



Moat Farm Book Reviews June 2020



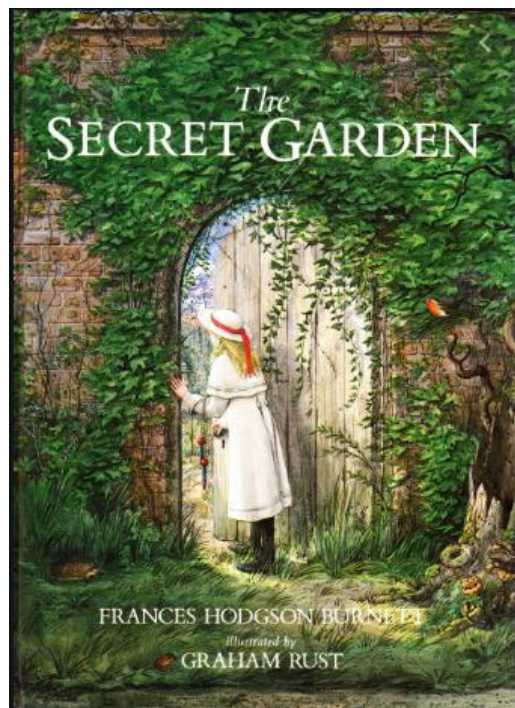


Teacher Recommended Reads

June 2020



Miss Roberts recommends 'The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett



This was my favourite book as a child and I must have read it numerous times and it just got better!

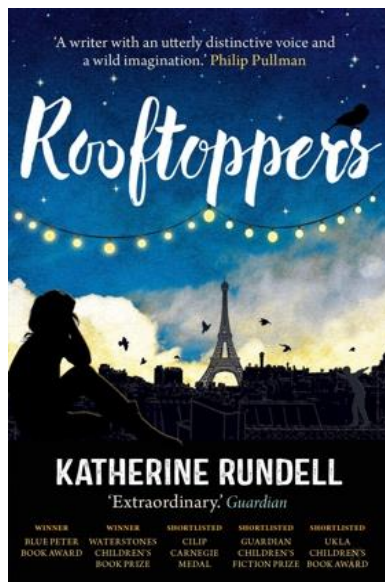
Little Mary Lennox is brought up in India, a spoilt child with wealthy parents who are more than happy to leave her entirely in the care of their nanny. But when a cholera epidemic claims the lives of her mother and father, Mary is sent to live in her uncle's mysterious old house on the rambling Yorkshire moors. Left to her own devices, talking only the chambermaid Martha, she swiftly becomes even more disagreeable. But then Martha tells her a story about a secret garden hidden in the grounds, locked for ten years, ever since Mary's aunt passed away. Her grieving uncle hid the key and forbade anyone to enter, ever again. Mary finds a key, and tries it in the lock of the ivy-covered door, which swings open onto a new, secret world. And though she doesn't know it yet, Mary's discovery will change her life for good...



Teacher Recommended Reads June 2020



Mrs Bolton recommends 'Rooftoppers' by Katherine Rundell.



When a ship sinks on the English Channel, a baby is found floating in a cello case. Apparently, an orphan, the baby girl is taken in by an eccentric scholar who names her Sophie. As Sophie grows up, she is convinced her mother did not die when the ship went down. When her guardian tells her that it's almost impossible for her mother to have survived, Sophie hangs on to the possibility. Never ignore a possibility. Threatened to be put into an orphanage by the Welfare Agency, Charles (her guardian) and Sophie flee to Paris to find her mother.

One night, Sophie makes her way through the skylight of her hotel bedroom and soon finds a whole new world on the rooftops of Paris!

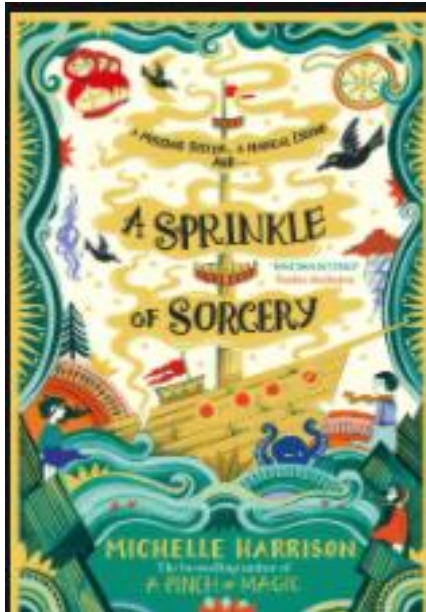
Katherine Rundell brings the sights and sounds of Paris alive in this inspiring adventure story full of possibilities, hope, courage and love. A terrific read.



