



# Castlefield School

## Lower School Reading Newsletter

### Autumn 2023



Welcome to our Reading Newsletter. This is a place for us to share reading recommendations and support your children in accessing and enjoying great books. One of the best ways families can support their children with their learning is to encourage reading at home. Regular reading is crucial—not only for academic learning, but also as a way to relax and escape.

It is not always easy to get hold of physical books, so this newsletter has some useful weblinks to ebooks and audiobooks. The hyperlinks give more details about the authors and where to buy the books.

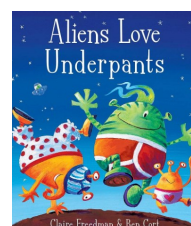
As with all media, please check you are happy with the content. Reading them yourself or with your child provides a wonderful opportunity to share and talk about your favourite characters and plots with your children.

### What are we Reading in Class?

**Year 1** We are reading stories about Superheroes.



You could also read other stories about Supertato and the Aliens that love underpants.



Zog and Superworm were written by Julia Donaldson.

On her website you can watch story telling videos.

<https://www.juliadonaldson.co.uk/storytelling/>

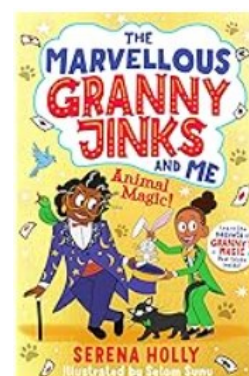
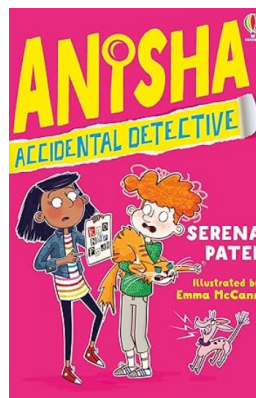
You may want to read other books by Julia Donaldson.

**Year 2** We are reading The Marvellous Granny Jinks and me.

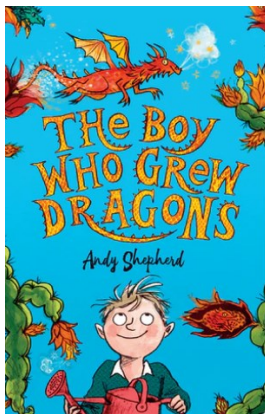


If you are enjoying the story you may want to read the next book in the series: The Marvellous Granny Jinks and me— Animal Magic!

Or try Anisha Accidental Detective.



### Year 3 We are reading The Boy Who Grew Dragons.



If you are enjoying this book, why not try another in the series?



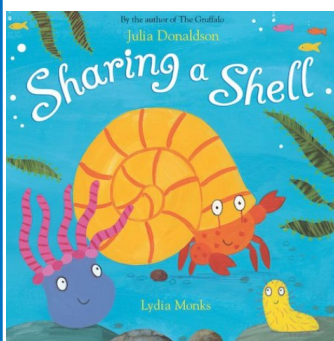
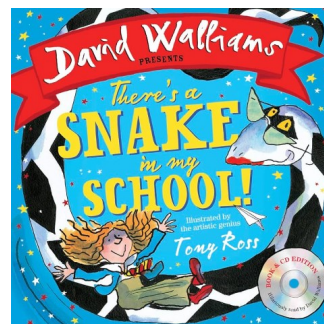
### What could you read at home?

Last week we held the first of our Reading Recommendations assemblies. Each term all the teachers will suggest books that the children might want to take home from our class libraries. Find out below what the teachers recommend.

### Year 1

**There's a Snake in the School by David Walliams.**

A very funny and exciting story about a child called Miranda who brings her friendly snake to school for 'bring your pet day'. However, the Head Mistress decides that there should be no pets in her school and locks them all away. Will Miranda, and the other children, ever get their pets back?

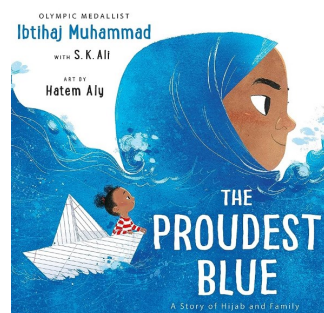


**Sharing a Shell by Julia Donaldson.**

A touching and funny story about sharing and friendship. It is full of magical rhyming words and glittery illustrations. In this story the characters work well in a team, each doing their own job to keep their little worlds running smoothly and it highlights the important role that sharing plays in building lasting friendships.

**The Proudest Blue by Ibtihaj Muhammad and S.K. Ali**

It's Faizah's first day of school, and her older sister Asiya's first day of hijab – made of a beautiful blue fabric. This is an uplifting, universal story of new experiences, the unbreakable bond shared by siblings and of being proud of who you are .

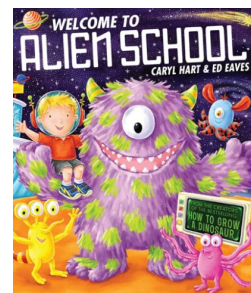




## Year 2

### **Welcome to Alien School by Caryl Hart and Ed Eaves**

It's just another regular school day for Albie - or is it? When Mum's car transforms into a rocket and takes Albie to alien school, the day becomes anything **but** ordinary. There's space-ghetti for lunch, alien spellings to learn and a teacher with six arms. School has never been so much fun!



### **Grandpa's Island by Benji Davies**

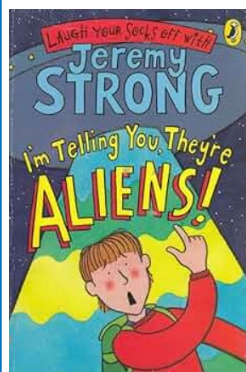
This story is about a little boy called Syd goes to his Grandpa's house, uncovers the key from under the flowerpot as he always did and goes inside Grandpa's house but he couldn't find him. Eventually Syd finds Grandpa in his attic, with his collection of things from his travels around the world. Also in Grandpa's attic is a special door. Through this door is where Syd and Grandpa start their very own adventure to a secret island, just for the two of them.

The illustrations are really colourful and I love the magical world that is created by the author. The main characters seem to be having so much fun, like I would always have with my own Grandpa.

## Year 3

### **Call Me Lion by Camilla Chester**

A story about a boy called Leo with selective mutism who finds a friend who treats him normally. Together they want to compete in a talent show but will Leo be able to? It is a story of him finding more confidence through dance and friendship.



### **I'm Telling You They're Aliens! by Jeremy Strong**

Rob worries about everything - being bitten by snakes to dinosaurs waiting round the corner. He is sure his new neighbours have come to take over the Earth. That's what aliens do. But how can he save the world when everyone will say he's panicking over nothing, as usual? Then his school mate Marsha offers to help - and she has a plan. Now Rob can really start worrying...

### **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl**

Every day, Charlie Bucket walks past Wonka's mysterious chocolate factory, with its heavenly smells wafting out. When the Mr Willy Wonka announces that there are five Golden Tickets to be won, and the prize is a visit to his wonderful factory itself, children everywhere rush to buy his products - but Charlie's family are very poor and can only afford to buy him one bar of Wonka's chocolate each year on his birthday. He never dreams he'll have the chance to see the inside of the factory for himself - but then his dreams unexpectedly comes true. What is in store for Charlie and the other children when they enter Wonka's chocolate factory?

