

# Ellesmere College Reading Newsletter

## Issue: Autumn 2022

Welcome to our very first Reading Newsletter!  
Each term we will be sharing reading recommendations, promoting reading events and celebrating how we are building a reading culture here at Ellesmere College.

We would love for you to get involved, so if you have any suggestions about other things we could include in the newsletters, please do let us know by emailing  
[Reading@ellesmere.leicester.sch.uk](mailto:Reading@ellesmere.leicester.sch.uk)



### Roving Readers

We love to see pictures of our students reading or listening to stories at home, out in the community or in really unusual places!

If you have any pictures of your child that you would be happy to have published in our next newsletter, please email them to  
[Reading@ellesmere.leicester.sch.uk](mailto:Reading@ellesmere.leicester.sch.uk)





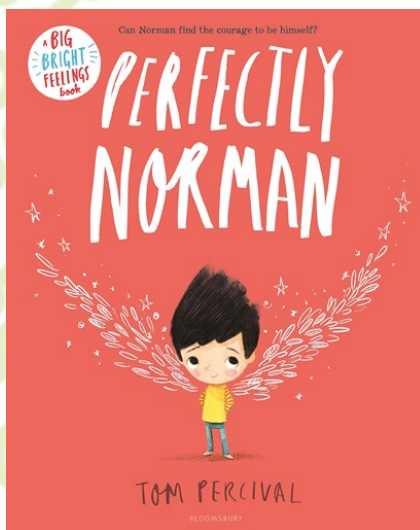
## Book recommendations



### *The Best Worst Day Ever by Sophia Henn*

Arthur is having the worst day ever, so he decides to run away to the bottom of his garden. On his way back home, he bumps into a bear, an elephant and a lion that help him to realise that maybe it isn't the worst day ever.

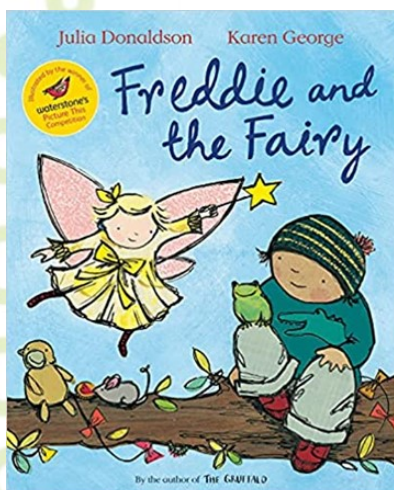
This is a fantastic picture book that would be perfect for sharing with some of our younger students.



### *Perfectly Norman by Tom Percival*

Norman grows a pair of wings but then worries about what other people, including his own parents, will think about the thing that makes him so unique.

A wonderful book for talking about being proud of being you.



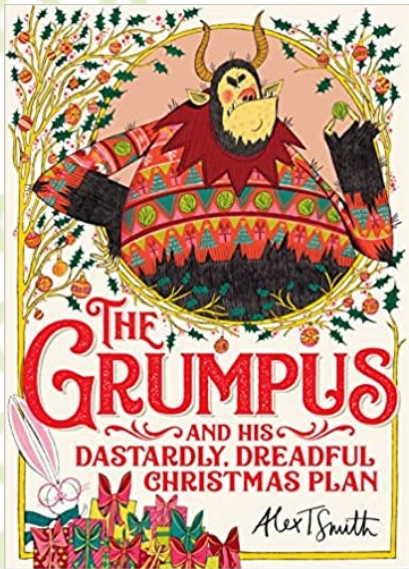
### *Freddie and the Fairy by Julia Donaldson and Karen George*

Freddie rescues a fairy who is stuck in a tree. She agrees to grant him a wish, but she struggles to hear him correctly.

This is a really nice introduction to making sure we are making it as easy as possible to communicate and include those with a hearing impairment. It's also very funny and has lots of rhyming words.







