

Reading Newsletter

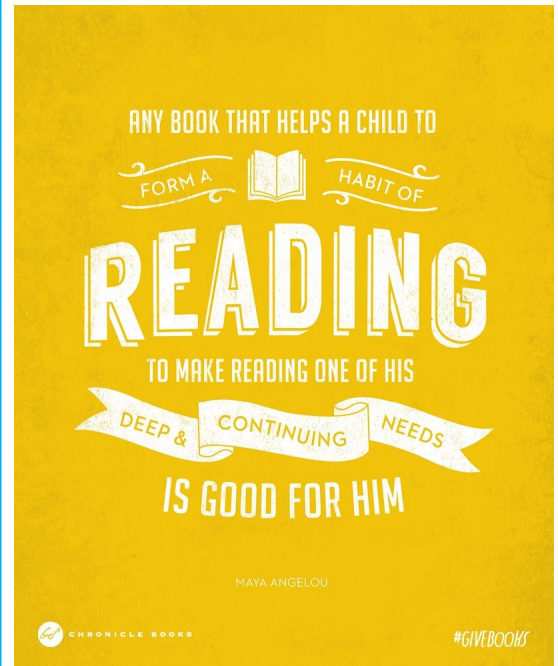
2021/2022 Issue 2

Hello everybody!

It has been great to see so many people reading and excited about the new reading passports! I've also spotted a few of my recommended reads in some of your hands. At lunchtimes, lots of Year 3s and 4s have been reading Mrs Paterson's selection of books from her window which really has been fantastic to see.

This month, it is Black History Month. The new campaign for Black History Month is 'Proud to Be' which is all about talking about what you are proud to be. Our reading newsletter this month follows the theme of Black History Month—maybe you will learn something new this month!

Keep reading,
Miss C :)



Rob Biddulph Signing Session

On Sunday 21st November, author and illustrator Rob Biddulph will be visiting Kibworth Bookshop for an in-person book-signing session. During lockdown, Rob produced 'Draw with Rob' videos to learn how to illustrate just like him. In order to secure a place to meet Rob and have your books signed you need to:

- Purchase at least one of Rob's books per person attending either in store, or online.

[Rob Biddulph – Kibworth Books](#)

- Collect from the bookshop [between 4pm and 5pm on Sunday 21st November and Rob will sign and dedicate your books.



Author of the Month

CATHERINE BRUTON

Hello all staff and pupils at Kibworth Primary School,

'Another Twist in the Tale' (publishing November 5th) a rip-roaring a sequel to Charles Dickens' 'Oliver Twist' set in Victorian London and featuring Oliver's long lost twin sister - and a few familiar Dickensian faces too!

I've always loved the tale of the orphan who asked for more but I've always thought that things would have turned out quite differently if Oliver had been a girl! I first fell in love with Dickens' at school - even though I DIDN'T get a part in the school production of 'Oliver!' (which I'm still cross about!) Studying 'Great Expectations' I was enchanted by Pip Pirrip, Magwitch, Miss Havisham, Mr Wosple and the Aged P - with names that are as glorious and grotesque and funny and absurd and sad and brilliant as Dickens' incredible cast of characters themselves. So the chance to tell a story that included the Artful Dodger and Fagin and even Oliver Twist himself - and to invent a host of fantastic new Dickensian heroes and villains - Bag-



At school I also first witnessed the power of Dickens' stories when my teacher Mrs Barratt burst into tears while reading out the death of Jo from 'Bleak House'. I had never seen a teacher cry before - and that's when I learned that beyond Dickens' page-turning adventures are stories written to open his readers' eyes to the reality of life in Victorian London - the horrors of the workhouses, the starving street children exploited by criminal gangs or forced to work in 'sweatshops' (realities that sadly still exist in our world today). This was probably inspired by Dickens' own childhood experiences: his father was thrown into a debtor's prison and 12 year old Charles was forced to work ten hours a day in a rat-infested Blacking Factory. He never spoke of this experience it till the day he died, but it inspired 'Oliver Twist', 'A Christmas Carol' and 'Bleak House', stories which highlight the plight of the Victorian poor. Dickens' ability to open his readers eyes, make them stop and think, has inspired many of the contemporary novels I've written, such as 'No Ballet Shoes in Syria', which tells the story of a young refugee in the UK. And for 'Another Twist in the Tale' I drew on my experiences working with street children in an orphanage in South Africa. I hope it might make readers think about the child poverty and exploitation that still exists around the world, and even on our own doorstep.

