

Newfield Park Primary School

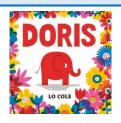
Reading Newsletter - September 2023

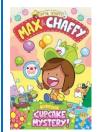


New releases!

Doris Lo Cole (author), Lo Cole (illustrator)

Being a bright red elephant, Doris is easy to spot. But she doesn't like to stand out, it makes her feel uncomfortable. She manages to blend in with a flock of brightly coloured birds, then flowers and fish — temporarily at least — until she wanders onto a page where absolutely everything is red! When she finds her way out, this time she doesn't mind standing out, she's just relieved to be herself again. This adorable little elephant has a lot to teach us about being happy in ourselves! Perfect for nursery and reception children.

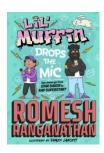




Max and Chaffy: The Great Cupcake Mystery Jamie Smart (author), Jamie Smart (illustrator) Max and Chaffy are excited to go to Chief Constable Moose's SURPRISE BIRTHDAY PARTY! But the birthday cake has gone MISSING! They need to find the clues and solve the mystery so the party can go ahead, and YOU CAN HELP! A heart-warming, interactive adventure story, set on a cute, fun island that's hugely appealing to young readers. Max & Chaffy celebrates the joy that comes when you find your best friend, and shows there's a place for everyone. It's a really lovely book to introduce the concept of chapter (longer) books with young children. Suitable for children in Years 1 and 2, with help from an adult.

Lil' Muffin Drops the Mic Romesh Ranganathan (author), James Lancett (illustrator)

From comedy superstar Romesh Ranganathan comes a hilarious and heartfelt tale that proves rap battles and baking muffins really can mix. The perfect story for fans of David Baddiel and Adam B Wins the Internet! Ever since his dad left, James can't seem to stop worrying about everything. His favourite hobby, baking, is a fun (and delicious!) distraction, but no matter how many AMAZING brownies he makes, James still feels like there's a missing ingredient in his life . . . Until he discovers rapping, and he's COMPLETELY hooked. Full of laugh-out-loud illustrations from bestselling illustrator James Lancett, this is a super book to get reluctant readers in Years 4 and up.





Leif the Unlucky Viking: Saga of the Shooting Star Gary Northfield (author)

An hilarious new illustrated chapter book series featuring the hapless adventures of Leif the Unlucky Viking wolf pup, from the creator of the hugely popular Julius Zebra books! Leif is not unlucky. Yes, he does split his trousers at least once a week. And yes, he's always tripping up and falling down a hole. But he's determined to become a true Viking hero, just like his dad. Can he unravel the riddles of a witch to find a magical shard of rock that has fallen from a shooting star and wield its mystical powers? He will have to journey deep into the heart of polar bear country, outwitting all kinds of mythological creatures along the way! Take the Viking sagas, a mythical object to be sought and an over-eager, adventurous wolf pup with a tendency to be clumsy and you have a recipe for a funny young series! Suitable for confident readers in Year 3 and 4.

The Light Thieves: Search for the Black Mirror Helena Duggan (author)

You may remember that author Helena Duggan visited Newfield last year. Her follow up to the award-winning *Light Thieves* is now out! "Only kids can save the world." The energy from the sun is being stolen. It's a catastrophe for the planet and every living thing on it! Friends Grian, Jeffrey and Shelli are desperately trying to work out how it's happening. They know tech genius Howard Hansom is behind the theft and they're determined to stop him. But they can't use any of Hansom's smart technology in their quest as it will track them wherever they go. The three young heroes need to find a strange black mirror to help them save the sun. Time is running out. Can kids really save the world? Suitable for children in Years 5 and 6.





Ten-Word Tiny Tales Joseph Coelho (author), Various (illustrator)

This is definitely one of the most unique books I've seen. In each of the ten-word stories Children's Laureate Joseph Coelho plants a wonderful seed of an idea which will spark the imagination of readers of all ages... although some of the pictures and paintings are quite dark! Each is like the fizzing start of a story which could take off in a host of directions. These prompts will inspire curiosity about the different scenarios that are hinted at but not completed in these tales. Illustrated by a ranged of talented artists including Dapo Adeola, Flavia Z. Drago and Shaun Tan, the stories will encourage everyone who reads them to write their own versions of 'what happens next'. A wonderfully unique book but it may be worth taking a look at some of the stories to check they're suitable for your child.



