

Greetings ! Welcome to this latest edition of our reading for pleasure newsletter. Our Year Six Book Club children had their first meetings last week. Children from Mr. Pyne's class have decided to read 'The Haunting of Aveline Jones' by Phil Hickey.



Aveline loves reading ghost stories – so a dreary half-term holiday becomes much more exciting when she discovers a spooky old book. And not only are the stories spine-tingling, but it once belonged to one Primrose Penberthy – who, it seems, vanished rather mysteriously – never to be seen again....

Book Club members from Mr. Bulmer's class have chosen 'The Valley of Lost Secrets' by Lesley Parr. September 1939: When Jimmy is evacuated to a small village in Wales, it couldn't be more different from London. Green, quiet and full of strangers, he instantly feels out of place. But then he finds a skull hidden in a tree, and suddenly the valley is much more frightening than the war itself. Who can Jimmy trust? His brother is too little and his best friend has changed.....

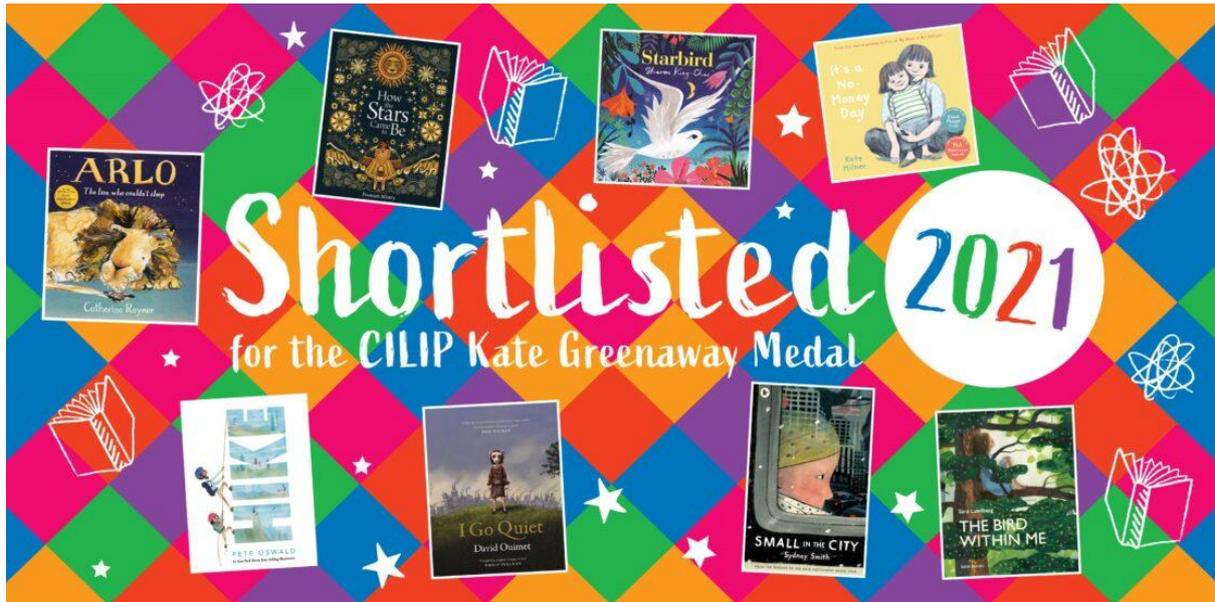




Carnegie Medal: The shortlist for the 2021 Carnegie Medal was announced on Thursday of last week. I've read a few of these. 'The Fountains of Silence' by Ruta Sepetys is a fabulous story that is primarily set in Franco's Spain in the 1950s. Joseph Coelho's 'The Girl Who Became a Tree' weaves together the ancient legend of Daphne with a modern tale that mixes real-life and fantasy. 'The Girl Who Speaks Bear' by former Malvern visitor Sophie Anderson is about an orphan called Yanka. She was found in the wild as a baby by her foster mother and happily grows up in the village – but is conscious that she's much bigger and stronger than the other children. After an accident, Yanka wakes to make a discovery that changes everything. The Carnegie Medal shortlist often has more of a Young Adult bias – and this year is no exception. More information about the books can be found on the Carnegie Medal website. The winner will be announced in June.

