



The Redmile Reader



Spring Term

Author Spotlight

A message to our school from **Abi Elphinstone!**



Hi Redmile Primary School,

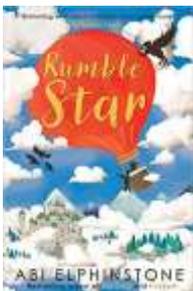
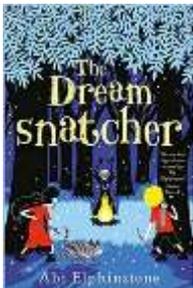
Happy New Year! As we begin a new decade, I just wanted to send you a little message on why I think reading matters...

My teachers taught me about Pythagoras' Theorem, William the Conqueror and all sorts of important things like that. But I learnt about courage, friendship, wonder and hope from the books I discovered in my school library. Lyra Belacqua from *Northern Lights* showed me that girls can be just as brave as boys, adults and even armoured polar bears. Mildred Hubble from *The Worst Witch* helped me navigate friendships. Lucy Pevensie from *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe* taught me to believe in worlds behind wardrobes and once in Narnia, Aslan showed me how to hope, even in the darkest times. Although teachers taught me, books brought me up and I will forever be grateful to the stories I unearthed at school. So, read lots! Books make you kinder, braver and infinitely more interesting.

And if there are any aspiring authors at Redmile Primary School, here you go for my top writing tips:

- 1. Carry a notepad with you everywhere** (as an author you are like a detective so watch the world fiercely for the things other people miss because often the very best stories are simply the ideas that nobody else has stumbled across yet)
- 2. Never underestimate a good daydream;** that's how most stories start
- 3. Do not be afraid to fail** (I had 96 rejection letters from literary agents before I got my first book deal)

Best wishes,
Abi Elphinstone



Library Opening Hours

Bottesford

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|-------|------------------|
| Mon | 3:00pm – 6:00pm |
| Tues | 3:00pm – 6:00pm |
| Wed | 1:00pm – 4:00pm |
| Thurs | 9:30am – 12:30pm |
| Fri | 9:30am – 12:30pm |
| Sat | 9:30am – 12:30pm |
| Sun | 2:00pm – 4:00pm |

Grantham

| | |
|-------|-----------------|
| Mon | 9:00am – 5:00pm |
| Tues | 9:00am – 5:00pm |
| Wed | 9:00am – 5:00pm |
| Thurs | 9:00am – 6:00pm |
| Fri | 9:00am – 5:00pm |
| Sat | 9:00am – 4:00pm |
| Sun | Closed |

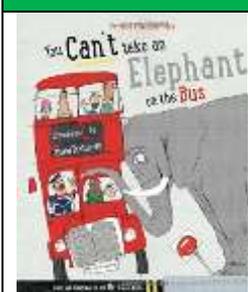
Mobile Library

Visits the second Thursday of every month outside the school.

11:30 – 11:50

| | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 9 Jan | 9 Apr |
| 13 Feb | 14 May |
| 12 Mar | 11 Jun |

Fiction

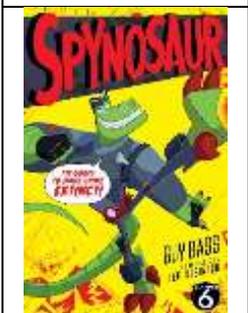


‘You Can’t Take an Elephant on the Bus’ by Patricia Cleveland

Aimed at Reception.

Never put a camel in a sailing boat, or a tiger on a train, and don't even THINK about asking a whale to ride a bike...

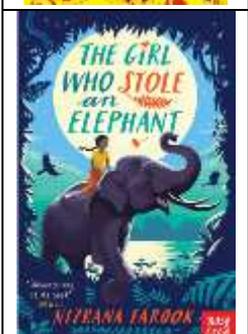
This riotous picture book is filled with animals causing total disaster as they try to travel in the most unsuitable ways.



‘Spynosaur!’ by Guy Bass

Aimed at Class 1.

