

Friday 13th October 2023

SAF NEWS



Safe

Respect

Pride

Brave

Success



'Belonging, Being, Becoming'

Dear families and friends,

We have had a wonderful 6 weeks so far and the children have settled back into our normal routines amazingly.

This was the last week for the pop-up swimming pool, and I believe it is fair to say that it has been a huge hit with our children. Their water confidence has grown exponentially and the number of children who are now able to swim has increased. The more chance they get to practice the better they will become – why not enrol them in swimming lessons at the local leisure centre! Miss Brown will be completing a pupil voice with the children to see how they felt about the experience.

NASEN Awards

We were honoured to be nominated for Primary SEN Provision of the Year at the NASEN Awards 2023.

'Congratulations to Sir Alexander Fleming Primary School for their well-deserved win of Primary Provision of the Year Award! We were so impressed with their innovative ways of working and their friendly atmosphere. We hope this award will be an inspiration to everyone to continue striving for excellence!'

Well done to everyone at school for making this possible – it is a true team effort!

'Belonging, Being, Becoming'

What a win!

Our Year 5 and 6 girls kicked off our sporting competitions for the year, playing their first football match on Monday at home... and what a way to start the season it was!! A very convincing 8-1 win against Muxton Primary School, where every player played their part, battling hard and running their socks off! 5 goals were scored by Poppy, 2 by Raya and 1 by Lacey! A fantastic way to start this year's competitions. Miss Brown and Mr Broderick were extremely proud. Well done girls! 😊🏈



SAF Attendance

Our attendance target is: **96.5%**

Our attendance to date is: **96.32%**

Our Persistent Absence is: **9.01%**

(Children who are below 90% attendance)

Well done everyone 😊

Medical Needs

Does your child have any medical needs, or regular medication? If so, please contact Mrs Pigg (SENDCo) to discuss your child's needs and if necessary, create a Health Care Plan.

Allergies

If your child has any allergies, then it is your responsibility to inform the school office so all preventative procedures can be put in place.

Online Safety Newsletter

October 2023

Parental Controls

Does your child have a games console? If yes, have you set up age-appropriate parental controls? The controls vary across the different consoles, but all will allow you to restrict spending and communication for example.

PlayStation

Set up your account as a family manager and create a separate child account so you can tailor their activities. Find out more here: <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/psn-safety-parents-guide/>

Xbox

You can download an app to manage your child's gaming experience. Find out more here: <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/apps/family-settings-app>

Nintendo Switch

Nintendo also offer a free app to monitor what and how your children are playing. Find out more here: <https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Nintendo-Switch-Family/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls-1183145.html>

Does your child watch livestreams?

What is livestreaming?

Livestreaming is when an individual broadcasts video live over the internet. People can watch livestreams from any device that is connected to the internet.

Who is watching livestreaming?

Research from Ofcom reported that 57% of 3 – 17 year olds have watched live streams and the most used platforms to watch live streams were YouTube and TikTok. The research also showed that the percentage watching content on livestreaming app/sites increased by age. A third of 3-4 year olds were watching live content with this number growing to eight in ten of 16-17 year olds. This is reported in [Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2022 \(ofcom.org.uk\)](https://www.ofcom.gov.uk/consult/condocs/childrenandparents/childrenandparents22/childrenandparents22.pdf).



What are the risks?

There are risks associated with watching livestreams that you should be aware of. The main risk being that your child may see or hear something inappropriate as your child may come across themes or content that is not suitable for them. It is difficult to moderate live content as it is happening in real time.

How can I help my child?

- All online platforms have an age rating, ensure your child only accesses platforms that are appropriate to their age. For example, TikTok has an age rating of 13.
- For any platforms that your child uses, ensure appropriate parental controls and privacy settings are applied.
- Take an interest in what your child is doing online and on a regular basis, ask your child to show you what they are accessing.
- Ensure your child knows how to use any reporting/blocking tools on the app that they are using and as always please ensure that your child knows to talk to a trusted adult if they see anything that concerns them online.

Further information

<https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/livestreaming-parents/>
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/what-is-live-streaming/>

Playing games online

Does your child play games online? We have outlined some points that you may wish to consider to try and create a safer experience for your child.

Have you set up parental controls?

As well as setting up appropriate parental controls through the game's setting, ensure you have set them up on the console/device your child is playing on. For example, many consoles allow you to restrict the games accessed by age.