Teacher Recommended Reads June 2020



Mrs Bolton recommends 'A Sprinkle of Sorcery By Michelle Harrison



After reading A Pinch of Magic last year, I was excited to read this sequel. It did not disappoint. A mysterious girl turns up at the home of the Widdershins accompanied by a will-o'-the-wisp. Despite the danger that could be incurred, the sisters feel compelled to assist the stranger. An exciting action-packed adventure across the misty marshes, an encounter with pirates and an island that exists on no map! A story full of courage, bravery and magic with messages of trust, love and strength.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0J0Shv7nW-4&feature=youtu.be> A Pinch Of Magic Trailer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T-TUq3Dxmok&feature=youtu.be> A Sprinkle Of Sorcery Trailer

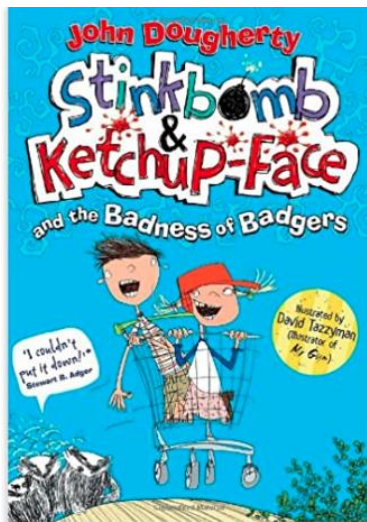


Teacher Recommended Reads

June 2020



Mrs Moulder recommends Stinkbomb & Ketchup-face and the Badness of Badgers by John Dougherty.



Stinkbomb and Ketchup-face live on the peaceful island of Great Kerfuffle. Early one morning they make a distressing discovery – Stinkbomb’s piggybank is open and money is missing! The brother and sister team set off on an adventure to track down the thieves, meeting lots of interesting characters on their journey.

This is a funny, entertaining and at times very silly book! It made me laugh out loud and the wonderful illustrations, by David Tazzyman, really made the story come alive.

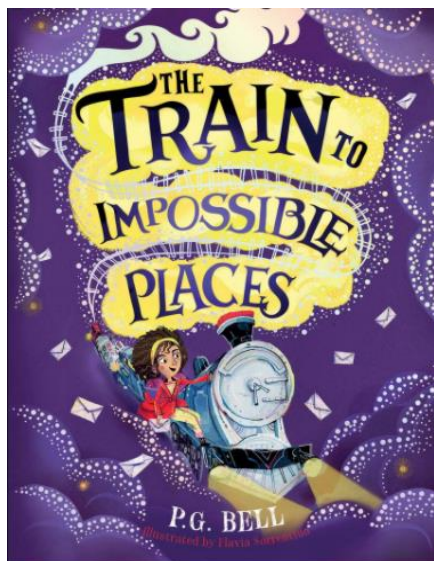
It is the first book in a series of 6 and the author has written lots of other books for children. Well worth a read!



Teacher Recommended Reads June 2020



Mrs Millard recommends 'The Train to Impossible Places' by P.G Bell



The Train to Impossible Places is an outstanding book full of mystery, secrets and trolls! Take yourself on an amazing adventure with Suzy, an ordinary girl; Wilmot, a post-master; and the incredible locomotive *Belle de Loin*. But whatever you do, avoid the fearsome sorceress, Lady Crepuscula.

One ordinary night, Suzy wakes up to clanging and rattling coming from downstairs. She tiptoes to the hallway to find a troll there, building tracks. And, as if she wasn't shocked enough, a huge express train comes thundering down through her house! Dare she get on and enter a parallel world full of mysterious realms?

Hurgle down the tracks to see many new places, solve mysteries, meet yellow bears, encounter a group of ghosts and enter a library containing every fact known to life...most importantly, will Suzy succeed in her quest to become a postie working for her new best friend, Wilmot? I really, really loved reading this book and would highly recommend it to readers who enjoy magic, fantasy and uncovering secrets.