*The Grumpus and his dastardly, dreadful  
Christmas plan by Alex T Smith*

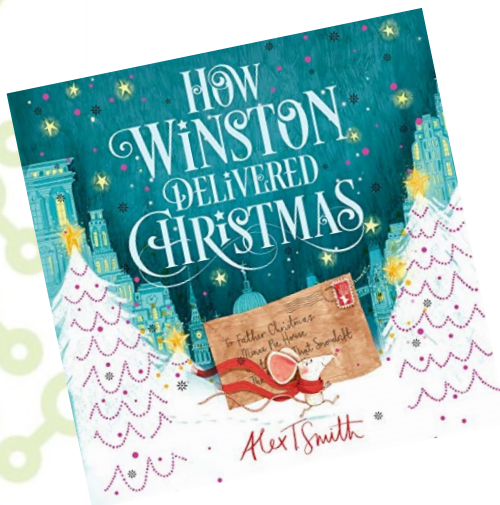
*Do you know about The Grumpus?*

*And his Dastardly, Dreadful Christmas Plan?*

*And about the Awful Thing that happened at  
the North Pole on Christmas Eve?*

*Perhaps I should tell you about it...*

*Perfect for getting you into the Christmas  
mood!*

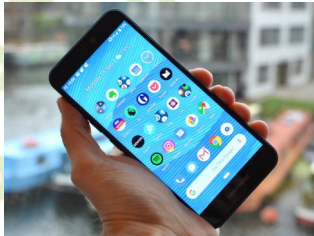


*Here are some other festive reads by the same author.*

*These are both split into an advent calendar-style 24  
chapters and are packed with festive family activities.*







### *Readly app*

Readly is a magazine app that has daily newspapers, craft ideas, wellbeing magazines, Disney magazines, graphic novels...everything you could think of!

You can have it on 5 devices for one account.

This is a paid for app that you can download from the usual app stores on your phone or tablet.

### *Classic book recommendation*

Each issue we will be recommending a classic children's book. This may be one you remember from your own childhood!

## *Burglar Bill*



*Janet & Allan Ahlberg*

I'm recommending Burglar Bill by Janet and Allan Ahlberg.

I remember my parents reading this to me when I was a child and I loved sharing it with my son when he was younger. The illustrations are fantastic and a great opportunity to play 'spot the....'.

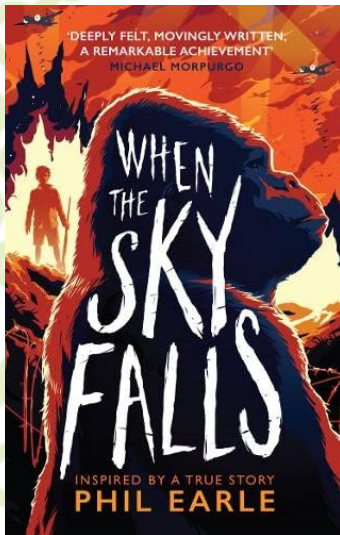
Ange Smith—Executive Vice  
Principal

Happy

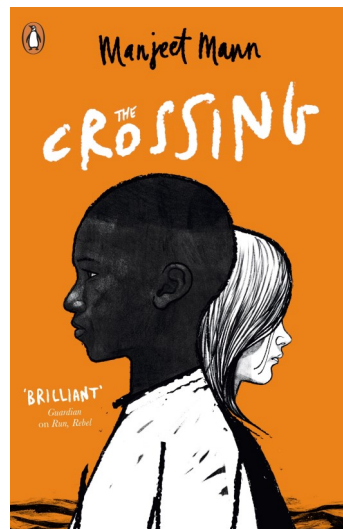
Believe!

*In their reading for pleasure lessons, our Key Stage 4 Learning for Life classes are currently reading...*

*Bradgate*



*Phoenix*



*Knighton*



*What the students have said...*

*'Why has Joseph gone to the city?'*

*'Why has he been placed with Mrs F?'*

*'It's emotional'*

*'The characters are experiencing similar things'*

*'Where is her father?'*

*'Why hasn't he been in touch for so long?'*





We are passionate about providing our students with the best opportunities in life and recognise the benefits that being able to read give them.