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What's going on at Newfield?

- ✓ You still have a week left to complete the Summer Reading Challenge. If you are one book short, make sure to pop into the library and complete it! Let either Mr. T. Roddison or Ms. C. Saunders know if you've done

 it
- ✓ As mentioned in the August newsletter, our new Football Corner is taking shape, with many fiction and non-fiction books soon available for avid football fans to take home!

Reading Certificates

Our **Reading Certificates** are once again back for 2023-24 with brand-new designs for the children to collect. There are various exciting new ones to collect, including superheroes, airplanes and maybe some furry friends! If you've forgot how it works, children can earn up to **2** 'reads' a day, normally one at school and one in the evening at home. The length of these reads will obviously be dependent on the age of the child. The certificates start at 20 reads and go up in every 20 reads to 100. After that it gets a little harder! 150 is followed by 200, 300, 400, 500 and even 600 is possible! Last year just **five** pupils achieved this incredible feat; best of luck!

An author you might not know....



Louie Stowell

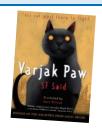
Born in London, Stowell grew up on a cultural diet of Doctor Who and Lord of the Rings! Her debut children's novel, the hilarious The Dragon in the Library, was published in 2019 and was followed by The Monster in the Lake (2020). In 2022

Stowell embarked on the first book in the Loki series, Loki: A Bad God's Guide to Being Good, which focused on the Norse trickster god's attempts to escape his current form as a human schoolboy by proving his altruism. Brilliantly funny and boasting Stowell's distinctive cartoons, the book became a bestseller! Suitable for children in Year 3/4 and up!

Book Brag!

Varjak Paw by S.F.Said

Varjak Paw is a Mesopotamian Blue kitten. He lives high up in an old house on a hill. He's never left home, but then his grandfather tells him about the Way – a secret martial art for cats. Now Varjak must use the Way to survive in a city full of dangerous dogs, cat gangs and, strangest of all the mysterious Vanishings!



Perfect for children in Year 4 and up. S.F. Said has recently written the wonderful *Tyger* but *Varjak Paw* remains his most popular book to date.

"I think this book is good because it's full of exciting adventures, and it's about family, friendship and being brave.' (Thomas D – 3T)

Staff recommendation (for Children)

Level Up! by Tom Nicoll

Flo's mum is a brilliant engineer. So brilliant, she has found a way for Flo to play her favourite video games using an avatar which is exactly like her. But Mum's invention isn't quite ready yet. Does Flo take notice of the multiple notes Mum has left forbidding her to try out the device until it's completely

finished? No, she does not... and the adventure starts from there! Suitable for children in Year 4 and up.

"A five-star read from me and an instant recommendation. Perfect for reluctant readers who love computer games and want an easy-to-get-into book." (Mr. L. Cochrane)

Staff recommendation (for Parents/Carers)



The Island by Victoria Hislop

On the brink of a life-changing decision, Alexis Fielding longs to find out about her mother's past. But Sofia has never spoken of it. All she admits to is growing up in a small Cretan village before moving to London. When Alexis decides to visit Crete, however, Sofia gives her daughter a letter to take to an old friend, and promises that through her she will learn more.

Arriving in Plaka, Alexis is astonished to see that it lies a stone's throw from the tiny, deserted island of Spinalonga - Greece's former leper colony. Then she finds Fotini, and at last hears the story that Sofia has buried all her life... "A story of love, hope and courage. International best seller; it was brilliant." (Mrs. Morris)

Turn on the subtitles!

Turning on the subtitles while children are watching television can 'double the chances' of a child becoming good at reading. It's so brilliantly simple and can help children's literacy so much that we want to shout it from the rooftops! There's extensive global research that shows just how effective this is. For more information on the research click here. Most new apps such as Netflix, Prime Video, Disney+ and iPlayer allow subtitles on almost every show. "Live" programs, such as those on Cbeebies and CBBC, are normally also available with subtitles on. Finally, click the "CC" button on YouTube to activate the subtitles on any videos/shows your child might be watching! "Just turn on the subtitles. Extraordinary. Evidence has shown they can double the chances of a child becoming good at reading." (Lenny Henry, author and comedian, pictured right)

