



# BRAESIDE READING NEWSLETTER



Issue 7: June 2023

Welcome to back to Braeside's reading newsletter. This is now our seventh edition. Wow!

Reading is a wonderful hobby, and you'll never be bored if you are a reader. When I was at school, I always had my nose in a book, totally absorbed in exciting adventures in other worlds.

My reading challenge for you this month is to try and read something new: a new author, a new genre or a new series. You might find some new recommendations in this month's newsletter!

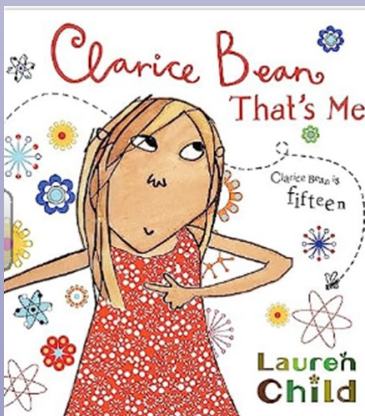
Happy Reading!

Mrs Doss

The more that you read,  
The more things you will know.  
The more that you learn,  
The more places you'll go.  
-Dr. Seuss

## Kindergarten - Reception - Reading Recommendations

Pupil Pick  
Eva, Ava and  
Lou Lou Y7

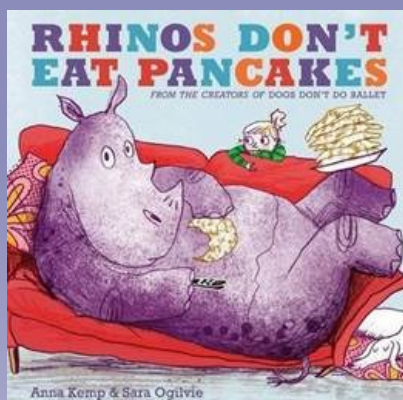
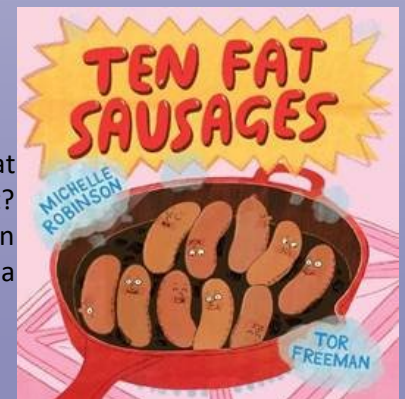


### Clarice Bean That's Me by Lauren Child

Meet the fabulously feisty Clarice Bean! In this hilarious picture book from Children's Laureate, Lauren Child. All Clarice Bean wants is a bit of peace and quiet. But that can be hard to find in a house where your little brother is being *utterly annoying*, your big brother is in the dark tunnel of adolescence and your grandad's pouring soup on his cornflakes . . .

### Ten Fat Sausages by Michelle Robinson

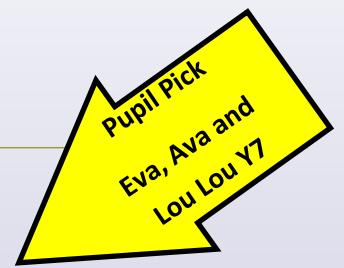
Many of us think we know the "Ten fat sausages, sizzling in a pan" rhyme, but what if the sausages opted out of their bang-and-pop destiny and made a run for it? Yet the ill-fated pan-deserters find that they might be jumping out of the frying pan and into the fire with a series of unfortunate kitchen-related mishaps featuring a blender (ouch), a drain whirlpool and the relentless velocity of a ceiling fan.



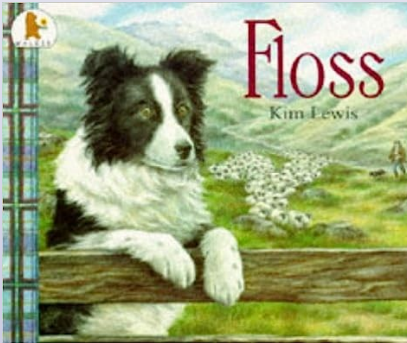
### Rhinos Don't Eat Pancakes by Anna Kemp

Daisy's mum and dad are always too busy to listen to a word that she says, so when, one day, she tells them that a big purple rhino has just walked into the house and taken a chomp of her pancake, guess what? That's right - nobody listens! But there's a surprise in store for Mum and Dad when they discover that a big purple rhino has gone missing from the zoo. Perhaps they should have taken more notice of what Daisy had to say.

