



# NEWSLETTER

“A Christ-centred school with a child-centred curriculum”

Hope, perseverance and courage

Telephone: 01798 872007

7<sup>th</sup> December 2018



Costumes galore! Rehearsals are in full swing this week for The Nativity in UK and Austria Classes and The Magic Jigsaw for Key Stage One. It is great to hear the children singing, showing off their talents with acting and developing their confidence in front of an audience.

**Christingle** – I am so grateful for the amazing turnout in church on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. The atmosphere was lovely and it was so great to see the church lit up with a light show and the glow of the Christingles. Thank you to Lydia and Isolde Kimberley who won the golden ticket and got to turn on the Pulborough Christmas star on the top of the church tower.



**Communication** – Thank you to all those parents who booked afternoon slots to come and see the teachers. **Our next parent afternoon/evenings are on 19th and 21st March and this will be to follow up reports which come home on 8th March.** There are other ways to communicate with the teachers if you have a concern or would like to discuss something. You can send an email to the office and the teacher will pick this up, you can write in the reading log or homework book, you can catch the teacher at the end of the day after they have dismissed the class.

**School Council** - The School Council would like to hold a chocolate tombola to raise funds for the charity CRISIS. CRISIS provide food and shelter to many homeless over the Christmas period. They are also able to provide, clothing, washing facilities, medical assistance, dental care, advice on job seeking and much more...they will even give people a haircut if they want one! **Please donate chocolates and sweets** for the stall. **All donations to be in by the 12th December 2018.** Mrs Benson promises to take very good care of them until then!

**Calculation Policy** – Just to make all parents aware that on our school website there is a school calculation policy. This is a parent guide to help with how class teachers are teaching the different methods. This may help if your child comes home and needs some support with a particular strategy. It can be found under Curriculum – then Maths.

<https://www.st-marys-pulborough.w-sussex.sch.uk/website/maths/82267>

**Healthy snacks for break** – Just a reminder that the children should have a healthy snack for breacktime.



**School uniform** – As the holidays approach, please can I ask that if school shoes are needed they are bought ready for the Spring Term. The sales should provide the perfect opportunity for this.

**Class Christmas parties** – All class teachers have sent out a note now regarding the class parties that are planned. If you have not received this, please talk to the class teacher directly.



**PTA Pop up shop** – What a lovely festive week with the choir singing and the Pop up shop. Thank you to the PTA who organised this event and it raised over £200.

**Gifts at Christmas** – As we come towards the end of term I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the support and appreciation you show all the staff at St Mary's. We really appreciate the thanks we get and that we can all work together for the benefit of the children. At the end of term I know that it is customary amongst a lot of parents to buy a gift for the class teacher or any member of staff you wish to say thank you to. A small gift is fine and I know that we all appreciate a card, especially if made by the children, to say thank you if you think we deserve it. However there has been a more recent trend for parents to club together to collect money to buy a gift of significant value. Although this is very kind, and we appreciate the thought, we are unable to accept gifts of any significant value. We are public servants working in the public sector – we do this job because we love it and we care about your children – and no other reason. Thank you for your consideration with this.

**Chartwells Christmas Meal** – Thank you to all those who have signed up for the Chartwells Christmas meal. It is on Tuesday 18th December. Early Years/KS1 is 12- 12.40pm and KS2 is 12.50pm – 1.30pm. We would like some helpers for this. If you can give some time, please let the school office know. Many thanks in anticipation.

**Riverside Court** – The choir went out into the village to spread some Christmas cheer with a few Christmas carols and songs. They sang with such enthusiasm and energy and it was great to have some participation from the audience.

**Vine leaves – Laurence in Mexico Class** – you gave up your lunchtime to help others. **Mary in Japan Class** – well done for your kindness in making so many lovely things to sell and donating the money to the Big Top.



**Parking** – Please could I remind parents NOT to park at the bottom of the School drive to drop children off, thank you.

**Little Explorers** - This week the children have practiced for our nativity which we performed on Tuesday 4th December, the children did wonderfully! The children also enjoyed boogie beats looking at hedgehog habitats which linked to our forest school session where we made clay and pine cone hedgehogs.

