



Reading Newsletter

Spring 2022

Welcome to our Spring Term 2022 Reading Newsletter—a place for us to share reading recommendations and support our children in accessing and enjoying great books.

Autumn Term saw our brilliant **KS2 Reading Ambassadors** visit Waterstones bookshop to select and purchase new books for our libraries. The ambassadors carried out their roles superbly; carefully considering which books would best complement our current library stock and, once back at school, they shared these books with the other children in an assembly.

In January, Year 5 and 6 classes were lucky enough to be able to join a video call with **Lisa Thompson and Helen Rutter** who each shared their new books *The Rollercoaster Boy* and *The Boy Whose Wishes Came True*. This was an event in collaboration with Waterstones who kindly shared £1 discount vouchers with our Year 5 and 6 families for purchases of these books.

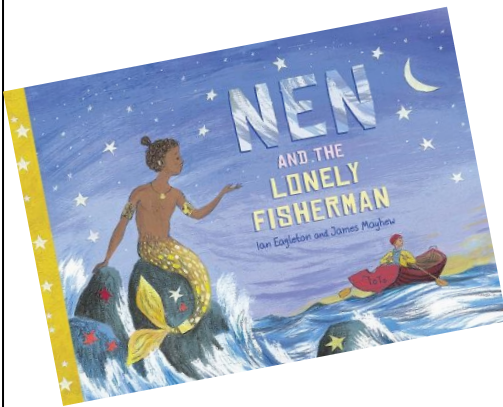
Speaking of Lisa Thompson, a separate letter will have gone out to KS2 families this week regarding her **book signing at Dial Lane Books, Ipswich, on Saturday 12th February** - an event not to be missed!

Looking ahead to later this term, **World Book Day** takes place on **Thursday 3rd March** and, whilst we will not be asking the children to dress up on the day, we will be taking part in lots of reading-based activities throughout the week, with a focus on reading for pleasure, enjoyment of books, and positive and diverse representations in books. Our focus of the week will also be on the **Usborne Book Fair** which is visiting our school on **Tuesday 1st, Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd March** - more details to follow soon.

We are also looking forward to **Thursday 28th April** when KS2 pupils will be taking part in a virtual workshop with **author of the 'Anisha Accidental Detective' series, Serena Patel**. The workshop will look at examples of positive representation in children's literature and why these are needed. Serena will show the children how stories can be powerful, lead to empathy, and help us understand the world around us. If you would like to pre-order a book and signed bookplate for this event, please refer to the letter sent out in January which will also be attached to this newsletter. **Please note that the deadline for orders is Monday 28th February.**

Readers aged 5+

Nen and The Lonely Fisherman by Ian Eagleton and James Mayhew

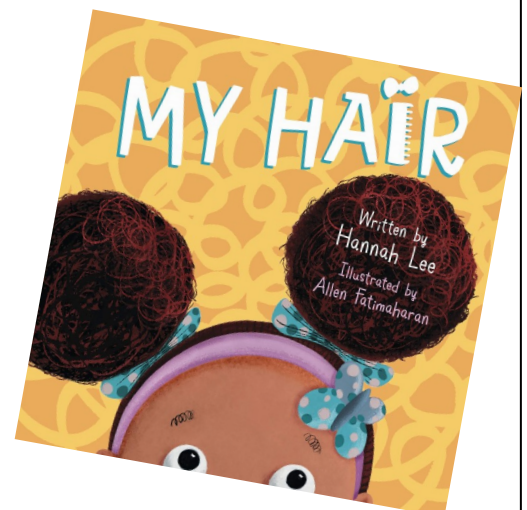


Far out to sea and deep below the whispering waves lives a merman called Nen. Nen spends his days exploring his underwater kingdom, but something is missing: his heart is empty. So, Nen ventures to the forbidden world above and it is here that he meets Ernest, a lonely fisherman. But can two people from different worlds be together and what will happen when a terrifying storm gathers? A lyrical, beautiful celebration of love, acceptance and faith, with a gentle message about how we treat our oceans, and each other.

My Hair by Hannah Lee and Allen Fatimaharan

My birthday's coming up so soon,
I'll need new clothes to wear.
But most of all, I need to know,
How shall I style my hair?

Will it be dreads or a twist out? Braids or a high-top fade? Joyous and vibrant, this captures perfectly the excitement of getting ready for a celebration, as well as showcasing a dazzling array of intricate hairstyles. With lively illustrations in warm, rich colours accompanying the rhythmic text, this is a glorious debut from an exciting new partnership who both emerged from the FAB Prize for undiscovered BAME writers and illustrators.



Readers aged 7+

The Small Things by Lisa Thompson



Anna's anxious when she's picked to befriend the new girl in her class. For a start, Ellie is ill and can't come to school herself. So Anna has to communicate with her through a new kind of robot. But Anna is also worried that her life's too small and boring to be of interest to her new friend. Compared to the other girls, she doesn't have anything exciting to talk about and so when Ellie asks her a question, a little white lie pops out. Then another and another. When Ellie finds out the truth, can their friendship survive...?

Inspired by a true story, a groundbreaking robot helps friendship blossom in this poignant and uplifting novella from bestseller Lisa Thompson.

The Great Food Bank Heist by Onjali Q. Rauf

On Thursdays, Nelson, Ashley and Mum head out to the bank. But not just any old bank - the food bank. With its shining tins and packets of food stacked from floor to ceiling, Nelson thinks it's the best kind of bank there is. But there's a thief in town, and the shelves of the food bank are getting emptier each day, leaving people hungrier than ever. For the sake of his family and everyone else's, Nelson needs to make them stop. But can he and his friends really be the ones to catch the bank robber? Written with great empathy and Rauf's trademark humour, *The Great Food Bank Heist* is a moving story that gives a child's-eye view of the increasing problem of food poverty.



Readers aged 9+

Twitch by M.G. Leonard



From the internationally bestselling author of *Beetle Boy* and the *Adventures on Trains* series, comes the first book in *The Twitchers*, a brand new mystery adventure series celebrating friendship, bravery and the incredible world of birds, starring a birdwatching detective called Twitch!

Twitch has three pet chickens, four pigeons, swallows nesting in his bedroom and a passion for birdwatching. On the first day of the summer holidays, he arrives at his secret hide to find police everywhere: a convicted robber has broken out of prison and is hiding in Aves Wood. Can Twitch use his talents for birdwatching to hunt for the dangerous prisoner and find the missing loot?

Rumaysa: A Fairytale by Radiya Hafiza

'Rumaysa, Rumaysa, let down your hijab!'

Rumaysa is a magically fresh, empowering and funny debut, which retells three classic fairytales - Rapunzel, Cinderella and Sleeping Beauty - to show that anyone can be a hero.

For as long as she can remember Rumaysa has been locked away in her tower, forced to spin straw into gold for the evil Witch, unable to leave. Until one day, after dropping a hijab out of her small tower-window, Rumaysa realizes how she might be able to escape... Join Rumaysa as she adventures through enchanted forests and into dragon's lairs, discovers her own incredible magical powers and teams up with Cinderayla and Sleeping Sara!

