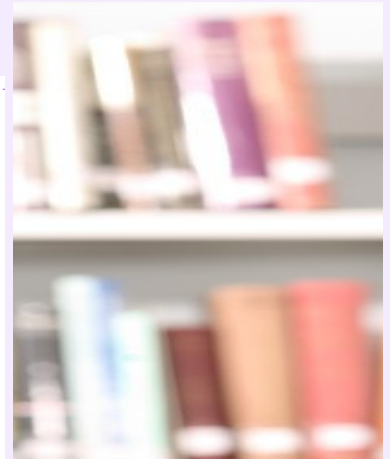


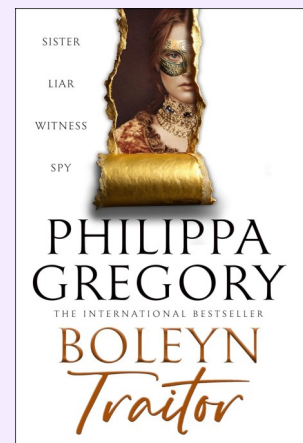


Spring Term



WHAT ARE WE READING?

Mrs Chapman



Mr Lucas

## Goldington Academy Library Newsletter

240 NEW  
LIBRARY  
BOOKS  
ADDED  
SINCE  
JANUARY

**3800 books  
have been issued  
in the Spring  
term**

**3471 FICTION**

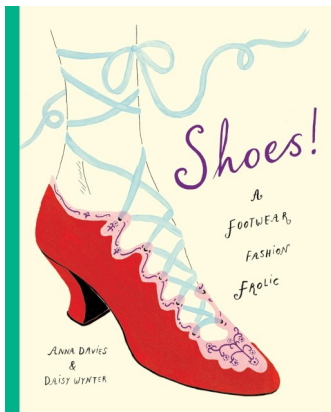
**329 NON-FIC**

### IN THIS ISSUE

**STAFF READS AUTHOR VISIT BOOK  
REVIEWS CLASSIC BOOK OF THE TERM  
WORLD BOOK DAY LIBRARY FACTS AND  
FIGURES EASTER VIBES BOOKS ABOUT  
ANIMALS CHOCOLATE IN LITERATURE**



## BOOK REVIEW— SHOES!: A FOOTWEAR FASHION FROLIC BY ANNA DAVIES



Have you ever looked down at your shoes and wondered... what do your shoes say about you?

In *Shoes!*, Anna Davies takes readers on a fascinating journey through the history of footwear. From the sandals worn in Ancient Rome to the dramatic heels designed by famous fashion houses, this colourfully illustrated book shows how shoes can reveal an awful lot about culture, fashion,

and the people who wear them.

Packed with facts and vibrant illustrations by Daisy Wynter, *Shoes!* explores how styles have changed over time and introduces some of the designers that shape the shoes that shape our feet!

Discover famous fashion moments, intense footwear rivalry, and the story of creativity and self-expression through the medium of the mighty shoe!

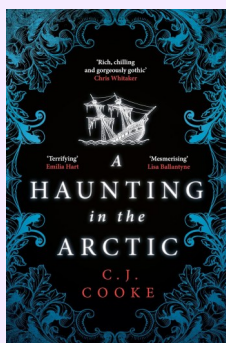
*“Books are a uniquely portable magic”  
Stephen King*

### STAFF READS

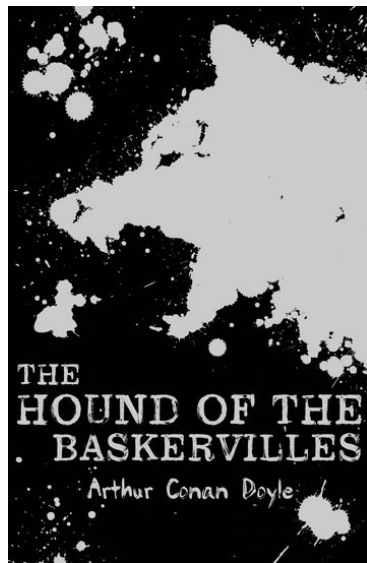
Mrs McCarthy-Gardner



Mrs Bennett-Fowlds



## CLASSIC BOOK OF THE TERM



“Dr Mortimer looked strangely at us for an instant, and his voice sank almost to a whisper as he answered: Mr Holmes, they were the footprints of a gigantic hound”.

