



Castlefield School
Upper School Reading Newsletter
Autumn 2024

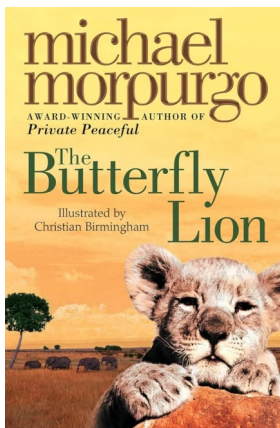


Welcome to our Reading Newsletter. This is a place for us to share reading recommendations and support your children in accessing and enjoying great books. One of the best ways families can support their children with their learning is to encourage reading at home. Regular reading is crucial - not only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

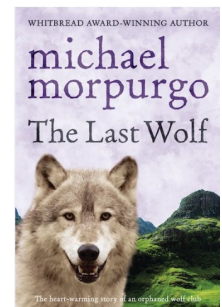
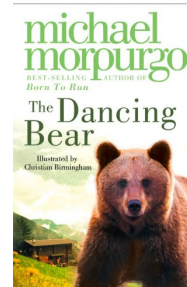
It is not always easy to get hold of physical books, so this newsletter has some useful weblinks to ebooks and audiobooks. The hyperlinks give more details about the authors and where to buy the books. As with all media, please check you are happy with the content. Reading them yourself or with your 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 We have read *The Butterfly Lion* by Michael Morpurgo.



If you enjoyed the story you could read more animal based books by Michael Morpurgo.

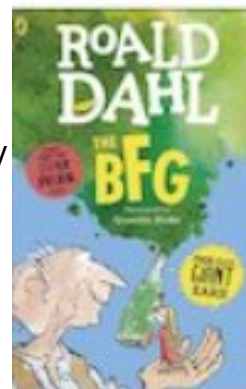


Find out more about him on his website
<https://www.michaelmorpurgo.com/>

Year 5 We have read *The Ghost of Thomas Kempe*.



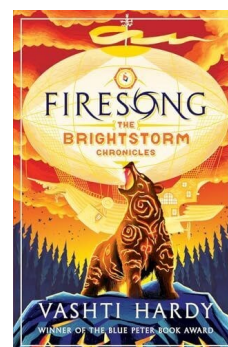
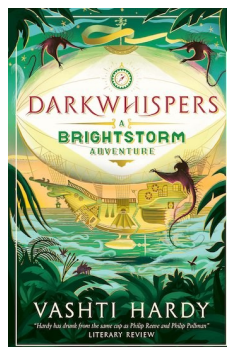
If you enjoyed the story you may want to read another book by Penelope Lively. Alternatively, try these books by Roald Dahl who you read last half term.



Year 6 We have read the 1st book of The Brightstorm Chronicles



If you enjoyed the story you could read the other books in the series.



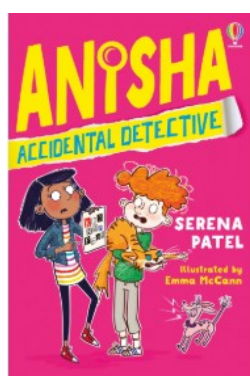
What could you read at home?

This week we held another of our Reading Recommendations assemblies. 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 Iron Man By Ted Hughes

The Iron Man came to the top of the cliff. Where had he come from? Nobody knows. How was he made? Nobody knows. Mankind must put a stop to the dreadful destruction by the Iron Man and set a trap for him, but he cannot be kept down. Then, when a terrible monster from outer space threatens to lay waste to the planet, it is the Iron Man who finds a way to save the world.

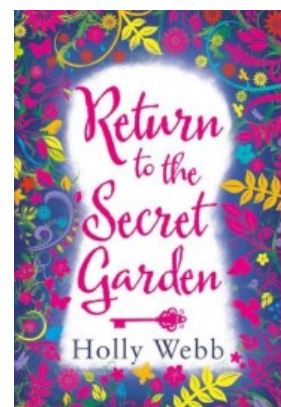


Anisha Accidental Detective by Serena Patel

Anisha's super-dramatic Aunty Bindi is getting married tomorrow and she's having a mega meltdown. Anisha has just found a ransom note, pushed through the letterbox, saying Uncle Tony, Bindi's husband-to-be, has been kidnapped, and will only be freed if the wedding is cancelled! She has to keep this a secret otherwise it'll be panic-central...I guess it's up to Anisha, an accidental detective, to save the day. This is a funny, engaging and well-written text that will make you laugh.