**Reader
of the
Week**

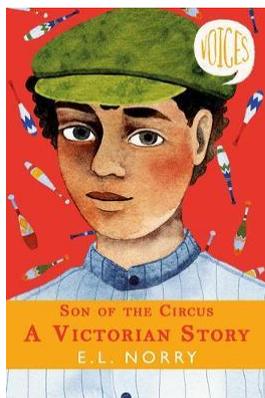
Congratulations... to all of our Readers of the Week! Last week's recipients of a bookmark and sticker included Gabriel from 2CW, Abel from 3NM, James D. from 4CF and Bobby D. from 4PK. Class teachers may nominate a Reader of the Week for a variety of reasons, including: regular reading at home; reading well in class; making good progress with reading; listening attentively during story time each day; being enthusiastic about books and reading; bringing in a book from home to show, share or recommend; producing a good piece of writing linked to a book; improving reading stamina and concentration. Readers of the Week also get a mention on our website.

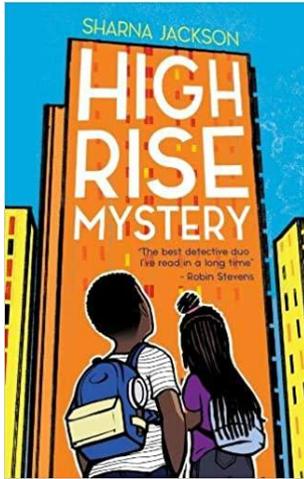


Kate Greenaway Medal: This is awarded for art work and illustrations in children's books. Like the Carnegie Medal, the shortlist was announced last week. All of this year's shortlisted titles are beautifully illustrated in a variety of styles. After Easter, Miss Fraser will be coordinating a 'shadowing' group for Year Four. Children will be given the opportunity to share and discuss the books – and decide for themselves which book they think should win the Kate Greenaway Medal.



Inspiration from Katherine Rundell: Writing in Saturday's Guardian, the 'Rooftoppers' author recommends several books to help and inspire children. Katherine says: *'There are books that will help teach children the world is enormous, that history is still alive. We're in, I think, golden times for children's fiction – there are books being published every year that tell children, loudly or quietly, through good jokes or wild escapades: dig for the bravery that you did not know you had....'* Katherine recommends E.L. Norry's 'Son of the Circus: A Victorian Story' – a fictionalised account of Pablo Franc, the first black circus proprietor in Victorian Britain. She also speaks very highly of Catherine Johnson's 'Freedom' – a story about Mat, who was born into slavery on an English-owned plantation in Jamaica, and his journey to London.





'High Rise Mystery' by Sharna Jackson: Katherine Rundell says that Sharna Jackson is: *'...one of the most brilliant children's fiction writers in the country. I haven't yet met a child who has not loved her murder series, which begins with 'High Rise Mystery'...*' Sisters Nik and Norva are slightly obsessed with murder mysteries on the TV. When a body is discovered in their block of flats, they are sure that they are the right people to find out the truth. Published on 4/4/19 – for age 9+. The next in the series is 'Mic Drop'.



'Gender Swapped Fairy Tales' by Karrie Fransman:

With artwork by Jonathan Plackett, this is a collection of traditional fairy tales that simply swaps the genders of the characters in several well-known tales. So we get 'Handsome and the Beast', 'Cinder, or the Little Glass Slipper' and 'Gretel and Hansel'. This fab book was published in November last year and is for age 8+. I've ordered a copy, so please let me know if you'd like to have a look. Happy to share!



Get Involved: If you have any recommendations, book news, photos, thoughts, comments or ideas, please get in touch. Book reviews or recommendations from children are welcomed and encouraged. Thank you!

I hope you find time to relax with a good book over the Easter holiday.

Please read aloud to the children each day. Happy Reading.....Paul (22/3/21)

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

At home I'm reading **Americanah** by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie.

In class I'm reading **Elsetime** by Eve McDonnell.

I'm reading **Queen of Darkness** by Tony Bradman to 4PK.