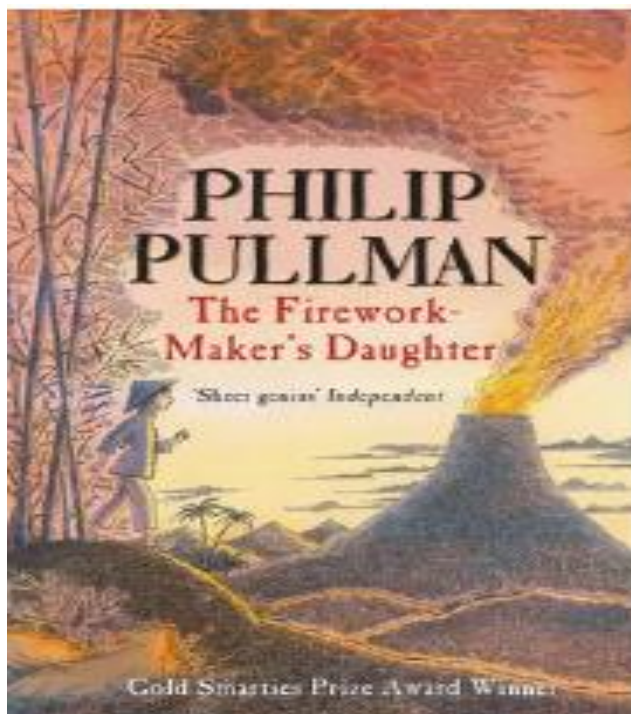


Teacher Recommended Reads

June 2020



Mrs Wilding recommends 'The Firework Maker's Daughter by Philip Pullman.



A thousand miles ago, in a country east of the jungle and south of the mountains, there lived a firework-maker named Lalchand and his daughter, Lila. Lila's learned from her father almost all there is to know about making fireworks. But he's held back the final secret, the most dangerous one, saying Lila's not ready to know. Not to be deterred, the headstrong girl enlists the help of her friend Chulak and discovers that anyone who wants to be a true Firework-Maker must face the Fire-Fiend of Mount Merapi, and bring back some of the Royal Sulphur. So, Lila sets off fearlessly, ready to face pirates and demons and anything else that gets in her way.

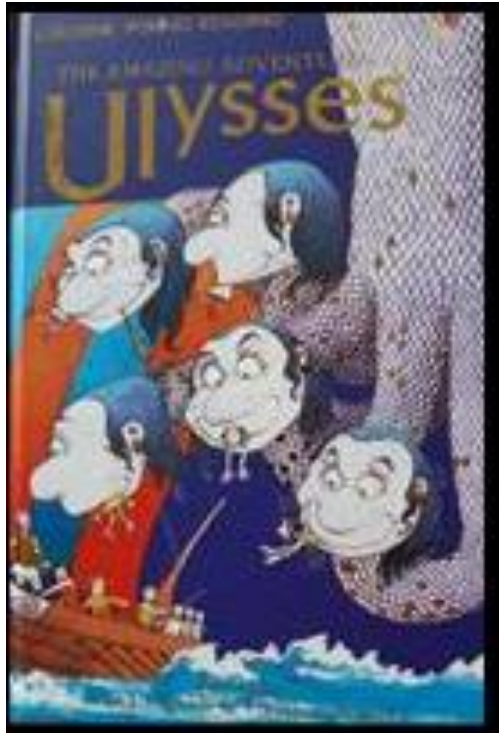
This is a story that sizzles and pops with excitement, humour, mystery, and suspense. The courage and friendship of Lila, Chulak, and Hamlet are both enjoyable and uplifting, and the solution to Lila's quest provoked some serious thought and discussion around female empowerment, perseverance, determination and equality to name but a few topics!



Teacher Recommended Reads June 2020



Mr McCormick recommends 'Ulysees' by James Joyce.



Ulysees sets out to rescue a Greek princess and finds himself in a ten year war. But that is only the start of his problems! Epic battles, gruesome monsters, exploration, treasure, magic

The Amazing Adventures of Ulysses (Usborne Young Reading) has all this and more, written in a child friendly way with colourful illustrations.

Recommended for anyone dreaming of adventure!

We hope you've enjoyed
reading our book reviews
for June!

Look out for our next
reviews in July.