**SPLASH** – It was lovely to see SPLASH in school this week spreading their Christmas message. The children participated in a brilliant assembly on Monday about patience. The message was about the start of advent and waiting for Christmas to come. The children were praised for their excellent behaviour in assembly and the way that they focussed on the message and joined in.



**Report by William Orrell** – On the 30th of November, the school Christingle-making came into place. Year 5 (my year) met with our buddies. First we got the orange which represents the world, then the red tape which represents the blood of Christ. The candle represents God's love for the world and the sticks represent the four seasons and the sweets are God's gifts to the world. Sadly, we weren't able to eat the sweets after but they were all meant for the church, which is probably better.

**Evacuee Day** – South Africa and Japan class held their Evacuee Day today and it was great to see them dressed up and participating in activities that demonstrated what life would have been like. This topic of 'London's Calling' has really engaged and enthused the Year 6 children and the quality of their learning has shone through.



**Led By A Star – Friday 14th December is Led By A Star.** A lantern procession following a giant star will start at The Chequers at 6pm and there will be a visit by Santa and his elves and some singing from our school choir. It is organised by the local churches and some of the profits will be coming back to the school.

**Christmas Eucharist** – Our school Christmas Eucharist is on **Thursday 13th December at 9am – 9.45am.** Everyone is welcome.

**Chartwells** – A huge well done to our kitchen staff who were awarded 100% in their Simplicity Audit for 2018.



### Dates for your diary

Mon 10th Dec	Rock Steady Concert	9.00am	School Hall
Mon 10th Dec	<b>UK &amp; Austria Class</b> Nativity	1.30pm - 6.00pm	School Hall
Tue 11th Dec	<b>KS1 Production</b> - The Magic Jigsaw	1.30pm - 6.00pm	School Hall
Wed 12th Dec	<b>KS1 Production</b> - The Magic Jigsaw	6.00pm	School Hall
Thur 13th Dec	Christmas Eucharist	9.00am - 9.50am	School Hall
	Choir singing at Tesco	2.00pm	Tesco
Fri 14th Dec	Lead by a Star	6.00pm	The Chequers
Tue 18th Dec	EYF & KS1 Christmas Lunch	12.00noon - 12.40pm	School Hall
	KS2 Christmas Lunch	12.50pm - 1.30pm	School Hall
Wed 19th Dec	Last day of Autumn Term	School finishes 3.15pm	



**Albion in the  
Community**



Sunday 9th December

# Seagull's Festive Fun Run

2K family fun run around the Amex Stadium

- Warm-up with Gully and Sally
- Medals for all runners
- Children's goody bags
- Santa hats for grown-ups

**£8 children  
£10 adults**

**FREE**  
**BHAFC SCARF**  
for the first 100  
children to  
sign-up



**For more information or to book, please call: 01273 878246  
or visit: [www.albioninthecommunity.co.uk/festivefunrun](http://www.albioninthecommunity.co.uk/festivefunrun)**

Albion in the Community, American Express Community Stadium, Village Way, Brighton BN1 9BL Tel: 01273 878265.  
Company limited by guarantee in England and Wales (No. 5122343). Registered charity in England and Wales (No. 1110978).

