




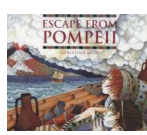

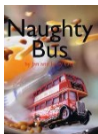



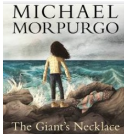


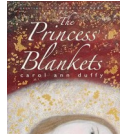

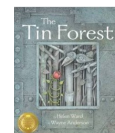


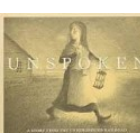





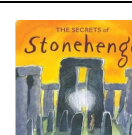
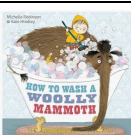




It has been a very busy Autumn term at Arbury and we have managed to hold a variety of really wonderful events to celebrate reading for pleasure. Events have included whole school 'Story Swaps', various author visits and the election of new Reading Ambassadors. We are really pleased with how regularly our children are reading at home and we now have lots of 'word millionaires' displayed in the Key Stage 2 corridor as well as very full reading diaries showing how much parents and carers are encouraging and supporting children's home reading.

A small selection of what we have been reading in each year group in the Autumn term...

Reception	  	Year 4	   
Year 1	   	Year 5	   
Year 2	   	Year 6	   
Year 3	   		

Mrs Dowdall recommends: Three books about dragons...

At this time of year it is lovely to curl up with a book and really be transported to other worlds. I love fantasy stories and so this term have chosen three books that include wonderful dragon characters!

#### EYFS and Key Stage 1



**'The Worst Princess' by Anna Kemp**

This brilliantly empowering book is all about Sue who manages to escape a rather annoying prince with the help of a dragon. It is very funny, written in rhyme and the illustrations by Sara Ogilvie are wonderful. A super bedtime read!

#### Lower Key Stage 2

**'The Boy Who Grew Dragons' by Andy Shepherd**

This fun chapter book follows the adventures of Tomas who discovers a strange old tree at the bottom of his grandad's garden. When he takes the funny fruit from the tree back into the house he gets the shock and delight of his life when a tiny dragon hatches!



#### Upper Key Stage 2

**'Darwin's Dragons' by Lindsay Galvin**

Syms Covington has landed the job of a lifetime - cabin boy and fiddler on Charles Darwin's Beagle. But when he becomes shipwrecked on a Galapagos island, he makes a discovery that could change the world - and make his fortune. But should he share his find, or will it lead to the extinction of a legendary species?



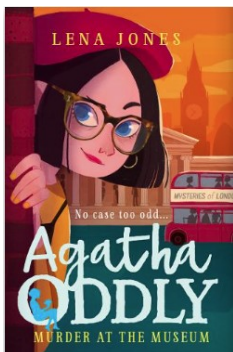
# Children's Recommendations

We always ask our children to share their favourite reading recommendations. Here are a few of the books Year 6 have read and enjoyed lately...

'Agatha Oddly: Murder at the Museum' by Lena Jones.

Agatha has just stumbled upon her next big case, a murder at the British Museum! However, after a bit of digging, Agatha begins to suspect that a wider plot is afoot below London, involving a disused tube station, a huge fireworks display and five thousand tonnes of gold!

These books are really entertaining and full of mystery. Recommended for ages 9 upwards...



'Orphans of the Tide' trilogy by Struan Murray

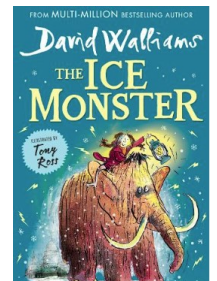
These books are very detailed with the perfect mix of action, suspense and thriller. When a mysterious boy washes in with the tide, the citizens believe he's the Enemy - the god who drowned the world - come again to cause untold chaos. This is an amazing trilogy full of horror and suspense. I recommend it for ages 10 and up.



'The Ice Monster' by David Walliams

Ice Monster is a book in which an unusual friendship occurs between a girl and a woolly mammoth. When Elsie, an orphan on the streets of Victorian London, hears about the mysterious Ice Monster - a woolly mammoth found at the North Pole - she's determined to discover more...

A chance encounter brings Elsie face to face with the creature, and sparks the adventure of a lifetime - from London to the heart of the Arctic! Recommended for ages 8 upwards...

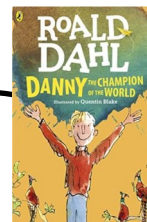


## Have you read a brilliant book recently?

We would love to hear about the books you love and publish your recommendations in the next newsletter. Write your short review on a piece of paper. Remember to include the title of the book and the author, what makes the book good and a short synopsis (without giving the ending away!) and the age group it is appropriate for. You can also give it a score out of 5 stars. Give your completed review to your teacher or to Mrs Dowdall.



This term's interview is with Mrs Morris who is one of our Assistant Head Teachers and works in Key Stage 1. Read on to find out why she loves reading so much!



