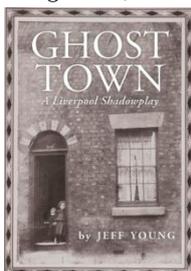


Hello! Welcome to this week's edition of our reading for pleasure newsletter. Back in September, James (from Y2) started reading the 'Treehouse' series of books by Andy Griffiths and Terry Denton. The series (which now boasts ten instalments - they go up in multiples of 13) started with 'The 13-Story Treehouse'. As you can see from the picture, James is about to start book number ten - and he's read a book a week during lockdown! Wow! Very well done, James.



'Starbird' by Sharon King-Chai: Last week, Miss Baker and Miss Fraser shared this beautiful, shimmering book with Y4 children. It is an original fable about love and freedom and its pages are filled with the most stunning illustrations. LoveReading4Kids says: 'Starbird's songs weave the richest dreams and delight all who hear him, but when the Moon King traps him in a cage as a gift for his daughter, the colour and life in his voice begin to drip away. It is a story with the feel of a timeless myth....an exquisite gift for any child or adult.'



Ghost Town: A Liverpool Shadowplay: I've just read Jeff Young's spellbinding journey through the Liverpool of his childhood. It's beautifully evocative of a mostly vanished city, including Skelthorne Street bus station: '...stinking of diesel and doughnuts.' Brilliant!

Time for two recommendations from Brayden's mum. Brayden is in Y4 and his mum tells us that these two books are well worth checking out. Thank you, Sue!



'The Midnight Guardians' by Ross

Montgomery: This was published on 5/11/20 and is for age 9+. Here's the synopsis from www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk:

'Accompanied by his guardians – a six-foot tiger, a badger in a waistcoat and a miniature knight – Col must race to Blitz-

bombed London to save his sister. But there are darker forces at work, even than the Nazi bombings. Soon Col is pursued by the terrifying Midwinter King, who is determined to bring an eternal darkness down over everything.'

'The Shark Caller' by Zillah Bethell: This was published last week and is also for age 9+. It is a Julia Eccleshare pick of the month for February on the LoveReading4Kids website, which says: 'Dive beneath the waves with this spellbinding adventure of friendship, forgiveness and bravery, set on the shores of Papua New Guinea. Blue Wing lives in a hut on a sandy beach. She has little formal learning but she knows the ways of the sea. When a plane arrives with visitors (an American academic and his daughter), Blue Wing's life is turned upside down.' Usborne's website has several really interesting 'Quicklinks' for The Shark Caller. Go to www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk and search for The Shark Caller – and then click on the link under the review. You can see the author's scrapbook about growing up in Papua New Guinea and a shark caller photo gallery. You can also learn some of the Pidgin English spoken in Papua New Guinea.



Get Involved: If you have any recommendations, book news, photos, thoughts, comments or ideas, please get in touch. This edition has been brought to you by Brayden's mum, James from Y2 and Mrs. Worthington.

Please read aloud to the children each day. Happy Reading.....Paul (8/2/21)

Paul Kynaston : Assistant Head Teacher : Reading Advocate : Malvern Primary School : Liverpool

At home I'm reading **Red Comet: The Short Life and Blazing Art of Sylvia Plath** by Heather Clark and **Orphans of the Tide** by Struan Murray.

In class I'm reading **The Time of Green Magic** by Hilary McKay.

I'm reading a selection of picture books to 4PK – including **I Go Quiet** by David Quimet.