Registered with



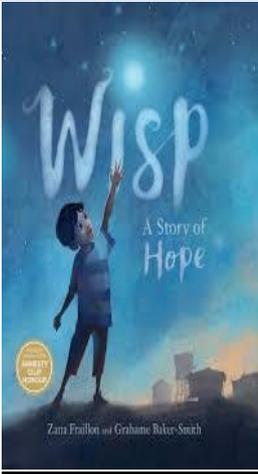
**FUNDRAISING  
REGULATOR**



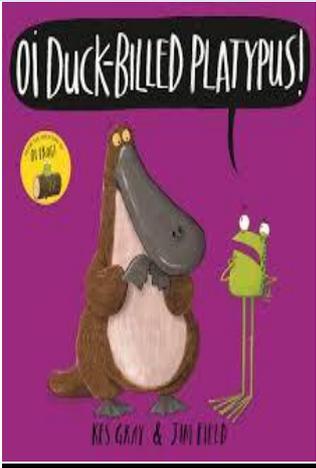
# New Book Recommendations

## Autumn 2018

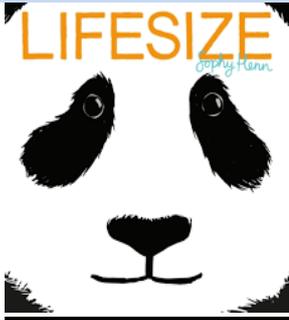
*With thanks to The Book Nook, Hove.*



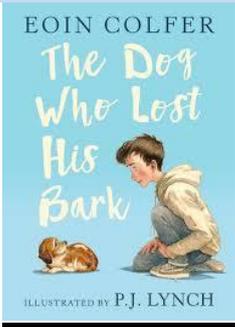
Wisp- A Story of Hope  
by Zana Fraillon and Grahame Baker- Smith  
This beautifully illustrated book tells of hope in the desperate world of a refugee camp. Carefully considered language and images that captivate; this book will suit older readers who want to explore this topical issue.



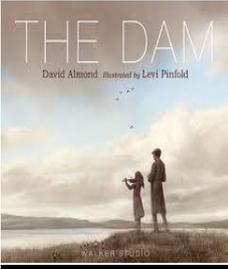
Oi Duck- Billed Platypus  
by Kes Gray and Jim Field  
Once again this double act creates a laugh aloud exploration of rhyme and fun. What does rhyme with duck-billed platypus? The frog has his work cut out this time!



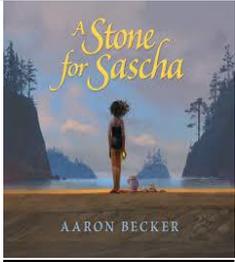
Lifesize by Sophy Henn  
A really interesting non-fiction text that explores the size of elements in the animal world. We guarantee you will hold the book up to your face! Would make a great start to a maths investigation or just a book corner fun read.



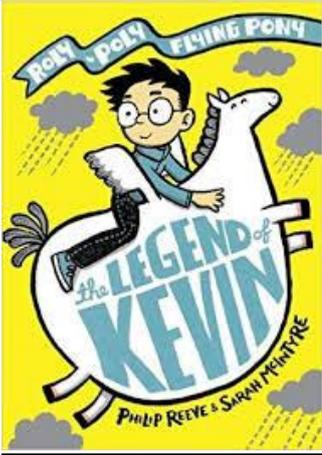
The Dog Who Lost his Bark by Eoin Colfer and P.J. Lynch  
A lovely tale of the relationship between a boy and a rescue dog and their connection through music. A great read that will cause the reader to root for the main characters.



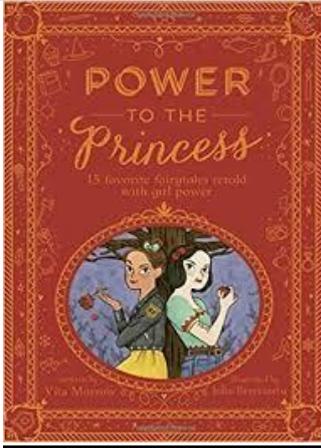
The Dam by David Almond and Levi Pinfold  
Leaving much to the interpretation of the reader; this book will be a good prompt to a variety of genre of writing. The stunning images by Levi Pinfold add to the atmosphere.



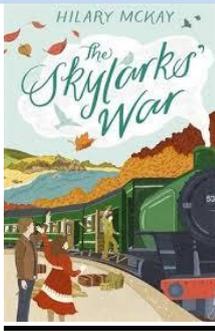
A Stone for Sascha by Aaron Becker  
Following on from the success of the Journey trilogy, Becker brings the reader another text free book. Different in style, the meaning is more ambiguous giving scope for book-talk.



