



SUMMER READING NEWSLETTER FOR YEAR 6 PARENTS

As your child nears the end of their primary education, so many exciting opportunities await them at secondary school. For some children, this will be a very exciting time and they will hardly be able to wait to get started. For others, there may be some nerves and worries – and this is totally normal. It's important we support children through this process, whilst also enjoying the summer after a difficult year for many. One of the ways you can do this is to encourage them to keep reading.

Research shows that reading has benefits in many areas of education and life. In addition to the obvious benefits on reading comprehension and attainment, it also impacts upon:

- Vocabulary
- Understanding of grammar
- Spelling skill
- Writing attainment
- Attitudes to reading and writing
- Knowledge and understanding of the world and other people
- Achievement in other subjects, including maths
- Empathy and understanding of emotions
- Development of our sense of 'self' and identity

To help you and your child select some books to read this summer, we have collated a range of books for you to explore which may help with their transition, or which your child may really enjoy immersing themselves in over the summer holiday. Please do research the books before selecting them to ensure that they are appropriate for your child.

In addition to the books below, this transition newsletter provides you with a range of interactive, virtual cultural experiences that can help to build their wider knowledge and interests. This is obviously not an exhaustive list – there's so much they could explore. Whatever they are curious about, or take interest in, consider looking at books around the topic, or encouraging them to research into the area further through non-fiction texts such as online articles. Whatever you explore with your child this summer, we wish you a wonderful summer and a very happy start to secondary school in September.



TITLES BY HACHETTE PUBLISHERS



Dare to Be You

MATTHEW SYED

£9.99 9781526362377

What would you dare to try if you stopped worrying about fitting in? Drawing examples from sport, science and even business, Dare to Be You empowers young readers to follow their own path, love what makes them different and question the world around them.



Go Big £7.99 9781526362353

MATTHEW BURTON

The bestselling back to school handbook, from the nation's favourite head teacher, Mr Burton. Secondary school can seem scary. Corridors are wide, older students look terrifying and there's homework, messy friendships and stressful exams to deal with. But, whether you're about to land at secondary school or you're still settling in, Mr Burton is here to guide you through your journey - worry-free.



The Astonishing Future of Alex Nobody

KATE GILBY SMITH

£6.99 9781510108370

On the day Alex was born, crowds surrounded the hospital. On her first day of school, people spied from the gates. And recently, strangers came to watch her perform in her school play ... as the llama. But why? Alex has always been a nobody. Then a mysterious boy named Jasper starts at school and he alone seems to know the answer. But before he can tell Alex, he disappears... into the year 2100. Can Alex brave traveling into the future to discover what's happened to him and to unravel the secret of her own astonishing destiny... before time runs out?

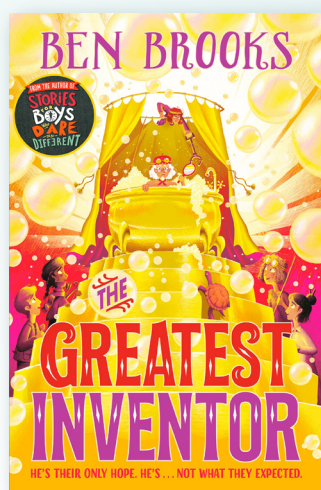


Black Brother, Black Brother

JEWELL PARKER RHODES

£7.99 9781510109865

A powerful coming-of-age story about two brothers - one who presents as white, the other as black - and the ways they are forced to navigate a world that doesn't treat them equally. Donte wishes he were invisible. As one of the few black boys at his school, he feels as if he is constantly swimming in whiteness. When an incident with a white student leads to Donte's arrest and suspension, he's sure the only way to get even is to beat the student at the school's most valued game: fencing.

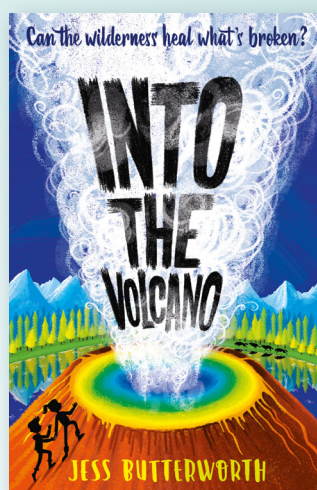


The Greatest Inventor BEN BROOKS

£6.99 9781786541147

Victor is sceptical when Walter Swizwit comes to the village of Rainwater. He's the latest in a string of inventors passing through, and no one wants to buy his cheap magic tricks. But Walter doesn't take rejection well, and puts a curse on the village. Only Victor is unaffected and he must leave Rainwater for the first time in his life if he's to find the cure.

www.pixl.org.uk



Into the Volcano JESS BUTTERWORTH

£6.99 9781510108516

Vivi and Seb live halfway across the world from each other, living completely separate lives, until a terrible event unexpectedly makes their paths collide. When they meet, they decide to go to a national park to honour those lost, but the park is filled with dangerous creatures, and when Seb is injured in one of the volcanic springs, it becomes a race for survival as they try and make their wish and find their way out of the wilderness.