Spynosaur works for the secretive Department 6, alongside his sidekick daughter, Amber, on a quest to rid the world of evil. But when his arch-nemesis, the same villain who tied him to a rocket and blasted him to the moon, is rumoured to have created the most dangerous weapon in the world, will he be able to outwit him in time?

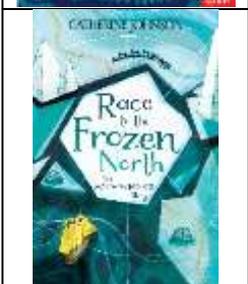


‘The Girl Who Stole an Elephant’ by Nizzrana Farook

Aimed at Class 2.

Chaya, a no-nonsense, outspoken hero, leads her friends and a gorgeous elephant on a noisy, fraught, joyous adventure through the jungle where revolution is stirring and leeches lurk.

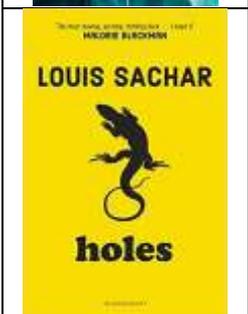
Will stealing the queen's jewels be the beginning or the end of everything for the intrepid gang?



‘Race to the Frozen North’ by Catherine Johnson

Aimed at Class 2/3.

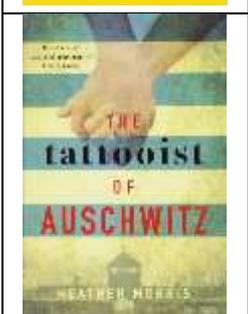
Matthew Henson was simply an ordinary man. That was, until Commander Robert E. Peary entered his life, and offered him a chance at true adventure. Henson would become navigator, craftsman, translator, and right-hand man on a treacherous journey to the North Pole. Defying the odds and the many prejudices that faced him to become a true pioneer.



‘Holes’ by Louis Sachar

Aimed at Class 3.

Stanley Yelnats' family has a history of bad luck, so he isn't too surprised when a miscarriage of justice sends him to a boys' juvenile detention centre. At Camp Green Lake (which isn't green and doesn't have a lake), the boys must dig a hole every day: five feet deep and five feet across in the dried-up lake bed. The Warden claims the labour is character building, but it is a lie. Stanley must dig up the truth.



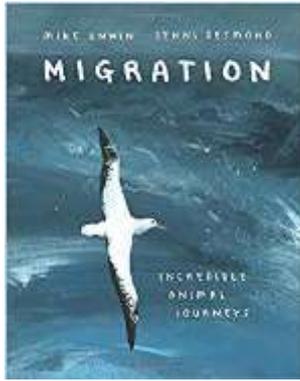
‘The Tattooist of Auschwitz’ by Heather Morris

Aimed at grown-ups!

Lale Sokolov's job was to tattoo every new inmate as they enter the infamous concentration camp – Auschwitz, arguably one of the most recognisable symbols of the Holocaust. Imprisoned for more than two and a half years, Lale witnesses horrific atrocities and barbarism—but also incredible acts of bravery and compassion. Risking his own life, he uses his privileged position to exchange jewels and money from murdered Jews for food to keep his fellow prisoners alive.



Non-Fiction



Migration: Incredible Animal Journeys by Mike Unwin

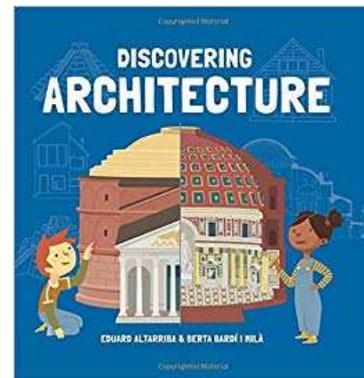
Animals of all shapes and sizes make epic journeys across our planet, through harsh weather and avoiding hungry predators, in their efforts to survive. Travel around the globe with some of the world's most incredible animals and discover their unique migration stories.

With stunning colour illustrations, uncover the astonishing migrations of 20 creatures in this truly inspiring narrative.