The Legend of Kevin  
by Philip Reeve  
Max longs for adventure and it soon arrives at his tower block in the form of an over-weight flying pony called Kevin. A book that will get our years 2, 3, 4 readers laughing!



Power to the Princess by Vita Murrow and Julia Bereciartu  
Female empowerment to all those fairy tale princesses. This book retells their stories and shows how the female leads can really make a difference. In this version Cinderella becomes a public spokesperson for the workers who are underpaid!



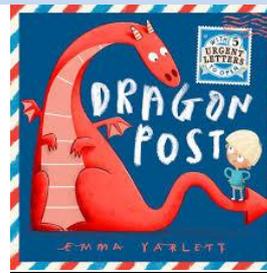
The Skylarks War by Hilary McKay  
This is a beautiful story following the loves and losses of a family growing up against the harsh backdrop of World War One. When Rupert goes off to fight at the front, Clarry feels their skylark summers are finally slipping away from them.



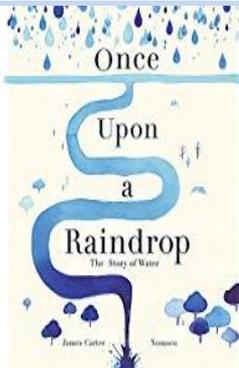
Pages and Co- Tilly and the Book Wanderers by Anna James  
Imagine being able to wander through books, making friends with the characters within. This is a delight of a book that could spark readers to do a little book wandering themselves. Loved this!



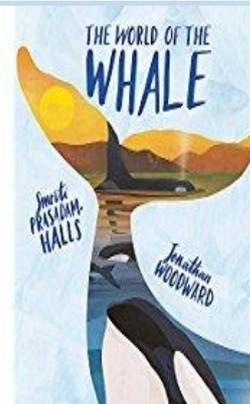
Petra by Marrianna Coppo  
Everyone who sees this book will fall in love with Petra. After establishing what she is, this book will definitely make you smile and maybe want to create your own Petras! A quirky book for our younger readers.



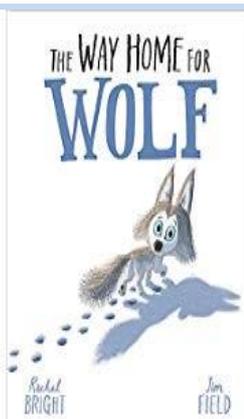
Dragon Post by Emma Yarlett  
This book is reminiscent of The Jolly Postman- full of letters written in different tones; this is a great stimulus for writing. After all, Alex is bound to need help after finding a dragon in his house!



Once Upon a Raindrop by James Carter  
This is an engaging and informative book about water, written in a poetic, descriptive style. This book would link really well with the Rhythm of the Rain. KS1 and KS2



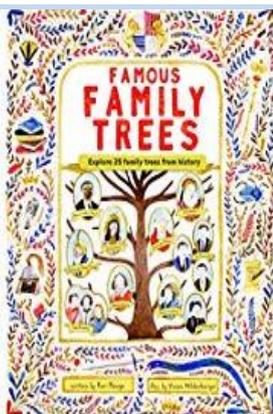
The World of the Whale by Smriti Prasadan Halls  
From the author of 'The Ways of the Wolf' another engaging, informative and poetic text that gets across the biology, wonder and conservation issues for this mammal.



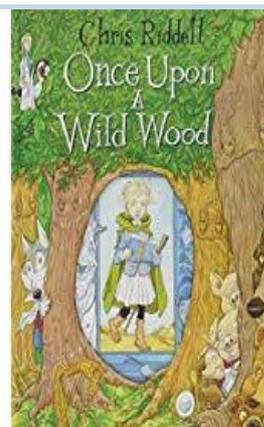
The Way Home for Wolf by Rachel Bright  
Another engaging picture book from the author of 'The Squirrels who Squabbled.' The book is set in the Arctic and explores a wolf cub called Wilf who goes off thinking he can do it all by himself. An excellent text that explores friendship and introduces us to the animals of the Arctic. KS1