# Key Stage 1 Recommended Reads



## Years 1 and 2

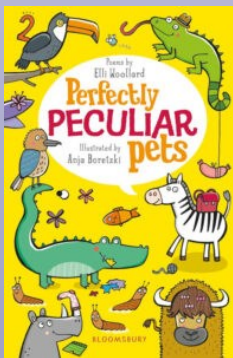
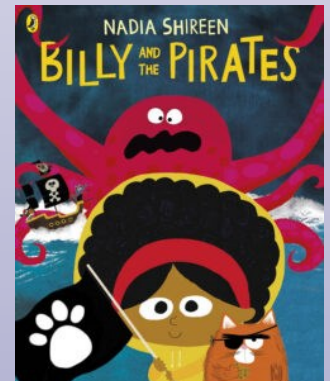


### **Floss by Kim Lewis**

Floss lives in the city and loves to go to the park and play ball with the children. But her owner's son is a farmer and needs a new sheepdog, so the border collie moves to a Northumberland farm and must learn how to round up the sheep. Children will love hearing about the rural adventures of Floss in this stunning picture book.

### **Billy and the Pirate by Madia Shireen**

We love opening Nadia Shireen's picture books, as the illustrations and warm humour never fail to bring a smile to our faces. This adventure features Shireen's popular character Billy and her trusty feline friend, Fatcat. The pair uncover a mysterious message in a bottle at sea and attempt to outwit a pesky pirate crew. Billy and Fatcat are no strangers to danger and as always they put to action their quick thinking and bravery to wiggle out of even the most perilous situation – whether it's toffee-eating sharks, tricky mermaids or pongy pirates.

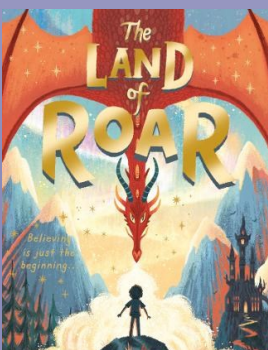


### **Perfectly Peculiar Pets a poetry book by Elli Woollard & Anja Boretzki**

We love this whacky A-Z of weird and wonderful pets. With a different pet poem for each letter of the alphabet (from armadillos to zebras via kookaburras to umbrella birds!), the poems are quirky and energetic, making them perfect to read aloud. Children will enjoy finding the poem that matches their name's initial or just dipping in and out of the rhythmical menagerie of verses.

# Lower Key Stage 2 Recommended Reads

## Years 3 and 4

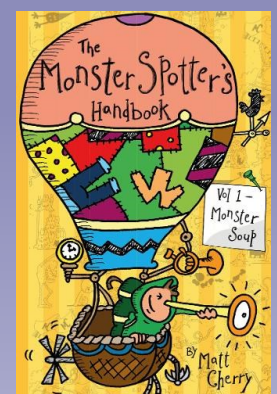


### **The Land of Roar by Jenny Mclachlan**

When Arthur and Rose were little, they were heroes in the Land of Roar, an imaginary world that they found by climbing through the folding bed in their grandad's attic. Roar was filled with things they loved - dragons, mermaids, ninja wizards and adventure - as well as things that scared them (including a very creepy scarecrow).... Now the twins are 11, Roar is just a memory. But when they help Grandad clean out the attic, Arthur is horrified as Grandad is pulled into the folding bed and vanishes. Is he playing a joke? Or is Roar...real?

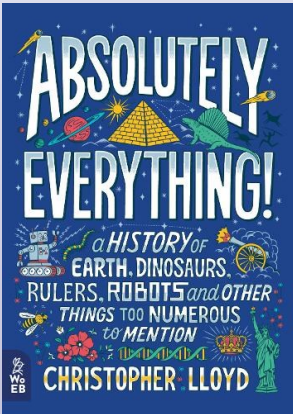
### **The monster world is under threat from an evil monster catcher!**

Step forward Edwin Spook, courageous hero, fearless Monster Spotter and owner of the magnificent Monster Spotter's Handbook. Edwin must travel across the globe to save his monster friends from certain doom, stop the dastardly Monster Catcher and discover the secret recipe for Monster Soup.



# Upper Key Stage 2 Recommended Reads

Years 5 and 6



## Absolutely Everything by Christopher Lloyd

How was our universe made from a tiny speck of energy? Where did the first trees, plants, animals and humans come from? What happened to the dinosaurs? What was so miserable about medieval times? How were railroads and electricity invented? What are the perils of global warming?