Discovering Architecture by Mila Barda

Who built the first houses? What's the difference between an arch and an architrave? How does a dome stay up? Who invented concrete? Can you build a house from paper?

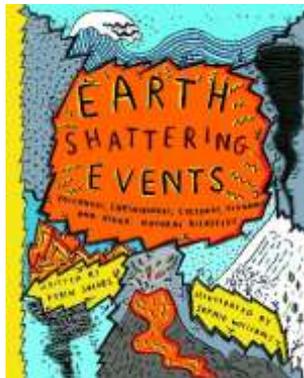
From the mud huts of ancient history to today's towering edifices, you can explore iconic buildings and find out more about the people who created them. Discover the development of building materials, from mud and straw to paper, steel and reinforced concrete.



Earthshattering Events! The Science Behind Natural Disasters by Sophie Williams and Robin Jacobs

We take our domination of the planet for granted, but sometimes nature reminds us that this is an illusion. Tectonics rip open the earth, vast waves sweep away coastal towns, magma spews from volcanoes and hurricanes lay waste to entire countries.

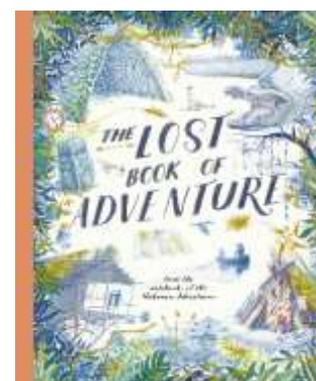
This book explores nature at its most destructive. Clear, coherent explanations break down the science behind phenomena including hurricanes, tornadoes, avalanches, earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanoes, alongside fascinating facts about the biggest and the worst.



The Lost Book of Adventure by Unknown Adventurer

Be transported by riveting adventure tales from around the globe, like being dragged off by a hyena in Botswana, surviving a Sahara dust storm, or being woken by an intrepid emperor penguin.

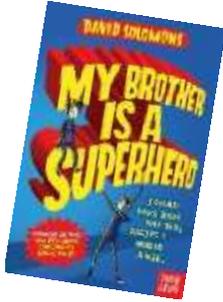
This breath-taking book is packed with information on wild camping, rafting, exploration and shelters, with tips on first aid and tying knots. Expert instructions on wilderness basics (like building a fire, what to do if you get lost, and how to build shelters) are accompanied by more specific skills culled from many years of experience.



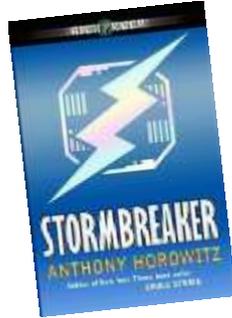
Your Recommendations

Last term, KS2 were busy sharing their favourite books!
Here are a few highlights:

'My Brother is a Superhero'
by David Solomons



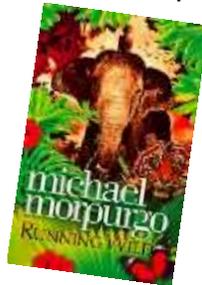
The 'Alex Rider' series
by Anthony Horowitz



'The House with Chicken Legs'
by Sophie Anderson



'Running Wild'
by Michael Morpurgo



What are YOU reading?

We'd love to know if you have tried anything from our Autumn Redmile Reader!

Have you read a book you'd love to recommend in the newsletter?
Please pass your recommendation onto Mr Cope in Class 3.