Few detective stories are as atmospheric and gripping as *The Hound of the Baskervilles* by Arthur Conan Doyle, featuring the legendary Detective Sherlock Holmes. First published in 1902 this mystery follows Holmes and his loyal companion Dr Watson, as they investigate a terrifying legend, and a death, on the misty moors of Devon.

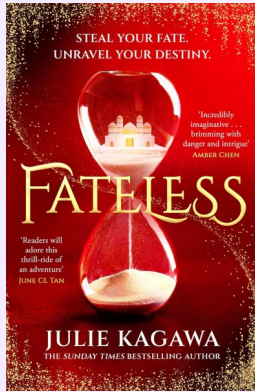
When Sir Charles Baskerville is found dead on his country estate, everyone thinks that a demonic hound which has cursed the Baskerville family is to blame. Now Sir Charles' son, Henry, has travelled from America to claim his inheritance, could he be in danger from the horrific hound too? Strange noises heard in the night, shadowy figures lurking in the dark, and an eerie and spooky Devon landscape all add to the atmosphere of suspense and dread!

Part detective story, part gothic thriller, this novel keeps you guessing until the last pages.

## AUTHOR VISIT—SUE WALLMAN!

### STAFF READS

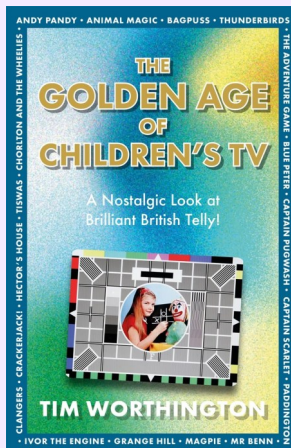
Miss Geoghegan



Mr Murray



Mr Chisnall



**For the third year in a row we were delighted to welcome thriller author SUE WALLMAN to the school as part of our World Book Day celebrations! Her visits have become a real highlight of our reading calendar and this year was no exception as she inspired us with her insights into the world of thriller writing!**

Sue kicked off the day with an engaging talk to the whole of Year 7, offering a fascinating glimpse into her journey as a writer. Sue shared how she began her career and talked about the realities of the publishing world. It was particularly interesting to learn how her book titles are chosen (not by her), how her covers are chosen (not by her), and how much she earns per book (68p!)

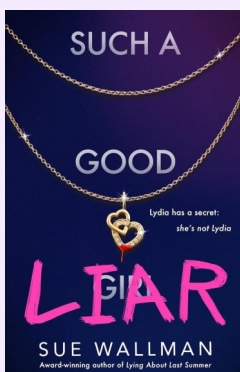
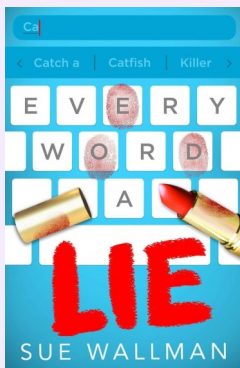
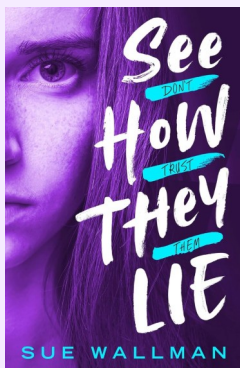


In the writing workshops Sue explored the key ingredients of a thriller, helping pupils understand what makes a thriller story truly gripping and how to bring those elements into their own writing. Pupils discussed how to create a main character and how to develop tension. They ended the session with the beginnings of their own thriller books.

It was a very busy day but Sue still found the time to chat with pupils and sign books. It was amazing to see so many pupils inspired by her talk and workshops. Sue was very impressed with everyone's creativity, enthusiasm, and willingness to get involved.