These are just a few of the thousands of questions that you will discover the answers to inside this book! From the Neanderthals to the Wright Brothers, from dinosaurs to plastic, embark on an entertaining journey across millennia and continents. With photos, illustrations, timelines and maps in every chapter, there is no better way to understand the earth's entire history than with this captivating book by Christopher Lloyd, author of the bestselling *What on Earth Happened?*

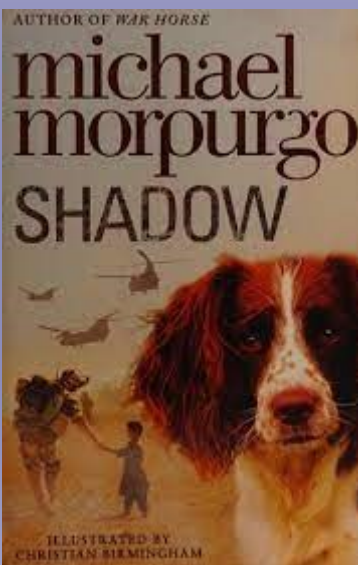
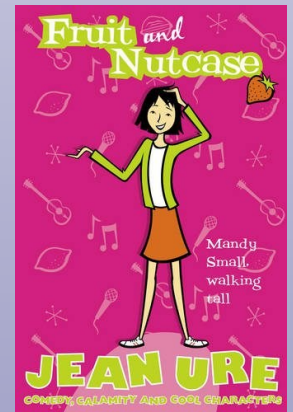
## Fruit and Nutcase by Jean Ure

The third title in Jean Ure's acclaimed series of humorous, delightful and poignant stories written in the form of diaries and letters. This is the story of how Mandy learns to cope with her untidy life and finally emerges triumphant.

Mandy Small has trouble writing so Cat, her teacher, suggests that she tells her life story into a tape recorder. So begins Mandy's funny and sometimes sad story of life with her loving but chaotic parents – Dad, the Elvis look-alike, and Mum, whose idea of a special meal is burnt toast!

Then there's school, where the horrible Tracey Bigg picks on Mandy and her timid friend, Oliver, not to mention Old Misery Guts, the landlady and Nan, who thinks that Mandy's parents aren't fit to look after her. With so many things to worry about, Mandy begins to think that she's in danger of turning into a real Fruit and Nutcase!

Mandy's story, told in the form of diary into a tape recorder, is a funny and often moving account of a child's everyday life, with all its difficulties. Hilariously illustrated by Mick Brownfield.



## Shadow by Michael Morpurgo

Never have Aman and his mother needed a friend more than when a Springer Spaniel appears – thin and war-ravaged – in the mouth of their Afghan cave. Nursed back to health by Aman, the dog becomes a constant companion, a shadow, and that's what Aman decides to call her.

But life in Afghanistan becomes more dangerous by the moment. Eventually, Aman, his mother and Shadow find the courage to embark upon the treacherous journey from war-torn Afghanistan to the safety of a relative's home in Manchester, England.

But how far can Shadow lead them? And in this terrifying new world, is anywhere really safe...?



# Key Stage 3 Recommended Reads

Years 7, 8 and 9

Pupil Pick  
Sareen Year 9



## More than This by Patrick Ness

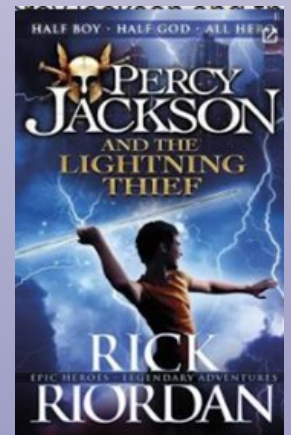
A boy called Seth drowns, desperate and alone in his final moments, losing his life as the pounding sea claims him. But then he wakes. He is naked, thirsty, starving. But alive. How is that possible? He remembers dying, his bones breaking, his skull dashed upon the rocks. So how is he here? And where is this place? It looks like the suburban English town where he lived as a child, before an unthinkable tragedy happened and his family moved to America. But the neighbourhood around his old house is overgrown, covered in dust and completely abandoned. What's going on? And why is it that whenever he closes his eyes, he falls prey to vivid, agonizing memories that seem more real than the world around him? Seth begins a search for answers, hoping that he might not be alone, that this might not be the hell he fears it to be, that there might be more than just this...

## Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

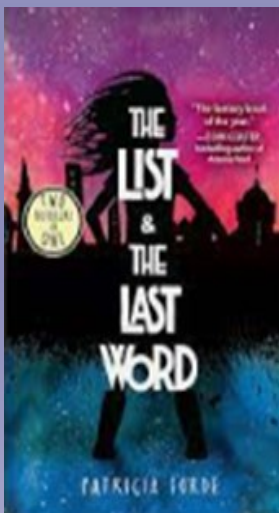
Half boy. Half God. ALL Hero.