Return to the Secret Garden By Holly Webb

Return to the secret garden is a sequel to the secret garden. 'It's 1939 and a group of children have been evacuated to Misselthwaite Manor. Emmie is far from happy to be separated from her cat and sent to a huge old mansion. But soon she starts discovering the mysteries of the house: a boy crying at night, a diary written by a girl named Mary, and a garden. A very secret garden...'

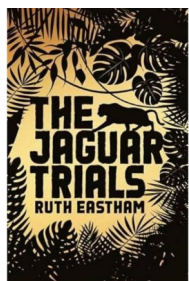
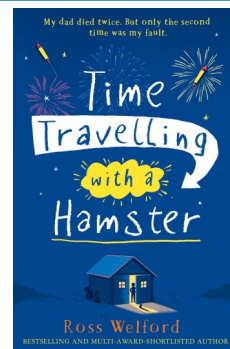


Year 5

Time Travelling with a Hamster By Ross Welford

Al Chaudhary has a chance to save his dad's life - but to do so he must travel to 1984...

I suppose if you'd asked me before, I'd have said a time machine might look something like a submarine? Or perhaps a space rocket. Instead, I'm looking at a laptop and a tin tub from a garden centre.



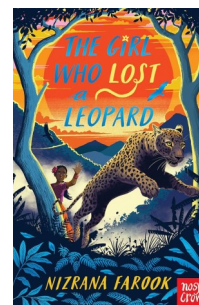
Jaguar Trials by Ruth Eastham

Cats have nine lives. Ben has one. Keeping it will test him to the very limit. An Amazon expedition gone wrong throws Ben into a world of superstition and adventure. Now he must survive the mysterious Jaguar Trials to escape the jungle and uncover the truth about the lost City of Gold.

If you enjoy suspense, trials and cliff hangers, then this is the book

The Girl who Lost a Leopard by Nizrana Farook

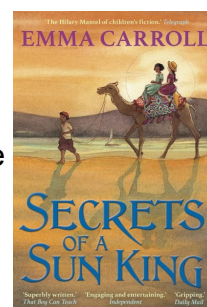
Selvi is a wild child who loves climbing in the beautiful mountains behind her home. She is often joined by Lokka, a leopard with a beautiful coat and huge golden eyes. When hunters come for Lokka, Selvi is determined to fight. But what can she do against such powerful enemies?



Year 6

Secrets of a Sun King by Emma Carroll

When Lilian Kaye finds a parcel on her grandad's doorstep, she is shocked to see who sent it: a famous Egyptologist, found dead that very morning, according to every newspaper in England! The mysterious package holds the key to a story about a king whose tomb archaeologists are desperately hunting for. Lil and her friends must embark on an incredible journey - to return the package to its resting place, to protect those they love, and to break the deadly pharaoh's curse.



The Kingdom Over the Sea by Zohra Nabi

A book if you love magic, adventure and secrets to unfold. When Yara's mother passes away, she leaves behind a letter and a strange set of instructions. Yara must travel from the home she has always known to a place that is not on any map – Zehaira, a world of sorcerers, alchemists and simmering magic. But Zehaira is not the land it used to be. The practice of magic has been outlawed, the Sultan's alchemists are plotting a sinister scheme – and the answers Yara is searching for seem to be out of reach. Yara must summon all of her courage to discover the truth about her mother's past and her own identity . . . and to find her place in this magical new world.

The Tale of Truthwater Lake By Emma Carroll

The story revolves around Polly and her brother, Joel who are growing up in 2032 when climate change is causing a prolonged summer heatwave, with daily government warnings sent to warn people to stay indoors. The children live with their parents in a small flat in Brighton and are sent away to their aunt's house in the country for a few weeks in the summer holiday – although not before Polly has to be rescued by her brother from a late night swim resulting in some online bullying.

