



Castlefield School

Upper School Reading Newsletter

Spring 2025

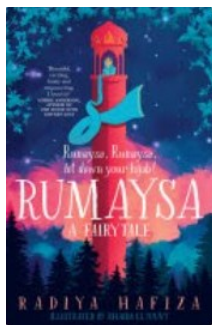
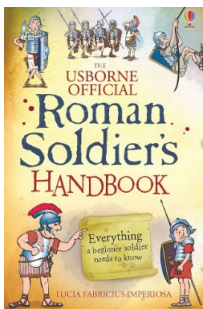


Welcome to our Reading Newsletter. This is a place for us to share reading recommendations and support your children in accessing and enjoying great books. One of the best ways families can support their children with their learning is to encourage reading at home. Regular reading is crucial - not only for academic learning, but also as a way to relax and escape.

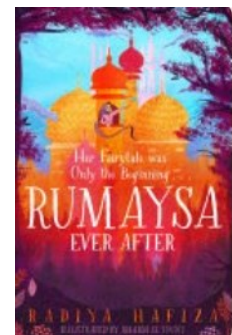
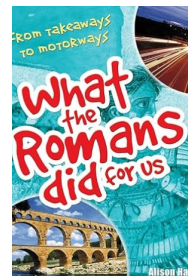
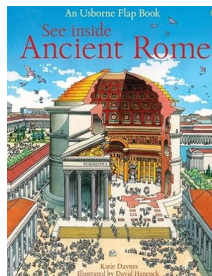
It is not always easy to get hold of physical books, so this newsletter has some useful weblinks to ebooks and audiobooks. The hyperlinks give more details about the authors and where to buy the books. As with all media, please check you are happy with the content. Reading them yourself or with your child provides a wonderful opportunity to share and talk about your favourite characters and plots with your children.

What are we Reading in Class?

Year 4 This term we have read...

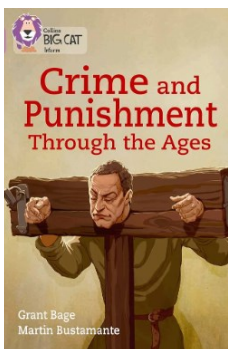
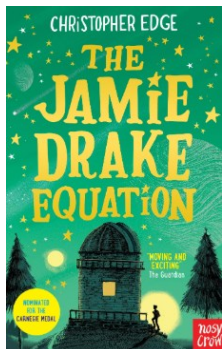


If you have enjoyed finding out about being a Roman Soldier, You may want to read other non-fiction books about Ancient Rome.

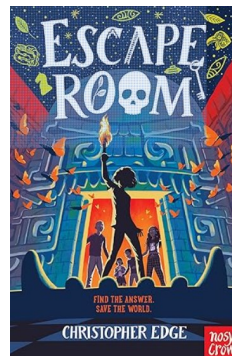


If you enjoyed the story of Rumaysa, you could read the next book in the series.

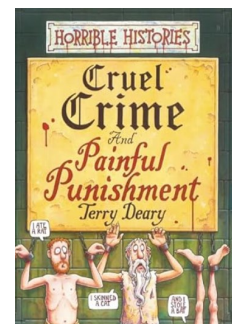
Year 5 This term we have read...



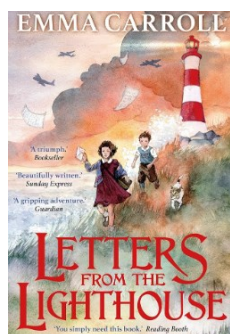
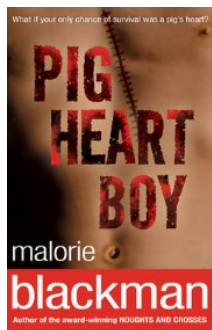
If you enjoyed reading The Jamie Drake Equation, try another book by Christopher Edge



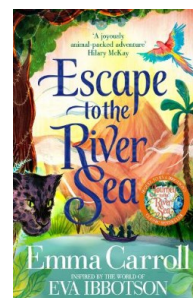
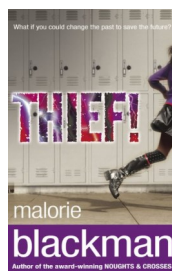
If you found Crime and Punishment interesting, why not read another non-fiction book.



Year 6 This term we have read...



If you enjoyed reading Pig Heart Boy, try another book by Malorie Blackman.



If you enjoyed reading Journey to the River Sea in Year 5, you may like to try Escape to the River Sea, also by Emma Carroll.

What could you read at home?

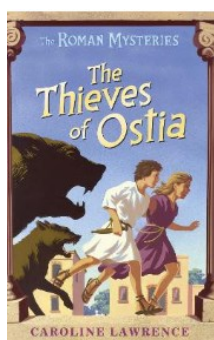
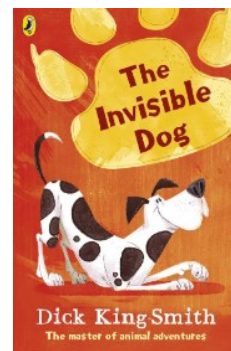
This half term we held another Reading Recommendations assembly. Each term all the teachers will suggest books that the children might want to take home from our class libraries. Find out below what the teachers recommend.