Celebrating Poetry

Look out for our beautiful new poetry book in the library!
'The Lost Words' by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris captures the magic and strangeness of nature.

lark

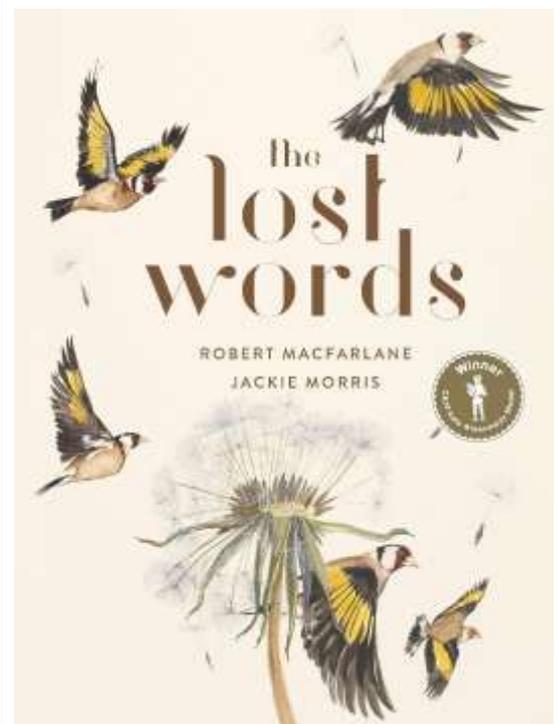
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Little astronaut, where have you gone, and how is your song still torrenting on?

Aren't you short of breath as you climb higher, up there in the thin air, with your magical song still tumbling on?

Right now I need you, for my sadness has come again and my heart grows flatter – so I'm coming to find you by following your song,

Keeping on into deep space, past dying stars and exploding suns, to where at last, little astronaut, you sing your heart out at all dark matter.

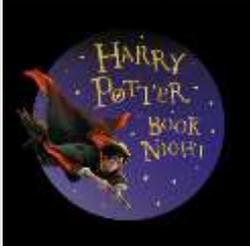


Important Dates, Events & Competitions

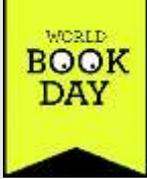
January

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| <p>Pink Lady Apples Write It Young Food Writer</p> <p><i>Deadline April; winners announced in May</i></p> | <p>The Write It competition is back for 2020, with your chance to be crowned Young Food Writer of the Year. The competition opens in January and closes at the end of April, with the winners announced in May.</p> <p>www.pinkladyapples.co.uk/write-it</p>  |
| <p>BBC Radio 2's 500 Words</p> <p><i>Deadline March</i></p> | <p>'500 Words' is the UK's most successful short story-writing competition for children between the ages of 5 and 13. Deadline will be early March 2020.</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00rfvk1</p> |

February

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| <p>National Storytelling Week</p> <p>1st Feb – 8th Feb 2020</p> | <p>Stories belong to everyone. What's your story? What will you be telling and where will you be telling it? Every year there are hundreds and hundreds of events during National Storytelling week. It's a celebration of storytelling for all!</p> |
| <p>Harry Potter Book Night</p> <p>6th February 2020</p>  | <p>The 6th February 2020 marks the sixth annual Harry Potter Book Night, when fans of all ages are invited to celebrate J.K. Rowling's wonderful novels – and pass the magic on to young readers who are yet to discover these unforgettable books.</p> <p>The theme for Harry Potter Book Night 2020 is the Tri-wizard Tournament.</p> <p>Wizards, witches and Muggles from around the world are invited to take part in a tournament of their own, competing in enchanting games, making magical crafts and testing their skills with an array of activities. Wands at the ready ... let the magic begin!</p> |

March

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| <p>World Book Day</p> <p>5th March 2020</p>  | <p>A day to celebrate the joys of books and reading. Further details on the World Book Day and coming from school. www.worldbookday.com</p>  |
| <p>World Poetry Day</p> <p>21st March 2020</p> | <p>World Poetry Day is celebrated on 21 March, and was declared by UNESCO in 1999. Its purpose is to promote the reading, writing, publishing and teaching of poetry throughout the world.</p> |

April

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| <p>World Book Night</p> <p>23rd April 2020</p> | <p>World Book Night is a national celebration of reading and books that takes place on 23rd April every year. Events up and down the country run by individuals and organisations celebrate the difference that reading makes to people's lives, and everyone from publishers to librarians, and local businesses to the general public can get involved.</p> <p>https://worldbooknight.org</p>  |
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