### Mrs Morris' Interview

#### What is your favourite book and why?

As a child, one of my favourites was Danny the Champion of the World by Roald Dahl . I loved all the planning and scheming and the anticipation as to whether they (a father and son) would be able to pull off their elaborate plot. I really must re-read the book as an adult, which is always so enjoyable as you are able to re-live the memories from your first read!

#### When and where do you like to read?

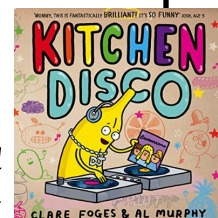
Whenever I have time, usually before bed, on holiday, or a talking book (audiobook). I also LOVE reading bedtime stories to my son, who is 4. Tonight we read: The Jolly Christmas Postman, Memory Bottles and Kitchen Disco.

#### What are you currently reading?

I've actually just been picking out a few new titles to take on holiday with me. One of the selected books is all about the rewilding of a farm in Sussex. It was a gift from a friend that I've been wanting to read for some time. Books make the best presents!

#### Why is reading important to you?

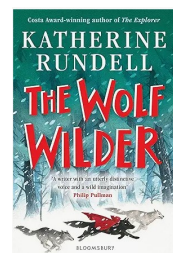
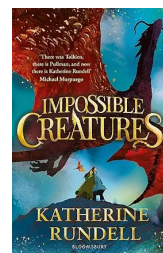
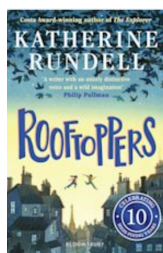
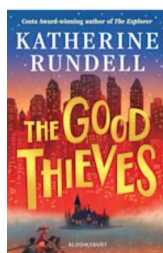
It's a chance to get lost in another world for a little while, to go back in time (I do love historical fiction!) or to make yourself laugh or even cry sometimes. Sharing a book is also a wonderful gift – I feel very lucky to share books with my son and all the lovely children I work with too!



### Author of the term...

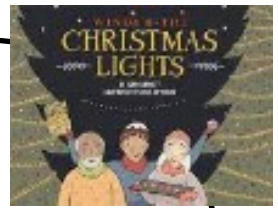
#### This term's author is: Katherine Rundell

Katherine Rundell is a bestselling author whose novels for children include Rooftoppers, The Wolf Wilder, The Explorer and The Good Thieves. Rooftoppers was inspired by her time spent climbing onto the rooftops of Oxford University! She has won the Costa Children's Book Award, the Blue Peter Book Award and the Waterstones Children's Book Prize and was a 2021 World Book Day author. Katherine spent her childhood in Africa and Europe before taking her degree at the University of Oxford and becoming a Fellow of All Souls College. We have loads of her books in school for you to borrow!





## Some reading news from the Autumn term...



### Story Swaps

We hold our Whole School Story Swaps each half term. They are a wonderful way to come together as a school and share our love for reading. Older children love reading to younger children and it was especially lovely this half term to bring together our eldest and youngest children and have our Year 6 classes reading and sharing books with our Reception classes!

### National Poetry Day

In October, we celebrated National Poetry Day. The children read and shared a range of poetry in their classes and wrote some of their own poetry. We had a special poetry assembly for each Key Stage and some classes got to share the poetry they had written on the theme of 'refuge'.

### Non-fiction Library

We are very excited to have revamped the non-fiction library during the Autumn term. We now have lots of beautiful new non-fiction books to engage and excite the children linked to the topics we study in school.

### Author John Barnett visits Year 4

Classes 9 and 10 had a visit from John Barnett, the author of the wonderful 'Windy-B' series of books. John read his wonderful Christmassy story, 'Windy B- The Christmas Lights' and then answered the children's questions. It was so exciting to have a real author visit and a lovely way for Year 4 to spend an afternoon. John even went home and wrote an amazing short story set in Windy-B which included Class 9 and 10! John's books are available on Amazon.

### Virtual author visits

Both Year 5 and 6 have really enjoyed some virtual author visits during the Autumn term. In Autumn 1, Year 5 and 6 both enjoyed a virtual author visit from Maz Evans the author of 'Vi-Spy' and 'Who Let the Gods Out'. Year 6 were also very excited to have a virtual author visit from Katherine Rundell at the start of December. They have been reading her book 'The Explorer' in class so it was a wonderful opportunity for them to meet the author and find out what motivates her and inspires her to write books!

### Reading Ambassador Meetings

The Arbury Primary School Reading Ambassadors have been elected and have held their first two meetings of the year. At the last meeting the Reading Ambassadors received their shiny new badges and have been set the task of finding out what books and authors their classes would like more of in their classroom book areas.

**Remember, there are photos of all these events on our school website!**