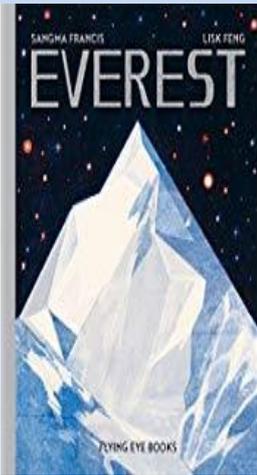
Between Worlds – Folktales of Britain and Ireland by Kevin Crossley Holland  
This is an excellent, eerie and magical collection of British and Irish folk tales from the award winning author and storyteller Kevin Crossley Holland. A great follow up to his recent powerful and descriptive 'Norse Myths – Tales of Thor, Odin and Loki. KS2



Famous Family Trees by Kari Hauge and Vivien Mildenerger  
A collection of family trees featuring some of history's most loved and loathed people for children to explore. There are attractively illustrated family trees with fascinating facts. KS2



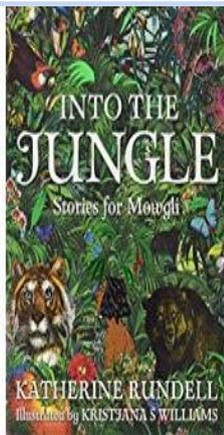
Once Upon a Wild Wood by Chris Riddell  
Chris Riddell spins a fantasy adventure involving Little Green Raincape and some well-known fairy story characters in this beautifully illustrated and playfully imaginative picture story book. KS2



Everest by Sangma Francis and Lisk Feng  
This is an informative and beautifully illustrated book that is filled with facts and folktales about the world's highest mountain. KS2



Secrets of a Sun King by Emma Carroll  
Ancient Egyptian history combined with the heart-warming story of Lil retracing her grandfather's steps in order to solve the great mystery of Tutankhamen. An excellent piece of historical fiction from the author of 'Letters to the Lighthouse.' KS2



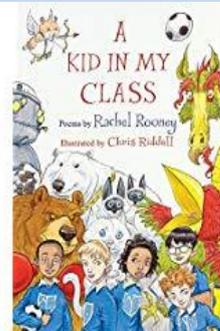
Into the Jungle by Katherine Rundell and Kristjana S Williams  
Short stories by award winning author Katherine Rundell, inspired by Rudyard Kipling's classic *The Jungle Book*. These are compelling origin stories for all Kipling's best-known characters, from Baloo and Shere Khan to Kaa and Bagheera. The text is beautifully illustrated by the illustrator of *The Wonder Garden*.



A Stage Full of Shakespeare Stories by Angela McAllister and Alice Lindstrom  
This provides an excellent introduction to Shakespeare for children. Twelve plays are retold as meaningful and engaging short stories by Angela McAllister with effective, excellent illustrations supporting the text. KS2



Great Adventurers by Alastair Humphreys  
Read about the incredible journeys undertaken by twenty of the most heroic and impressive explorers who ever lived. A wide-spread selection of explorers from young to old, male to female, ancient and modern. KS2



A Kid in my Class by Rachel Rooney  
An excellent poetry collection about all the different individuals, types and personalities within a class. The poems are written with great understanding, perception and with a strong sense of humour and you will recognise yourself and others in this collection. KS2

**Horsham Hub**

# **Enabling Parents**

**Would you like to be able to understand your  
child's feelings?**

**Would you like to have some practical ideas to  
communicate with your child?**

**Enabling Parents is a practical parenting course to  
help you find solutions to difficulties.**



**The course will be held on  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January  
From 9.30am – 12pm  
At Horsham Children and Family Centre  
Harwood Road, Horsham, RH13 5UT  
You must be able to attend both sessions.**

**Or**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March  
From 9.30am – 12pm  
At Southwater Children and Family Centre  
Worthing Road, Southwater, RH13 9HA  
You must be able to attend both sessions.**

**For further information or to book onto the course,  
families can call 07525 211177 or email  
[HorshamHUB@westsussex.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:HorshamHUB@westsussex.gcsx.gov.uk)**