Chatting to strangers

Some games will allow communication, for example (FIFA and Fortnite). Depending on the game, this may be via the in-game text chat, direct messages or talking through headphones. Some games do offer the ability to switch communication off or restrict bad language so make sure settings appropriate to your child are set up for each of the games they play.

It can be difficult to moderate online chat so ensure your child knows how to block and report other players who make them feel uncomfortable and that they know to talk to you or a trusted adult if they have any concerns. It can also be very easy online for children to behave in a way that they would not if they were face to face with each other. Talk to your child about how they are speaking to others online and encourage them to talk to people online with respect, like they would if they were face-to-face.

Is the game age appropriate?

Before buying the game, check that your child is old enough to play it. All games will either have a PEGI rating or be rated by the App Store /Google Play. UK Safer Internet Centre have published a blog, which shares tips on what to do if your child asks about playing a new game:

- <https://saferinternet.org.uk/blog/help-my-child-wants-to-play-games-that-are-too-old-for-them-2>

In app purchases

In addition to the above, you should be aware of in app purchases as lots of games include the option to purchase additional items/subscriptions so ensure you do not have payment cards saved or set up restrictions/pin code to approve.

Further information

The NSPCC provide further guidance and support regarding this topic:



Skill-building app suggestions from Internet Matters

Internet Matters have curated a list of apps that will help your child to develop skills and new interests in different areas, for example Game Builder Garage (7+), which helps children to create their own games and Tayasui Sketches to develop art skills. You can find the full list here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/skill-building-apps-guide-for-kids/>

Scary Teacher 3D

Scary Teacher 3D is a game rated as 12+ by the App store (due to Mild Realistic Violence) or as 'Teen' on Google Play (due to violence). The game does include in-app purchases as well. Players must scare their teacher by completing different activities. There are lots of videos of this game on YouTube as well.

As with all games your child is asking to play, please take note of the age rating and play the game first to see if you think it is appropriate for your child.

Teaching children about money

Lloyds bank have published information and resources to help us help our children develop good financial habits. The information is split into age groups so you can find support tailored to your child's age. You can find out more here:

<https://www.lloydsbank.com/help-guidance/family-finances/teaching-children-about-money.html>

No Shelf Control

Edition 29: September 2023

Sequel September



September is always such an amazing month for new releases, but it is also when many fantastic sequels are released. This year seems to be extra special. So I wanted to dedicate the front page to some superb sequels that are new this month.

'The Wild Robot' and 'Podkin One-Ear' are two of mine and my family's favourite books. They sit deeply in my heart and they're often the first books I will recommend to anyone.

I've been waiting for 'The Wild Robot Protects' since Peter Brown teased its release a few years back. The Podkin news was sprung on me last month. Both new books are an absolute joy and a welcome addition to both series.

Hannah Gold's 'The Last Bear' has been loved by so many readers since its release. 'Finding Bear' follows April as she returns to Bear Island in search of Bear after hearing that a polar bear has been shot. What follows is a story just as beautiful as the original. Levi Pinfold's illustrations are still stunning too!

Maz Evans blew everyone's minds when she wrote 'Who Let the Gods Out'. It was read in hundreds or maybe even thousands of classrooms up and down the country, spreading giggles as it went. 'Oh Maya Gods' follows Elliot and Virgo's (from the original trilogy) children. This time, instead of the Greek gods, they are supported by Maya gods... Many children study the Maya at school so this book is sure to delight many readers with Maz's trademark hilarity and wit!

David Farr's 'The Book of Stolen Dreams' was our book of the year in 2021 and I was very excited to get my hands on 'The Secret of the Blood-Red Key'. It is just as exciting and nail biting as the first book. This series has a real cinematic feel to it. As you read, you are transported to Krasnia where our characters are no longer outcasts but national heroes. There are still secrets though...

There's also the next 'Investigators' book out, which is just as fun as the rest of the series.

If you haven't started any of these series yet, then you really must rectify that. All 6 are simply brilliant!



Books



Reviews



chats



Books and the People Who Make Them

Stéphanie Vernet & Camille de Cussac

Prestel 8+

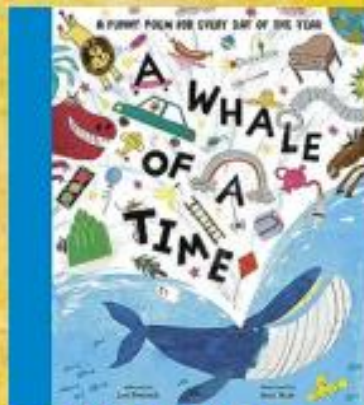
Obviously we love books, but often we don't think about how they get made. This awesome non-fiction is a round-up of all the superstars that work together to make books happen. So many great jobs that I'd never heard/thought of. A little shout-out to everyone in publishing!