BETTERFUTUREBRIGHTERHOPE

PiXL Reading



Kiki Kallira Breaks A Kingdom

SANGU MANDANNA

£7.99 9781444963441

Kiki Kallira is more of a worrier than a warrior - but today she will learn to be a hero. The mythical beasts she loves to draw have come to life, and she is the only one who can defeat them. A middle-grade fantasy inspired by Hindu legends about anxiety, creativity and finding your own strengths.

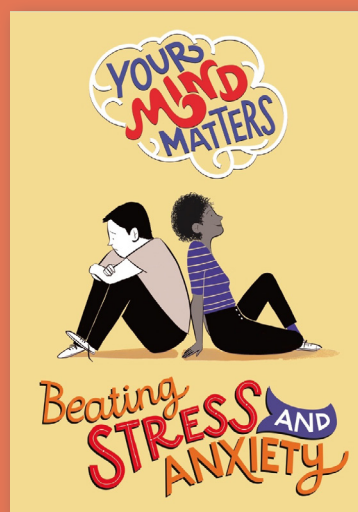


Your Mind Matters: Beating Stress and Anxiety

HONOR HEAD

£9.99 9781445164526

Everyone experiences stress and anxiety at times in their lives, but sometimes the feelings build up and can affect our physical and mental health. This book will help you to recognise the signs of feeling stressed and anxious and what you can do to feel better.



Hachette publishers have kindly offered parents 20% off the books on this newsletter which they have published, if you choose to purchase through them.

To place your order and pay via card, please ring our customer services team on +44 (0)1235 759555 or email hukdcustomerservices@hachette.co.uk including your name, delivery address and contact telephone number, along with the ISBNs that you would like to order. Please do not include card details on email. Please quote the promotional code **PIXLSUMMERNEWSLETTER** over the phone for 20% off your order.

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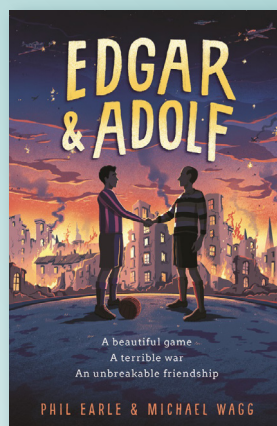


OTHER TITLES

Dark Peak

MARCUS SEDGWICK

One long, hot summer, two children disappear on a school trip. One child is eventually found, but Porter is worried that no one is even looking for the other, Stephen, anymore. Why can no one remember who Stephen is? What happened on the school trip?



Edgar & Adolf

PHIL EARLE & MICHAEL WAGG

Adi is on a mission set by his late grandfather, Adolf Jager. He must track down Edgar Kail, and return to him the simplest yet most prized of possessions. His quest soon becomes a journey of discovery as he learns of a friendship that survived decades, a great sporting rivalry, and a war that shook the world.



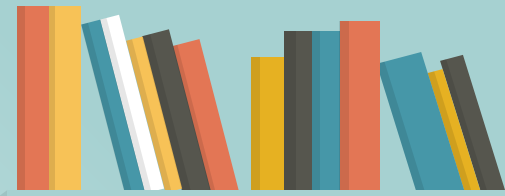
When the Sky Falls

PHIL EARLE

1941. War is raging. And one angry boy has been sent to the city, where bombers rule the skies. There, Joseph will live with Mrs F, a gruff woman with no fondness for children. Her only loves are the rundown zoo she owns and its mighty silverback gorilla, Adonis. As the weeks pass, bonds deepen and secrets are revealed, but if the bombers set Adonis rampaging free, will either of them be able to end the life of the one thing they truly love? Inspired by a true story.

You could also read this interview with Michael Rosen about books and ideas [here](#) or this interview about poetry with Joseph Coelho [here](#).

Your child may also enjoy reading about Greek myths online, read some [here](#) and TED-Ed also have YouTube videos [here](#).



Exploring a wide variety of experiences and activities helps to introduce your child to knowledge and interests they may not otherwise have acquired. You may already have lots of ideas for getting out and about over the summer, but we have also collated a few ideas to start you off below. These may spark an interest in something your child may then want to read about, either through a story book or through non-fiction texts.

Watch this video by the puppeteers behind Joey, the horse from the stage production of War Horse [here](#)

Cincinnati Zoo have a bank of Home Safari videos to help you learn about some of the amazing animals they care for [here](#)

Explore areas of the Natural History Museum in London through virtual tours [here](#)

Watch this interview event with Tim Peake, focusing on his experience in space [here](#)

Read about the history of the Tower of London [here](#) and also the Ceremony of the Keys [here](#)

National Geographic for kids have a range of articles about geography, science and history for you to explore [here](#)

Explore the use of colour and shape in art on the Tate website. As you read, carefully view the artworks presented and consider the questions [here](#)

Follow Woodrow Phoenix's guide to making your own comic strip [here](#)