Year 4

The Invisible Dog By Dick King Smith

A charming story about a girl who really, really wants a dog. Since she can't have a real one right away, she imagines a big, friendly Great Dane named Henry. She pretends to walk him, feed him, and play with him, even though nobody else can see him! Then, something a little bit magical happens. It starts to seem like Henry might be more than just imaginary.

The book is a fun and heartwarming tale about wishes, imagination, and maybe a little bit of magic, and how sometimes, what you really want can come true in surprising ways.



The Thieves of Ostia By Caroline Lawrence

Set in Roman times, four friends embark upon the task of solving the mystery of the thieves of Ostia, but what do these thieves want to steal and why?

This is a very exciting novel with lots of twists and turns. Historically, it's very accurate and gives an accurate glimpse into the life of Roman children, both poor and rich.

A Girl Called Justice By Elly Griffiths

Missing maids, suspicious teachers and a snow storm to die for... For a fearless girl called Justice Jones, super-smart super-sleuth, it's just the start of a spine-tingling first term at Highbury House Boarding School for the Daughters of Gentlefolk. Having previously been home-schooled, the transition is a shock. Can it really be the case that blondes rule the corridors? Are all uniforms such a charming shade of brown? And do schools normally hide dangerous secrets about the murder of a chambermaid?

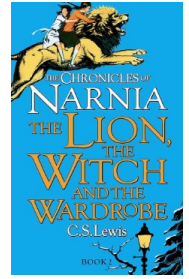
Justice takes it upon herself to uncover the truth.



Year 5

The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe By C.S Lewis

Set in London in WW2, the story starts with the Pevensie children - Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy - being evacuated to the countryside. They are sent to a large manor house where they discover a mysterious wardrobe. By stepping through the wardrobe, they find themselves in the land of Narnia. Frozen in eternal winter, Narnia is a land of snow and pine forests, and its creatures are enslaved by the terrible White Witch. Just when it seems that all hope is lost, the Great Lion Aslan returns to help the children to save Narnia.



Mohinder's War By Bali Rai

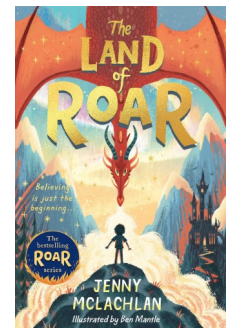
Thirteen-year-old Joelle Breton stumbles across Indian-born RAF pilot Mohinder Singh when his plane crashes in occupied France and it's up to her and her parents to hide him from the Nazis. After all, her parents are brave members of the French Resistance and will do everything they can to help get Mohinder back to Britain. A thrilling World War II adventure set in occupied France, featuring an Indian RAF pilot.

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.

Believing is just the beginning . . .

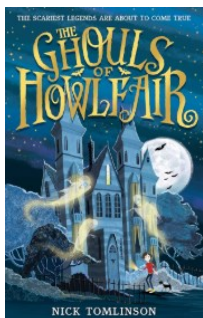
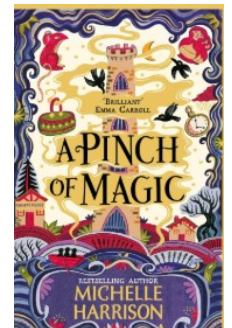
Roar was filled with things they loved – dragons, mermaids, ninja wizards and adventure – as well as things that scared them (including a very creepy scarecrow. . .)



Year 6

A Pinch of Magic by Michelle Harrison

This is the first book in a series following 3 sisters Betty, Fliss and Charlie. The Widdershins sisters are trapped, prevented from leaving their home on Crowstone by an ancient family curse. When they inherit three magical objects with the power to change their fate, adventure beckons. But are they being led into even greater danger?

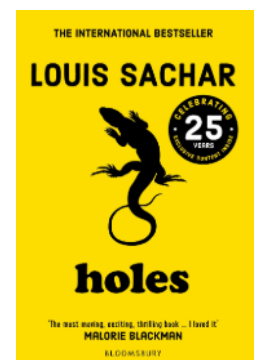


The Ghouls of Howlfair by Nick Tomlinson

Serious, young historian Molly suspects that the creepy legends about her tourist town of Howlfair are starting to come true. But when her mother bans her from doing any further research, bookworm Molly and her friends - Lowry and guardian-cat Gabriel - become covert monster-hunters to keep Howlfair safe. It seems that someone is secretly trying to summon Howlfair's mythical monsters, and with the election of a new town mayor looming, everything and everyone is becoming increasingly suspicious...

Holes by Louis Sachar

Stanley Yelnats' family has a history of bad luck going back generations, so he is not too surprised when a miscarriage of justice sends him to Camp Green Lake Juvenile Detention Centre. Nor is he very surprised when he is told that his daily labour at the camp is to dig a hole, five foot wide by five foot deep, and report anything that he finds in that hole. The warden claims that it is character building, but this is a lie and Stanley must dig up the truth. In this wonderfully inventive, compelling novel that is both serious and funny, Louis Sachar has created a masterpiece that will leave all readers amazed and delighted by the author's narrative flair and brilliantly handled plot.



Here are some books the children in Upper School have enjoyed and

Recommend – Which one will you read next?