## SUE WALLMAN BOOKS



## THE BEGINNINGS OF A KILLER THRILLER...

**During the creative writing workshops, pupils were challenged to begin their own thriller novels, all set in a coffee shop! Here are some of their brilliantly gripping opening lines.**

I sat in the corner of the café, cap on, head down, coffee in hand. It's Sunday afternoon and everyone is eager for a cuppa but I'm more eager to get out of here. But I was too late. They found me. I didn't even need to look. I heard the boots on the stone floor, heard the dogs bark viciously, and the sirens...I ran...

Eryn , Year 9

I get a text from my friend saying to meet up at the café. I say "OK". We go there and it looks a bit dark. Someone enters with a suit and goes to the toilet. There's a scream! The lights go pitch black. They turn back on but nobody's there....only the guy with the suit.

Dan , Year 7

I walked into the coffee shop after a hard day, and it felt strange. Everyone was staring at me. When I was just about to grab my order, the lights flicked out! I called out... no-one answered...

Rayhan, Year 7

She's here? How? I'm working at the coffee shop. I've been working here for 5 months. As I'm making an espresso I look up and see her walking through the door. Her same face, her same cheeky smile, her same brunette hair and emerald green eyes. It's her. I know it is.

She's not supposed to be here. She's supposed to be dead.

Ava, Year 7

I was in the coffee shop with my friend, Jacob. We've ordered full English breakfast and I couldn't wait to eat. I was starving so much my stomach was speaking and gurgling.

Suddenly the door burst open.

"Nobody move. Nobody gets hurt if you do as I say!"

The man was tall with pale skin and short brown hair. He was holding a gun. My legs buckled and my throat was as dry as a desert as he pointed the gun at my head!

Kamarni, Year 7

## WORLD BOOK DAY

The Library was buzzing on World Book Day, with a variety of activities celebrating books and reading.

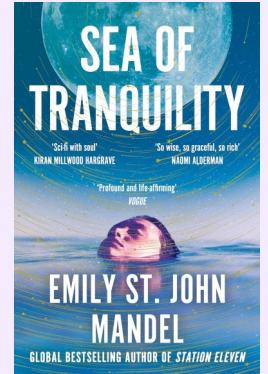


Once again, our Book Swap was a huge success! In the lead-up to World Book Day, well over 100 books were brought into the library to swap. This meant there was a fantastic selection of fresh reading material available on the day, giving everyone the chance to discover something new to enjoy.



### STAFF READS

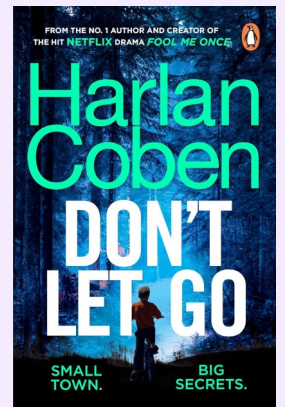
Mrs Walker



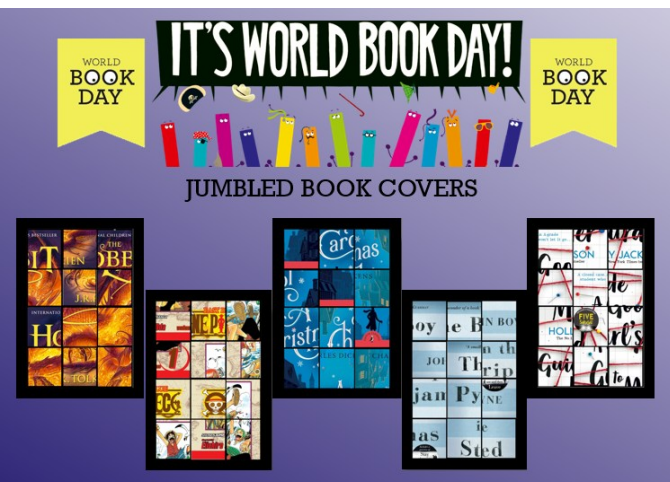
Mrs Chisnall



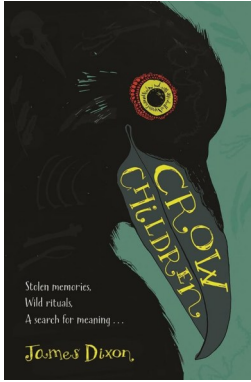
Mrs Hulatt



In another activity the Library held a Jumbled Book Cover hunt. Scattered around the ground floor were a range of Jumbled Book Covers to unscramble. There were over 50 entries to the hunt with all correct entries getting a prize.