This year, we have started to use the Unlocking Letters and Sounds phonics programme, which is a government-approved programme.

Alongside phonics, we also take every opportunity to engage our students with a wide variety of high quality texts.

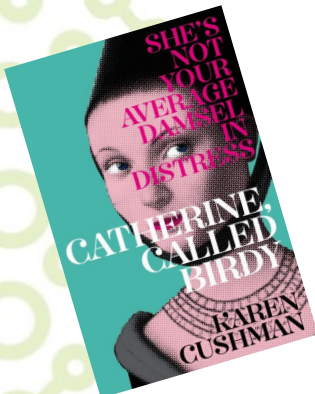
We want our students to experience the sheer joy that a book can bring! We want them to join in with rhymes and repeated phrases, to get swept away on adventures and let their imaginations run riot!



This term we welcome our first school Librarian to Ellesmere. Ellie is excited to develop our book collection—improving engagement and inclusivity.

Ellie welcomes any recommendations for the school library. Please email them to [Reading@ellesmere.leicester.sch.uk](mailto:Reading@ellesmere.leicester.sch.uk)

Ellie is currently reading *Catherine, Called Birdy*. This is written in the form of a diary kept by fourteen-year-old Catherine (nicknamed Birdy) set in the year 1290.



Ellesmere College are working with the wonderful Leicester Library Services Team to promote our local libraries.

We are extremely lucky to have 16 libraries across the city and 57 across the county. You can find your local library by using the webpages below:

City: <https://www.leicester.gov.uk/your-community/libraries-and-community-centres/libraries/>

County: <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/libraries>

The library is free to join and children can get their own library card too.

You can now borrow audiobooks for free via the BorrowBox or Libby app. All you'll need is your library membership number and pin.



Did you know that Leicester libraries also have a Bookbus, that travels to different streets in Leicester? Included with this newsletter is the Bookbus timetable and further information.

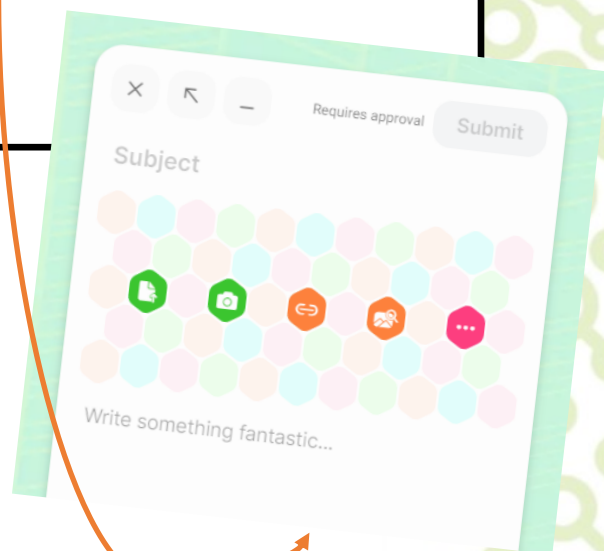




We've created a platform for sharing what your child is reading at home or what book you're sharing as a family. We hope that you'll be able to find some ideas and recommendations here on our Padlet: [https://padlet.com/Reading\\_Ellesmere/5nyaxngzprc1rs50](https://padlet.com/Reading_Ellesmere/5nyaxngzprc1rs50)

If you would like to share a book on our Padlet:

- Go to the above web address.
- Click the red add button. 
- Then click the pink button. 
- You will then be able to upload an image of the book you have saved.
- Write the title of the book in the subject heading and add your thoughts.
- Press submit.



If you have any issues with using the Padlet, please email [Reading@ellesmere.leicester.sch.uk](mailto:Reading@ellesmere.leicester.sch.uk)