But what I love most about Dickens are the stories! He published his novels chapter-by-chapter in weekly magazines, and he always leaves readers desperate to know more - so they have to buy next week's edition! I tried to do the same, introducing another twist in every chapter, ending each episode on a cliff-hanger so tantalising you just have to keep reading till the final thrilling twist on the very last page! And when readers close the covers of 'Another Twist in the Tale' I hope it might inspire them to discover - or rediscover - Dickens' stories for themselves. I love the idea that my Twill Twist might (re)introduce you to her long lost brother Oliver, to Pip and Magwitch, Ebenezer Scrooge and Tiny Tim - and many more of the glorious characters and unforgettable adventures created by the inimitable Charles Dickens!

Happy reading! Catherine Bruton



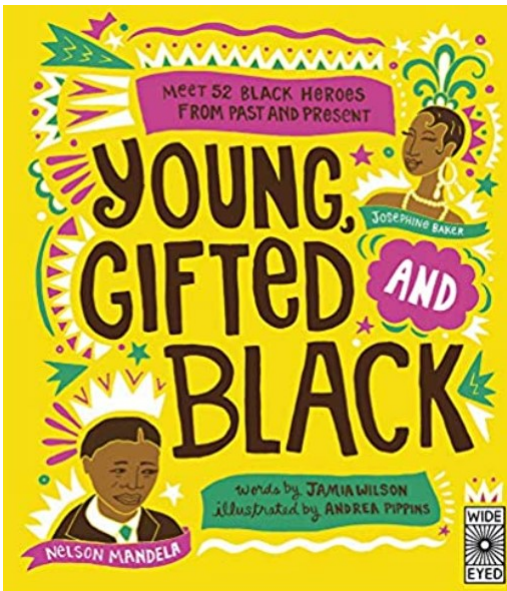
Recommended Read

Mae Among the Stars— Roda Ahmed

Mae Jemison was the first African American woman in space. When she was a little girl, she dreamed of dancing in space surrounded by billions of stars. Mae's dream to become an astronaut stays with her throughout her life as she works extremely hard to achieve her dreams and in 1987, she became the first ever African American female astronaut.

'If I can dream it, if I can believe in it, and if I work hard

EYFS/KS1



Young, Gifted and Black - Jamia Wilson

This book consists of a collection of 52 stories about inspirational people of colour from the past and the present. It is a colourful and celebratory book highlighting the talent and contributions of black leaders and changemakers from all over the world. Learn about Mary Seacole, Matthew Henson, Mo Farah, Beyonce Knowles, Serena Williams and many more.

UKS2

Freedom—Catherine Johnson

This short book (only 150 pages long!) is a pacy, action packed story about a young Jamaican boy's (Nathanial) experience of slavery in the UK. Set in the time when slave trade was on the brink of abolition, Freedom is a story filled with hope. His mother assures Nat that once a slave sets foot on British soil, they are free. However, all is not as it seems as Nat soon realises that freedom may not be everything he had hoped for. Nevertheless, along the way, Nat meets some very kind and generous strangers who help him out.



Top Tips for Kids

HOW DO I CHOOSE A BOOK I'LL LIKE?

1. What makes you happy?

What are your favourite hobbies or pastimes? Look for books that are linked specifically linked to these- you are more likely to enjoy reading a book if you are already interested in its subject.

2. Fact or fiction?

Do you prefer reading novels, short stories and books that take you to fictitious places? Or, are you more interested in books that give you the facts. That tell you the who, what, when and why of a particular subject? Just because a book is non-fiction, it doesn't mean it can't be exciting.

3. Find a family favourite.

What was your mum's favourite book when they were your age? Or your dad's, aunt's, cousin's? Ask them and give it a read- it's a fun way to get to know your family a little better and to find a book that you will enjoy.

4. Ask an expert.

Kibworth Community Library is a great place to find books that you'll love and you don't have to search all by yourself! Tell a librarian what you are interested to and they will show you a range of books that match your interests. The Kibworth Book Shop is another great place to get recommendations on books and to keep up to date on the new releases. Keep an eye out for their author visits too! Why not ask someone at school too? All of our teachers read lots of children's books and will have some great ideas for you!



Monday: 2 – 4pm

Tuesday: 10am – 12pm

Wednesday: 2 – 4pm

Thursday: 9 – 11am

Friday: 9 – 11am

Saturday: 10am – 12pm



Monday: 10am - 4pm

Tuesday: 10am - 4pm

Wednesday: 10am - 4pm

Thursday: 10am - 4pm

Friday: 10am - 4pm

Saturday: 10am - 4pm

Sunday: closed (= reading time)

5. Swap books.

Why not get some friends together and trade your favourite books. It's always fun to see what they have been reading. It also helps you to encourage each other to read!