A Whale of a Time

Various Poets, Lou Peacock & Matt Hunt

Nosy Crow 6+

A funny poem for every day of the year? I was sold straight away. But getting my hands on the book, I fell in love even more. This book is for anyone that doesn't know where to start with poetry (but equally those that do...) find the day, read the poem, laugh then repeat! Splendid!



Imelda and the Goblin King

Briony May Smith

Flying Eye 3+

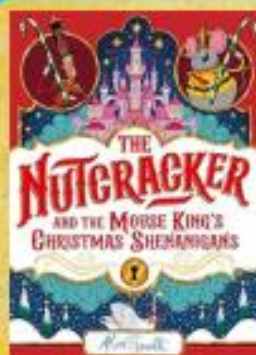
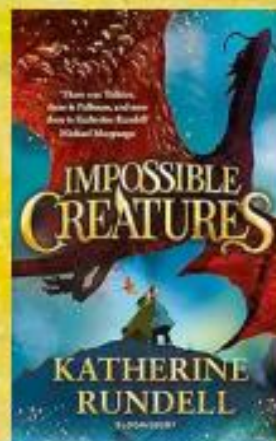
When the Fairy Queen is kidnapped by the Goblin King, there is only one person that can help... Imelda is a young girl who lives by the forest and befriends its inhabitants. Luckily little girls are good at things like this and she quickly comes up with a cunning plan. The illustrations are unmissable!

Impossible Creatures

Katherine Rundell

Bloomsbury 9+

Only a few days ago, a colleague said 'We need more Katherine Rundell books!' The day after, I found out that this beauty was being released later that week! Katherine's writing is truly exquisite and this story is no exception. When Christopher discovers that his grandfather is the guardian of one of the ways between our world and Archipelago - a magical world - an important quest follows!



One To Wait for...

The Nutcracker- Alex T. Smith
Macmillan Children - Oct 23

Alex's yearly Christmas offering is out next month but hopefully if you're sane, you'll wait until December before you read it... I'm all for Christmas, but not in October!



Last-Place Lin

Wai Chim & Freda Chiu

Allen & Unwin 4+

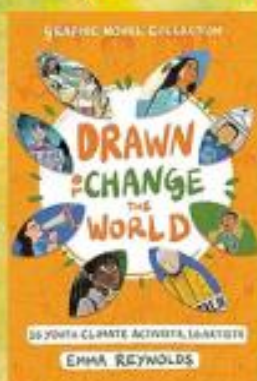
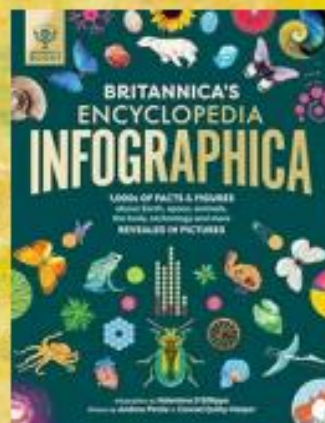
One of the most important lessons young children need to learn is that you can't always win. This story celebrates resilience and keeping going. Success doesn't always mean winning! You will come back to this book time and time again, finding yourself getting lost in the fantastic illustrations!

Encyclopedia Infographica

Valentina D'Efilippo, Andrew Pettie & Conrad Quilty-Harper

Britannica Books 9+

Britannica have been bringing back fat encyclopedias and every one has been loving them but now they're back and upping their game. Adults love a good infographic to share in a meeting or on social media, this new encyclopedia is chock-a-block full of them, from the weird to the wonderful. Infographica has something for everyone. A book that will be well read and sought after!



Drawn to Change the World

Various, curated by Emma Reynolds

HarperAlley 8+

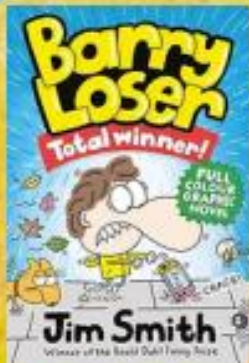
A collection of graphic novel biographies of some of the biggest (and some of the unsung) heroes in the world of youth climate activism. This book is fantastic for so many reasons. Engaging graphic novel, modern heroes, inspirational young people, environmental issues. One of my favourite things was comparing the art and story telling for each activist. My daughter and I have different favourites - which are yours?

