

LET'S TALK BOOKS...

EDITION 6



Welcome to the latest edition of Let's Talk Books. Our aim is to promote reading for pleasure across the trust with recommendations for reading and extracts from books we think you might enjoy, as well as snippets of how reading looks in our schools. This edition focuses on reading at Bramhope Primary School.

Author Focus: Katya Balen

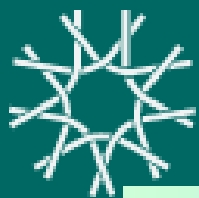
Katya Balen is an author from London who loves to write stories about bold, brave, wild children who connect with nature and with each other. Katya Balen finds inspiration within landscapes - that is always where her books begin to grow and develop.

"I start with a place and everything follows from there."

Katya Balen

Year 3 at Bramhope Primary School have been using 'Wild' as their inspiration to create and develop their own settings.





Recommended Reads

EYFS

Waiting for the Stars
Jonny Lambert
2024



A cosy children's bedtime story book, beautifully written and illustrated by the inimitable Jonny Lambert.

Mouse is bursting with excitement; for the first time ever, she's staying up past her bedtime to see the stars! But - oh no! - Mouse is starting to feel very sleepy! Will the stars ever appear? Can Mouse stay awake to see them? Maybe with a little help from her friends, Mouse will find that her own special star exists a little closer to home . . .

KSI

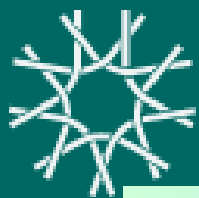
The Silver Shadow
Mariesa Dulak
2025



Perfect for fans of Benji Davies' The Storm Whale, The Silver Shadow is spellbinding story about a little girl, the sea and a seemingly fierce creature in need of her help.

While searching for wonders in the rockpools, a little girl discovers a silver shark, stranded in the shallows - sleek and quick, but still just a baby. The sun is high and the tide is out: how will the shark find its way home?





Year 3/4

Supa Nova
Chanté Timothy
2025

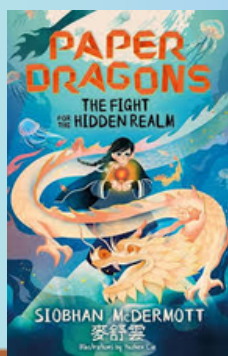


Full of humour, wacky inventions and vibrant artwork. Supa Nova is perfect for every graphic novel fan.

Brilliant young scientist Nova invents a plastic-eating organism named chomp to solve the problem of plastic waste. But she doesn't expect her monster to start rampaging through the city! Can Nova stop Chimp before it's too late?

Skandar and the Spirit War
A. F. Steadman
2025

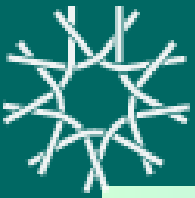
Year 5/6



The thrilling finale to the Number 1 bestselling Skandar series. Perfect for fans of Harry Potter, Percy Jackson and Impossible Creatures.

With one of Skandar's closest friends now fighting for the enemy, Skandar must build new alliances - including an uneasy truce with Kenna. To defeat Rex, Skandar and his friends will need to look back to the origins of the Island, and harness the full power of their elemental magic. Can Skandar become the leader he needs to be - to save the Mainland and the heart of the Island itself?

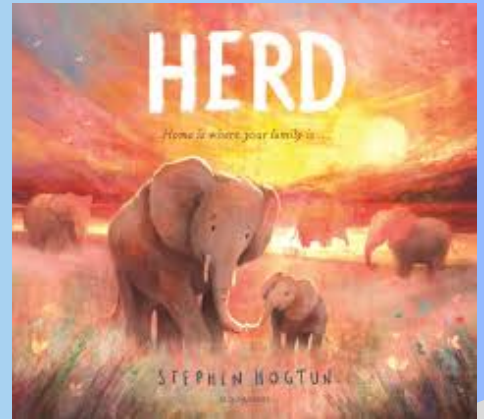




Our Recommendations

Mrs Rathmell recommends...

Filled with beautiful, luminous artwork, this is the story of one brave little elephant, who roams with his family across grasslands and forests and streams. But what does home mean when you move from place to place each day?



Can this little elephant find his home in the world? Maybe, just maybe, home is not a place, but his herd: the ones who love him best.

Shortlisted for the 2025 Children's Wainwright Prize for Non-Fiction

Year 3's favourite new release...



Venture into Roz's wild world in this gorgeously illustrated picture book that brings to full colour the adventures of the #1 New York Times bestselling novel The Wild Robot.

Roz is not where she's supposed to be. Roz the robot wasn't designed to live in the wilderness. But when she washes up on an island, she must learn from the animal inhabitants and adapt to her new, natural surroundings, and before long, the island begins to feel like home.

Coming soon...

In prehistoric Ireland, 13-year-old Fia and her snow deer Solas struggle against a seemingly eternal winter. Only the mythical Deer Mother can put an end to the ceaseless cold. Fia sets out with her cousin Mish on a quest to bring warmth and hope back to the world. Along the way, they find a lone wolf guide and battle against the sinister temptations of shadow spirits.

