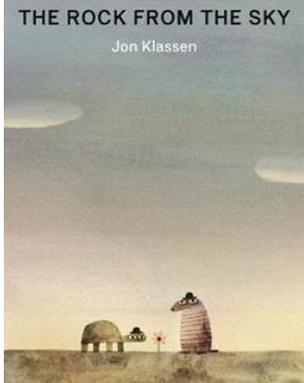
Rhino is a feisty little whirlwind who likes to boss people around, keep all the food to himself, and take charge of every situation. While scoffing some mangoes, Pygmy Mouse tries to warn him of danger: there's a stampede of wildebeest heading straight in his direction. But will the wilful Rhino listen to a little creature like that?

## KS1



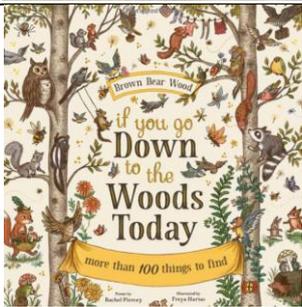
### **Omar, the Bees and Me** by Helen Mortimer

When new boy Omar takes a slice of his mum's honey cake to school for show and tell, he inadvertently sets in motion an exciting project that involves the whole class. What follows is a wonderful collaboration between the children and the local residents, which beautifully demonstrates how small ideas can have big impacts.



### **The Rock from the Sky** by Jon Klassen

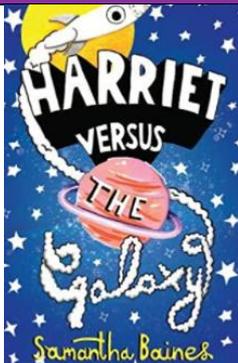
A turtle finds an ideal place to stand but an armadillo has a bad feeling about it. Then a snake appears and complicates the issue even more. All the while, a huge rock is falling from the sky. Where will it land? And what is the strange eye in the woods? Like the best children's picture books (and like all Klassen's books, the story is very simple, the artwork is remarkable and the story itself has a kind of sophistication that you and your child will love.



### **If You Go Down to the Woods Today: More than 100 things to find** by Rachel Piercey

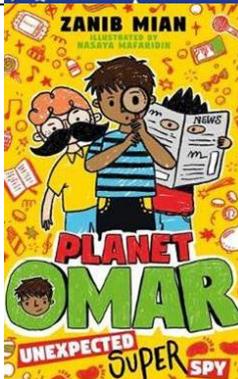
A beautifully crafted and illustrated book that's perfect for the whole family. Experience the everyday wonder of nature in this first book of poetry, exploring a magical woodland. Join Bear on his journey through the year with lots of friends to meet, places to explore and things to spot along the way.

## LKS2



### **Harriet vs the Galaxy** by Samantha Baines

When Harriet is hunting for her hearing aid under the bed, the last thing she expects to find is an alien. Soon, she is working alongside her gran to defend the human race. A highly accessible story, laced with lively illustrations and lots of laughs.



### **Planet Omar: Unexpected Super Spy** by Zanib Mian

Omar's mosque is in danger of being closed down, so quick-thinking Omar holds a school talent show to raise the money needed for the emergency building repairs. When the money goes missing, it's up to Omar and his friends to become super spies to track down the culprit!



**Sofia Valdez- Future Prez  
by Andrea Beaty**

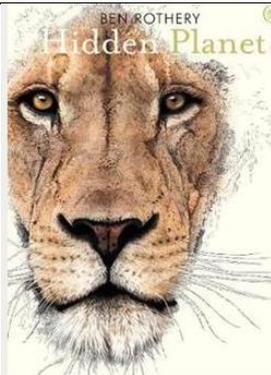
Sofia Valdez isn't just a do-gooder: she's a do-better, visiting people in her community who can't get out much, or just stopping for a chat. Andrea Beaty's brilliant rhyming text tells Sofia's story flawlessly, and David Roberts' characters and imagery are stunning.

**UKS2**



**The Wild Before  
By Piers Torday**

One frosty winter's night, a pure white calf is born on an ordinary muddy farm by the light of a silver moon. This is the legendary Mooncalf, whose arrival has been foretold since the dawn of time. According to a dream passed down from animal to animal, if the calf dies, a great terribleness will come - rising seas, a plague, skies raining down fire, the end of all things... and Little Hare vows to persuade all the animals to protect Mooncalf, whatever the cost. But it's easier said than done, and soon Little Hare realises that he is the only one who can save the world...



**Hidden Planet  
by Ben Rothery**

If non-fiction is your child's thing, then this book is a corker. A self-confessed wildlife obsessive, Rothery's book isn't just a collection of his gorgeous illustration (which is reason enough to read it) but rather a study of the hidden connections between species, their relationships and the unexpected abilities and behaviours of many of the creatures we think we know. Beautiful and fascinating.



**Crater Lake  
by Jennifer Killick**

There are three rules for surviving Crater Lake: *don't* go anywhere with an adult; *don't* follow any instructions you're given; and *don't* ever fall asleep... This brilliant book is fast-paced, full of suspense, scares, twists and turns, as well as a few powerful life-lessons thrown in to boot. If you enjoy this one, the sequel Crater Lake Evolution is also now out.

Looking for more inspiration? Please visit <https://www.thereaderteacher.com/> for a comprehensive list of brand-new releases and a wealth of information about children's literature.