## NEW BOOKS! NEW BOOKS! NEW BOOKS!



*Crow Children* by James Dixon

When a group of teens travel to a remote Scottish Island on a school trip, they expect adventure and a nice break from normal life. Instead, they are trapped in a place filled with strange traditions, unsettling secrets, and an eerie link with the island's crows.

As tensions rise and the truth behind the island begins to come out, the children realise they may be in more danger than they bargained for!

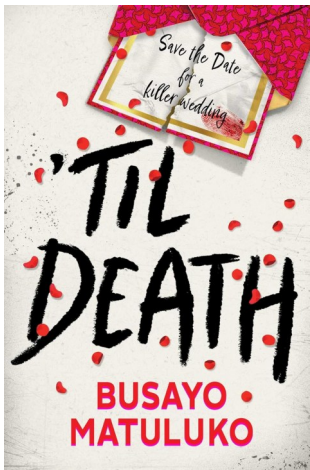
*Augmented* by Kenechi Udogu

In a future world where technology can enhance humanity, thirteen-year-old Akaego discovers that she has access to a powerful, illegal augmentation. But then people around her start disappearing, and dangerous secrets begin to be unearthed. Akaego must decide who she can trust, and how far she's willing to go to uncover the truth.

A thought-provoking sci-fi thriller about identity, power and the risks of tampering with technology.



## NEW BOOKS! NEW BOOKS! NEW BOOKS!



*'Til Death* by Busayo Matuluko (14+)

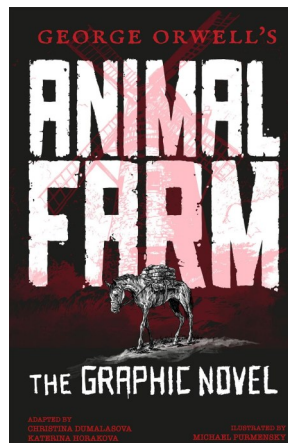
What should be a glamorous wedding in Lagos quickly turns into a mystery when anonymous threats warn the bride to cancel the big day... or face the consequences! Determined to protect her cousin, true-crime fan Lara starts investigating, and uncovers a web of secrets and rivalries.

This is a fast-paced read which is full of twists and turns. In a world where everyone could be hiding something...how will you know who to trust?

*Animal Farm: The Graphic Novel* by George Orwell, illustrated by Michael Purmensky

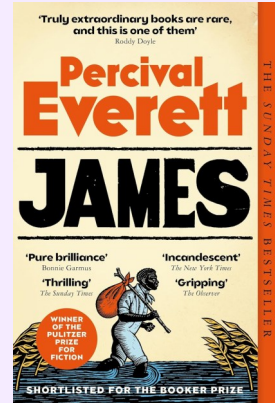
George Orwell's classic political allegory gets an amazing graphic novel treatment. When the animals of Manor Farm rebel against the farmer, they dream of creating a fair and equal society. But, as the pigs take control, the farm slowly begins to change, until it becomes clear that the utopia has become a dystopia.

This is a very powerful graphic novel with striking illustrations, bringing to vivid life the story's themes of power, corruption and propaganda.

