

17/10/22 – A very warm welcome to this week's edition of our reading for pleasure newsletter.

Malvern Community Book Club: The next meeting will take place on Thursday 17th November at 7.30pm in the Bowring Park Pub. Between now and then, members are reading 'The Other Queen' by Philippa Gregory. From Philippa Gregory's website:

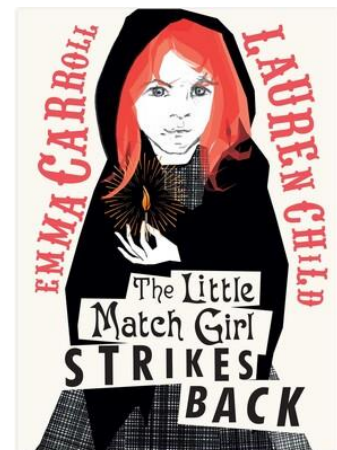
Two women competing for a man's heart. Two queens fighting to the death for dominance. The untold story of Mary Queen of Scots. Fleeing rebels in Scotland on Queen Elizabeth's false promise of sanctuary, Mary Queen of Scots finds herself imprisoned as the "guest" of George Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury and his indomitable wife, Bess of Hardwick. Soon the newly married couple's home

becomes the centre of intrigue and rebellion against Elizabeth, and their loyalty to each other and to their sovereign comes into question. If Mary succeeds in seducing the earl into her own web of treason, or if the great spymaster William Cecil links them to the growing conspiracy to free Mary from her illegal imprisonment, they will all face the headsman.

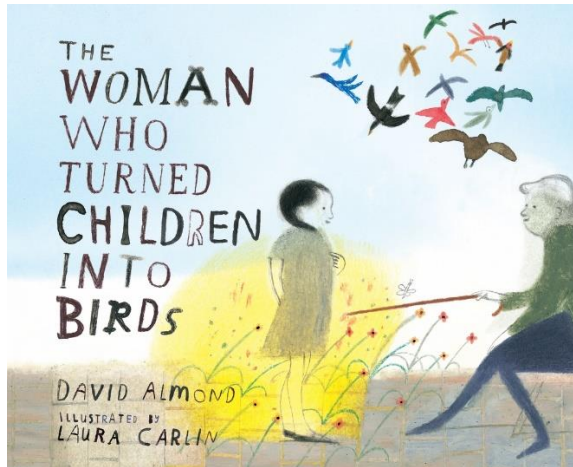
'The Little Match Girls Strikes Back': I bought this beautiful hardback yesterday. This is what the Simon and Schuster website says:

It only takes one strike: A powerful feminist reworking of the Hans Christian Andersen classic, from best-selling and award-winning creators Emma Carroll and Lauren Child.

Bridie works hard to feed her family, selling matches on the streets of Victorian London. After an incident leaves her with only three matches left, the magical strike of each one sees her tumble into visions of a brighter future. Realizing she has the power to change her own fortune, Bridie leads the match factory workers out on strike, achieving the remarkable through their unity and courage. A defiant and empowering retelling of the classic you thought you knew. Based on real-life events, this stunning collaboration is brought to life in glorious spot colour, introducing a bold new heroine for future generations to treasure.



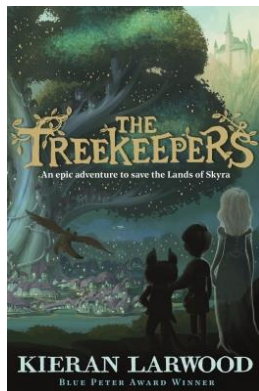
'The Woman Who Turned Children Into Birds': Written by the amazing David Almond ('Skellig', 'My Name Is Mina') and including beautiful illustrations by Laura Carlin, 'The Woman Who Turned Children Into Birds' is a powerful and uplifting tale about freeing the imagination. The Walker website says:



She made her marks. She whispered her words. Then she said, "Go on. Be happy. Up you go." When Nanty Solo comes to town, she says she can turn children into birds. The parents are sceptical, but the children want to fly. And before very long, everyone does. A celebratory, lyrical story that will make your heart and imagination soar.

The Sunday Times said: 'A beautiful, whimsical, heart-lifting picture book by a writer who makes words soar and an artist with an elegant, unconventional style - about defying rules and daring to fly.'

Thank You: We sold almost £800.00 worth of books at our recent book fair. Thank you for your support. We now have almost £400.00 in commission to spend on new books for our school library.



'The Treekeepers' by Kieran Larwood: A new book from Kieran Larwood is always something to get excited about. Here's what the website LoveReading4Kids says:

Liska is a shapeshifter, training to be a warrior under her mother's guidance. At the heart of Arborven, their city in a forest, stands the awe-inspiring Undrentree – "the thing was monumental. God-sized". In fact, the city is contained within the tree, a complex of villages and temples; castles and mansions. What's more, the Undrentree lends its magic to Arborven's wizards, facilitating a partnership between the city and wildlife that enables both to survive.

So, when Liska finds out the nourishing, balancing tree is under threat and no one listens to her, she steps up to save it in the company of a ghost girl and a boy named Lug whose wizard power is the ability to "summon and control the worms in the soil of Arborven." Though this skill is often overlooked, in actual fact Lug's ability ensures the earth remains full of food for the life-sustaining trees. Balancing the thrills of a classic quest adventure with imparting valuable ecological messages, The Treekeepers is a beaut of a book, with Chris Wormell's line-drawings and story-world map adding to its glory.

'Books crowbar the world open for you.' (From 'Rooftoppers' by Katherine Rundell)

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

At home I'm reading **Tombland** by C.J.Sansom.

I'm reading **The Zebra's Great Escape** by Katherine Rundell to Year One.

I'm reading **The Bolds** by Julian Clary to Year Three.

The Malvern Community Book Club's current book is **The Other Queen** by Philippa Gregory.