

Welcome ! On Wednesday of last week, the 2023 Centre for Literacy in Primary Poetry Award shortlist was announced. The Bookseller website says: *Celebrating its 20th anniversary, the award highlights the best published poetry for children, with past winners including Carol Ann Duffy, John Agard, Jackie Kay and Michael Rosen. The current Waterstone's Children's Laureate Joseph Coelho, a former CLiPPA winner, is on the list for **Blow a Kiss Catch a Kiss**, illustrated by Nicola Killen. The book is described by the judges as a "well-written, carefully considered first collection for the very young, full of poems which catch and reflect their emotions". Meanwhile, Nicola Davies is in the running with **Choose Love**, illustrated by Petr Horáček - praised for being "compassionate, campaigning and written from the heart". Nikita Gill's book, **These are the Words**, is also featured on the shortlist. According to the judges, this is "a book that readers will hold to their hearts". **Let's Chase Stars Together** is "a book that fully considers its intended audience," and has earned Matt Goodfellow his place on the list. He sits alongside Ted Kooser and Connie Wanek, authors of **Marshmallow Clouds**, of which the judges said: "With its beautifully crafted verse, it's a book that demonstrates that good poetry for children transcends age barriers."*



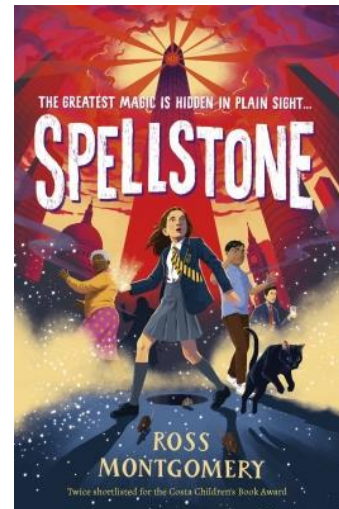
The Importance of Reading Aloud: The Department for Education Reading Framework (January 2022) says: *We know that emotional engagement is the tipping point between leaping into the reading life or remaining in a childhood bog where reading is endured only as a means to other ends. Teachers are the best people to promote a love of reading because children, particularly young children, care what their teachers think about the stories they read aloud. If teachers show they love the story, the children are likely to respond in the same way. However, this does not mean that teachers should choose only the books they loved as children. Everybody loves a good story. Even small children who have difficulty focusing in class will sit with rapt attention in the presence of a good storyteller. But stories are not just fun. There are important cognitive consequences of the story format. Our minds treat stories differently than other types of material. People find stories interesting, easy to understand, and easy to remember. When teachers read aloud to a class, they try to replicate for children what it feels like to have someone's undivided attention while sharing a story. This is why reading aloud should be a priority. The main aim of storytelling is to breathe life into the words, capturing children's attention rather than simply entertaining them.*



Reader of the Week

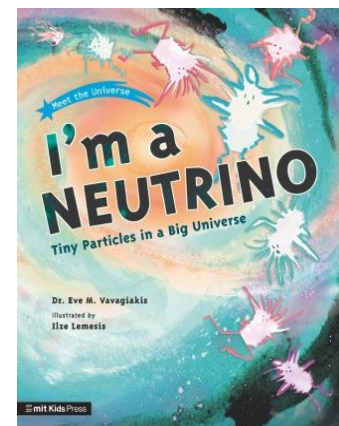
Last Week's Book Worms: Our amazing readers of the week included: Oliver and Daisy from the Nursery, Alice from Class 1CF, Isaac from Class 1LM, Heidi from Class 2JOB, Kai from Class 3AP and Esmée from Class 3NM.

Spellstone: Ross Montgomery's brand-new book was published last week. The LoveReading4Kids website says: *The greatest magic is hidden in plain sight. Evie is used to not being noticed. But when she meets the mysterious Wainwright, she discovers that going unnoticed might just be what makes her unique. Recruited into a secret magical organization, Evie finds herself at the heart of an ancient and magical battle. Evil is returning to the land, and Evie is the only person who can stop it. But how can she defeat the most dangerous magician in the world, when she doesn't even know her own powers? An enthralling tale which sparkles with themes of good and evil, friendship, finding your people and discovering the magic within you.* Malvern visitor Phil Earle says: 'Discover a world of magical storytelling from a twice Costa-shortlisted author. One of our finest children's writers.' For age 9+.



You're So Amazing ! Written by James and Lucy Catchpole and illustrated by Karen George, this ground-breaking picture book explores how we respond to disability. LoveReading4Kids says: *When people meet Joe, they often treat him as Amazing Joe or Poor Joe. But can't he just be . . . Joe? One-legged Joe is 'amazing'. He knows this because wherever he goes people always tell him he's amazing. Amazing for sliding down the slide, for kicking a ball . . . even walking to get an ice cream, or even just eating an ice cream. Of course, being Amazing Joe is better than being Poor Joe . . .* Published on May 4th and for age 3+.

I'm a Neutrino: Tiny Particles in a Big Universe: LoveReading4Kids has the following take on it: *Written by cosmologist Dr Eve M. Vavagiakis, I'm a Neutrino: Tiny Particles in a Big Universe is handsomely pitched for KS1 kids to discover the secrets and beauty of the universe and the wonder of science in dazzling style. With a lovely, lyrical rhyming text that's as engaging and inspirational as it is informative, and stunning full-bleed illustrations by Ilze Lemesis, I'm a Neutrino will make a great gift for the young science lovers in your life. It also comes highly recommended for the STEM shelves of school libraries. Presenting neutrinos in character form ("Hi! I'm a neutrino, and I am so small / that matter to me barely matters at all"), readers are taken on an exhilarating journey to discover what they are and why they matter, with additional information shared after the story's been told. With the lyrical text highlighting that there's still so much we don't know about the universe, readers might just come away feeling inspired to make their own cosmological discoveries someday.* For age 7+.



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

Paul Kynaston : Assistant Head Teacher : Reading Advocate : Malvern Primary School : Liverpool : May '23

At home I'm reading **Slade House** by David Mitchell.

The children's book that I'm reading is **Ravencave** by Marcus Sedgwick.

The Malvern Community Book Club's current book is **Slade House** by David Mitchell.