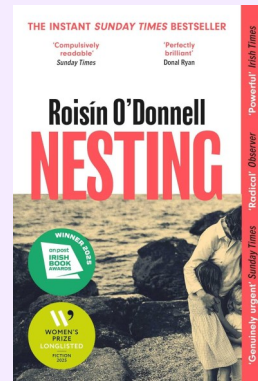


### STAFF READS

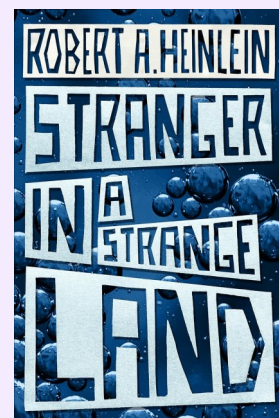
Mr Marston



Mrs Hughes



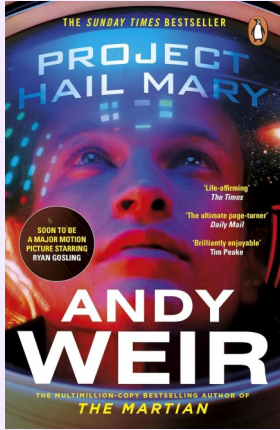
Mr Andrews



# LIBRARY FACTS AND FIGURES SPRING TERM 2026

## STAFF READS

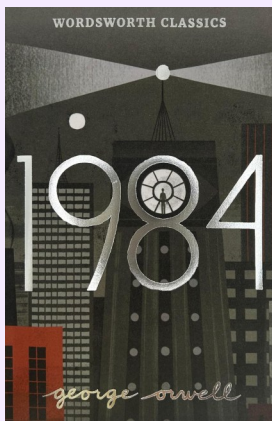
Mrs Bounds



Ms Bambury



Mrs Gilbert



## MOST POPULAR BOOKS



## MOST POPULAR BOOKS BY YEAR

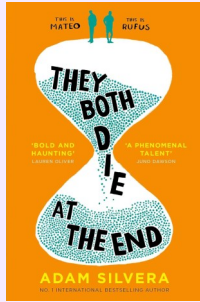
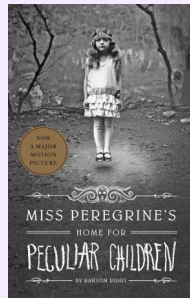
YEAR 7

YEAR 8

YEAR 9

YEAR 10

YEAR 11

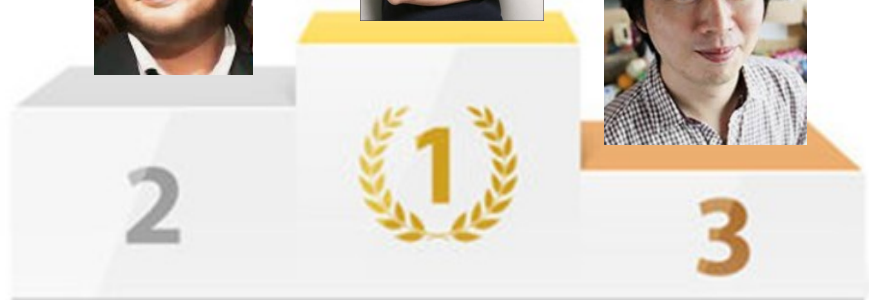


Tite Kubo  
(Bleach)

Eiichiro Oda  
(One Piece)



Masashi Kishimoto  
(Naruto)