The Final Year

Matt Goodfellow

Otter-Barry Books 9+

A beautiful novel about the final year of primary school written in verse. Nate isn't having a great time at school; his best friend isn't in his class and has made friends with the school bully and his brother has been rushed to hospital. Luckily his new teacher helps him to navigate this through books. There's a lot of hype around this books and it's obvious to see why! Joe Todd-Stanton is flawless with his illustrations as always!



One You Might Have Missed

Barry Loser - Jim Smith

Farshore- 7+ May 2022

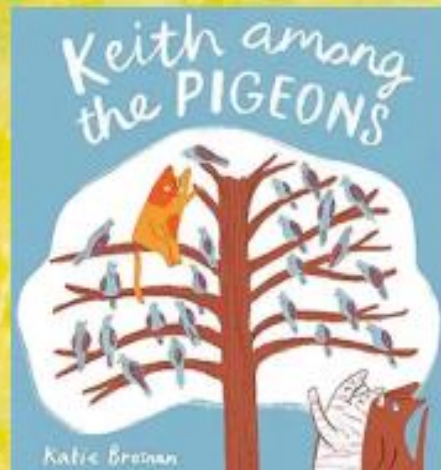
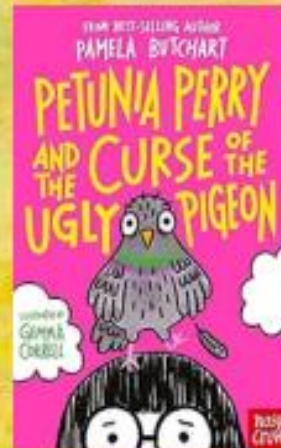
The Barry Loser books are always popular in school libraries, but the new graphic novels seem to have been over looked. They are having a bit of a resurgence in our library so it seemed like a great time to make sure that everyone else was aware of them.

8 books about Pigeons



I'll be honest, I was stuck for what to feature this month and then I found a pigeon feather on top of a book that I dropped and I took it as a sign from the book gods! It's surprising that there are any good pigeon books at all, let alone 8 of them... (Well 7 and 1 is just a very funny book that happens to have a pigeon in it...)

1. Real Pigeons
Andrew McDonald & Ben Wood
2. Petunia Perry
Pamela Butchart & Gemma Correll
3. Alex Sparrow
Jennifer Killick
4. Keith among the Pigeons
Katie Brosnan
5. Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus
Mo Willems
6. Peggy the Always Sorry Pigeon
Wendy Meddour & Carmen Salana
7. Dave Pigeon
Swapna Haddow & Sheena Dempsey
8. Pigeon Poo
Elizabeth Baguley & Mark Chambers



**UPCOMING
EVENTS**



Thursday 19 th October	Pupil Progress Consultations—3pm to 7pm (letters will be sent out)
Thursday 26 th October	Halloween Disco
Friday 27 th October	Year 6 Black History Month Assembly— Y6 parents invited to attend
Friday 27 th October	Parent Survey issued to parents
Friday 27 th October	School breaks up for HALF TERM @ 3.10pm
Monday 6 th November	PD Day —teachers in school only
Tuesday 7 th November	Children return for Autumn term 2
Tuesday 7 th November	M&M Productions / Pantomime – Snow White
Tuesday 7 th November	Art Week in school—please send in a top for children to get messy!
Friday 10 th November	Year 3 Remembrance Assembly—Y3 parents invited
Monday 13 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Friday 17 th November	Children In Need—children will be asked to dress up (TBA) and make a
Friday 24 th November	Year 2 Anti-bullying Assembly—Y2 parents invited
Friday 24 th November	Mufti-Day – bring a bottle / chocolate for fair
Thursday 7 th December	Father Christmas visits to school and photographs taken
Friday 8 th December	Christmas Fair 3.15pm to 4.30pm
Wednesday 13 th December	Christmas Dinner
WC: 11 December	Christmas Performances – letters to be sent out
Thursday 21 st December	School term ends @ 1pm

**!!NEW EVENT!!
Friday 20th October**



On Friday 20th October we invite the children to come to school in red clothing to show their support against racism. Let's come together to show racism the red card!

**Pupil Progress Meetings
Thursday 19th October**