Percy was just a normal kid, he went to school (got expelled a lot, but that wasn't his fault), played sports and hung out with his best friend. Until he accidentally vaporized his maths teacher....

Now, Percy spends his time at Camp Half Blood, battling monsters and generally trying to stay alive. And now that Zeus thinks he has stolen his lightning bolt, staying alive is going to be even harder...



Pupil Pick  
Eva, Ava &  
Lou Lou Y 7



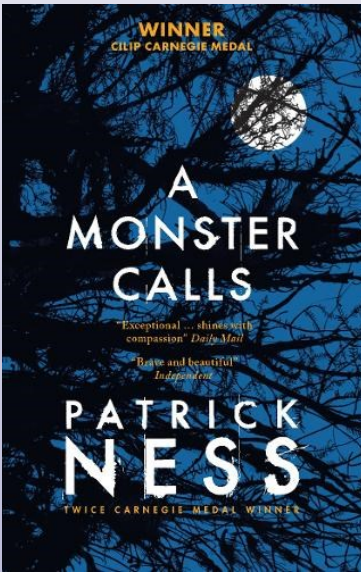
## The List and Last Word by Patricia Forde

The city of Ark is the last safe place on Earth. To make sure humans avoid the mistakes of their past and are able to survive, everyone in Ark must speak List, a language of only 500 words. Everyone, that is, except Letta.

As apprentice to the Wordsmith, Letta can read all the words that have ever existed. Words like freedom, music, and even pineapple tell her about a world she's never known. One day her master disappears and the leaders of Ark tell Letta she is the new Wordsmith and must shorten List to fewer and fewer words. When Letta meets a mysterious boy who somehow knows all the words that have been banned, she's faced with a dangerous choice: sit idly by and watch language slowly slip away or follow a stranger on a path to freedom ... or banishment.

# Key Stage 4 Recommended Reads

Years 10 and 11



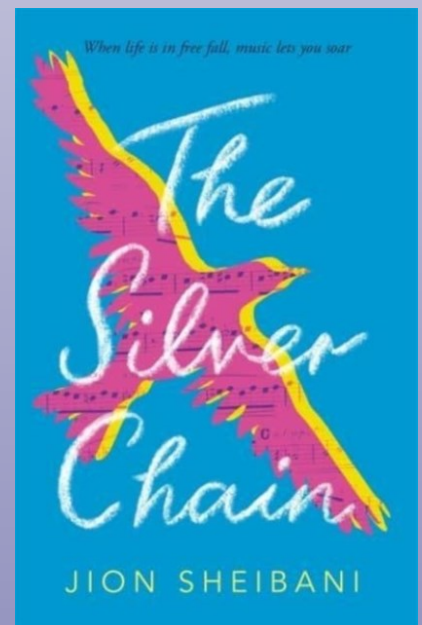
## **A Monster Calls by Jion Sheibini**

Conor has the same dream every night, ever since his mother first fell ill, ever since she started the treatments that don't quite seem to be working. But tonight is different. Tonight, when he wakes, there's a visitor at his window. It's ancient, elemental, a force of nature. And it wants the most dangerous thing of all from Conor. It wants the truth. Patrick Ness takes the final idea of the late, award-winning writer Siobhan Dowd and weaves an extraordinary and heartbreaking tale of mischief, healing and above all, the courage it takes to survive.

## **The Silver Chain by Jion Sheibini**

zadeh is a budding violinist on a music scholarship at an expensive private school, dealing with all the usual trials of being sixteen: trying her best to fit in, keep up and have fun. Then as her mum's mental health spirals out of control, Azadeh's world starts to unravel. Her friendships fall away, and as much as she and her dad try to keep a lid on everything, their problems insist on taking over. Feeling alone, it's her violin that finally helps Azadeh to find her way back to her friends, herself and even her mum.

A beautifully illustrated, highly important and irresistible novel about mental health struggles and the solace we find in music and rhythm, friendship, family and honesty.



## **Looking for Alaska by John Green**

*In the dark beside me, she smelled of sweat and sunshine and vanilla and on that thin-mooned night I could see little more than her silhouette, but even in the dark, I could see her eyes – fierce emeralds. And beautiful.”*

BEFORE. Miles Halter's whole life has been one big non-event until he starts at anything-but-boring Culver Creek Boarding School and meets Alaska Young. Gorgeous, clever, funny and utterly fascinating she pulls Miles into her world, launches him into a new life, and steals his heart. But when tragedy strikes, and Miles comes face-to-face with death he discovers the value of living and loving unconditionally.

AFTER: Nothing will ever be the same.