## MOST POPULAR AUTHORS

## LIBRARY FACTS AND FIGURES SPRING TERM



BEST BORROWING CLASS YEAR 7  
**7M**



BEST BORROWING CLASS YEAR 8  
**8K**



BEST BORROWING CLASS YEAR 9  
**9D**



BEST BORROWING CLASS YEAR 10  
**10C**

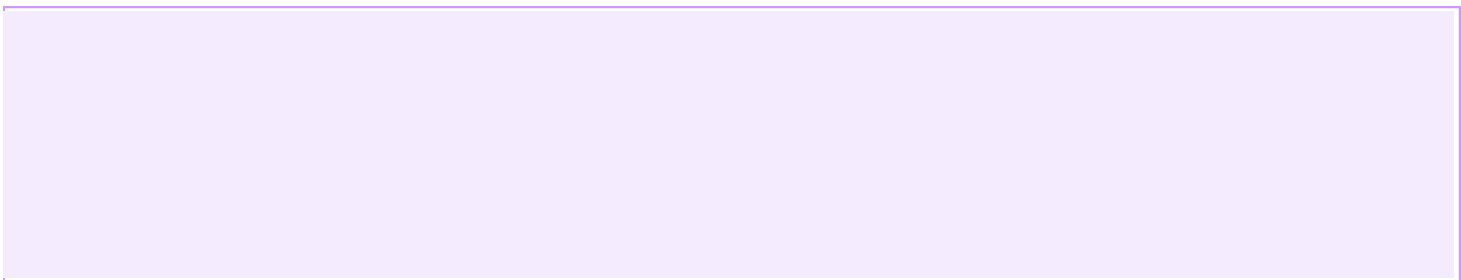


TOP BORROWING YEAR



**YEAR 7!**

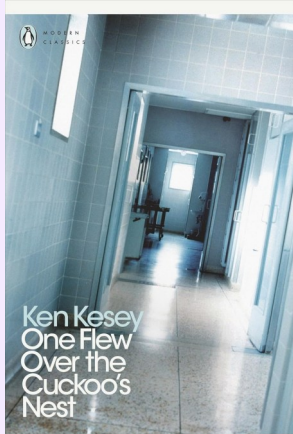
**1657 BOOKS BORROWED  
SINCE JANUARY**



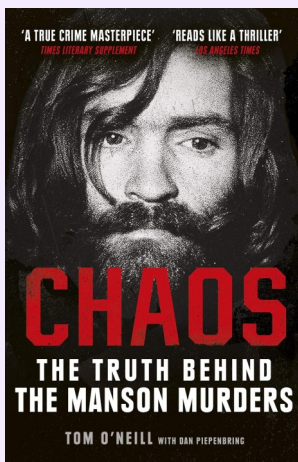
## FOCUS ON: BOOKS ABOUT ANIMALS

### STAFF READS

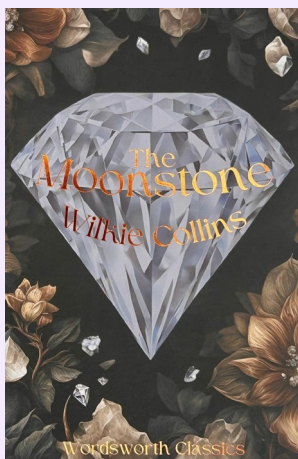
Miss Luck



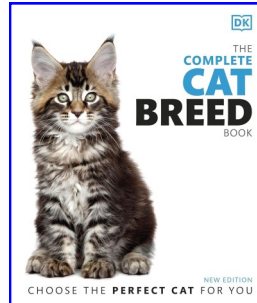
Mrs Millington



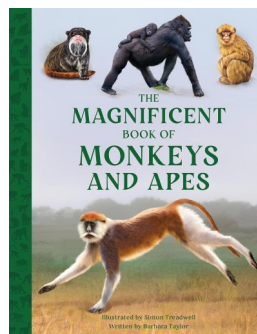
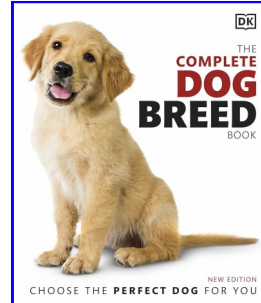
Miss Monger



Whether it's dogs you prefer, or cats. Whether you like wild animals or the ones that you can cuddle up to in your homes. We have the animal book for you!



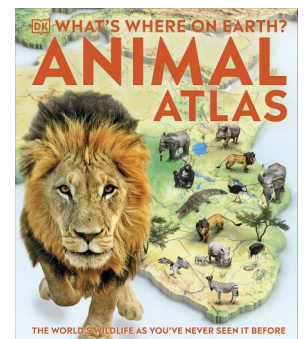
Cats or dogs? Whichever you prefer these lovely books are perfect for any animal lover. They are packed full of beautiful pictures and there's loads of info about each breed and good advice on choosing an animal. There's also practical sections on the fundamentals of looking after these lovely companions.



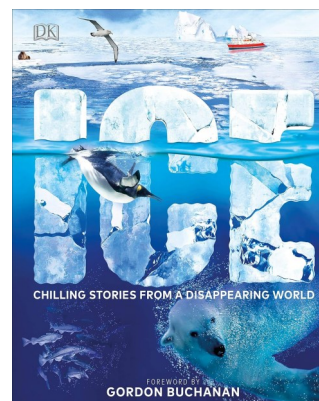
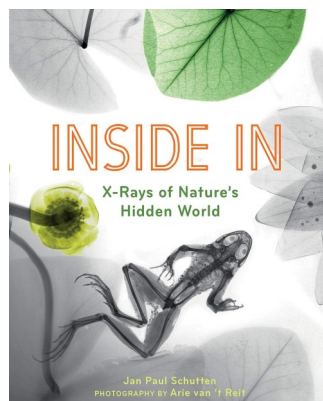
This is one of the most popular books for browsing in the Library and it's easy to see why. It is a gorgeous book stuffed with stunning illustrations and fascinating facts.

From tiny tamarins to mighty gorillas, this eye-catching book is perfect for curious readers who want to explore the varied and wonderful world of primates.

Another very popular book in the Library, particularly for those quiet reading parts of the Library lessons, is the Animal Atlas. The illustrations are gorgeous and the maps are clearly explained. From icy Arctic hunters to colourful rainforest creatures, every page bursts with fascinating facts. A brilliant blend of geography and wildlife!

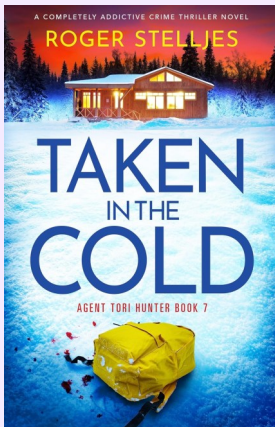


Of course the Library is full of wonderful books about the amazing animals that share our planet. Below are just a few to get you started.

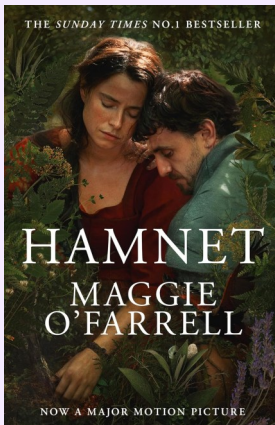


## STAFF READS

Mrs Birkett



Mrs Kelly



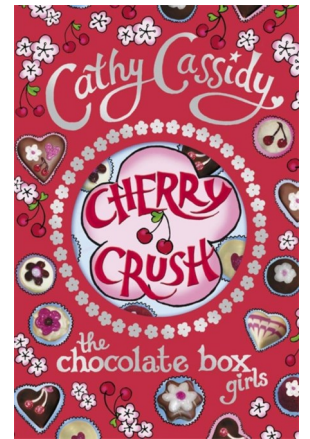
Ms Fone



# A BOOK LOVER'S GUIDE TO SWEETS AND DESSERTS IN LITERATURE

If you love reading but also love chocolate and baking, then sink your teeth into some of these fantastic books, featuring delicious sweet treats we can't get enough of!

A sweet story that's difficult to resist, *Cherry Crush* tells the story of Cherry, who moves to Somerset with her dad to join her new step-mum... who just happens to be opening a chocolate business! Soon Cherry's world is filled with melting chocolate, delicious truffles, and plans for a chocolate festival. A heartfelt story about family, friendship and fresh-starts, which just happens to be full of tempting descriptions of chocolate treats—perfect!

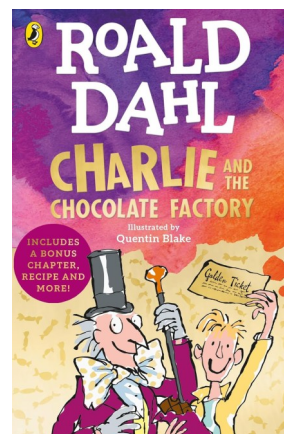


*With the Fire on High* by Elizabeth Acevedo is a warm, uplifting story about Emoni, a talented young cook balancing school, family life, and big sweet dreams! Baking and cooking are at the heart of Emoni's world, from experimenting with new recipes to discovering how food can bring people together. The mouth-watering descriptions of pastries, desserts, and home cooking make this a perfect read for anyone who loves baking and creating masterpieces in the kitchen.



One of the delicious desserts Emoni makes is “flan”, a caramel-topped baked custard dessert which is found throughout South and Latin America.

Of course no mention of chocolate in literature would be complete with *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl. Follow Charlie through the factory as he experiences everlasting gobstoppers, a fizzy drink which makes you fly, fudgemallow delight, and a river of melted chocolate!



# THIS IS MY EASTER VIBE...HOW ABOUT YOU?



*Wishing you all a lovely Easter break!*  
*Mrs Kelly*

