

# Autumn Term Reading News



Dear Parents/Carers

A very warm welcome to our brand new St Mary's Reading Newsletter. We hope you will enjoy reading about what we are doing to promote reading for pleasure at school and at home. Our aim is to publish a Reading Newsletter once every term and inside you will find updates on everything that is happening regarding reading at school. We will also be providing recommendations on brilliant new books for children across the school and sharing information about different authors and illustrators, who are producing great new stories. We hope you find this new initiative useful and informative.

If you need any help with sourcing new books to enjoy or with reading at home or in school, please do get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support,  
Mrs Cartledge



**WE LOVE  
READING**



**Accelerated**<sup>™</sup>  
Reader

I am delighted that Accelerated Reader has been successfully launched at St Mary's and so far, feedback from teachers and pupils has been very positive. The children are enjoying all the new books, kindly purchased by the PTFA, and teachers are pleased to see their classes excited to take quizzes once they have finished a book.

I appreciate that Accelerated is new to all of us, and you are bound to have some questions, so please do contact me with your queries and I will do my best to help. Please remember that the greatest impact you can have is to continue to regularly share books with your child at home as learning to read for pleasure is so important.

Please remember that children can take quizzes at home on MYON but any Accelerated Reading quizzes, linked to their reading book must be done at school.

Thank you.



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## Mrs Cartledge's KS1 Book Recommendations:

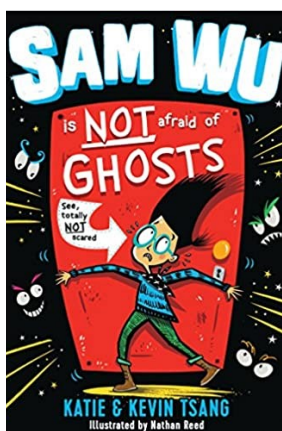
With Christmas just around the corner, here are some suggestions for some perfect Christmas presents!



Step out of your front door and begin a journey of discovery around the world! Fold out the richly illustrated pages of this expansive concertina book to clamber over mountain ranges, trek through jungles and sail across vast seas. Spot wildlife, visit amazing cities, experience different cultures and see famous landmarks as you whiz by.

With so much to explore on this globetrotting adventure, it's a good thing the book stretches to an incredible 2.5 meters long – you'll get halfway around the world before you even have to turn the page!

This is a gorgeous Christmas picture book that's destined to become a festive classic. Fox and Hare were born in spring, grew up in summer, and were best friends by autumn. When winter comes, they can't wait to jump, leap and, bounce in this thing called snow. But what exactly is snow? Join fox and hare on an Arctic journey as they ask all their friends to help them find out. This is a charming and classic-feeling Christmas picture book with a heartfelt message about seeing the wonder of the natural world. Families will love sharing the story and talking about kindness, community, and the true meaning of Christmas.



Part of the Sam Wu series, Sam is the bravest scaredy-cat in the world. In this hilarious, engaging story from start to finish, Sam is determined to prove his courage to his classmates, no matter what it takes - from adapting a snake that terrifies him to hunting ghosts to facing his sister's psychotic cat. What can possibly go wrong?

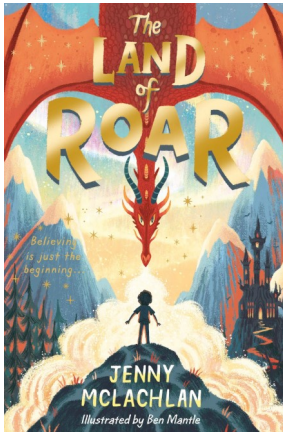
Another perfect book for early chapter readers with many other hilarious Sam Wu books to follow.



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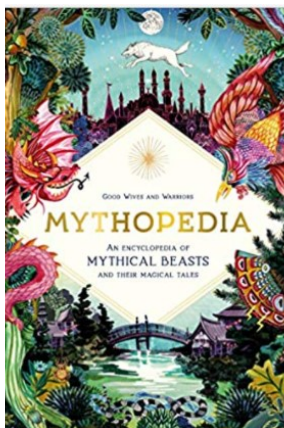
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## Mrs Cartledge's LKS2 Book Recommendations:



A superb and entirely magical adventure novel not to be missed. Be prepared to let your imagination run wild, as you enter 'The Land of Roar' alongside twins: Arthur and Rose, as they re-enter their childhood fantasy world full of dragons, mermaids, wizards and magic. With fantastic illustrations within each chapter, which bring the story to life, get ready to join them on their adventure into The Land of Roar. If you enjoyed this, be sure to devour book two of the series: 'Return to Roar'.

The Girl who Stole an Elephant will scoop you up and carry along on an unforgettable adventure through the jungle. Chaya, an outspoken, mischievous heroine, leads her friends and a gorgeous elephant through an exotic setting described wonderfully throughout. On the run from the royal palace, jewel chief and rebel, Chaya, must face up to revolutionary forces, untold dangers and her own misdemeanours in a battle for survival. A wonderfully evocative book about friendship, teamwork, loyalty and morality.



From the West African fable of Anansi the Spider, to Michabo, the magical hare who rebuilt the world and Tanuki, the sweet but troublesome racoon-dog of Japanese folklore, *Mythopedia* is an encyclopedia of mythical creatures that covers legends, tales and myths from around the world. Lovingly created by the illustration duo behind popular flipbook *Myth Match*, Good Wives and Warriors, this book contains pages upon pages of cultural folklore from around the world.

Let these weird and wonderful creatures spark your child's imagination for their own storytelling and drawing while teaching them about international cultures.





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## Mrs Cartledge's UKS2 Book Recommendations:

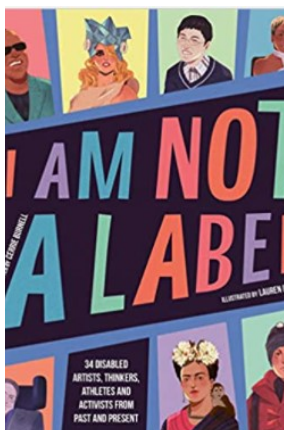
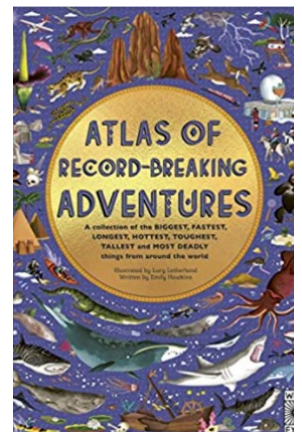


George is about to spend his third Christmas without his mum. Since she died, George's life has felt dull and grey; his dad has thrown himself into his work and has no time for family, and definitely no time for Christmas.

Then, George stumbles across Marley's Curiosity Shop. There he finds a mysterious snow globe, which - though George can't quite understand how - appears to show a scene from George's past. A Christmas in which he and his family were together, and happy...

Journey from one extreme to the other as you turn the page to discover what record-breaker is next. This is a high-octane tour around the world, stopping off at every continent to marvel at natural and human phenomena. From the highest waterfall to the deepest underground city, the largest primate to the smelliest flower, this is an adventure that can't be beaten.

- Whether you're exploring the hottest place on Earth in Ethiopia, the world's largest cave in Vietnam, or riding the longest railway across Russia, adventure is all around you in this fun-packed atlas.
- Richly detailed illustrations by Lucy Letherland bring every adventure to life – as well as some quirky characters hiding among all the excitement.



In this stylishly illustrated biography anthology, meet 34 artists, thinkers, athletes and activists with disabilities, from past and present. From Frida Kahlo to Stephen Hawking, find out how these iconic figures have overcome obstacles, owned their differences and paved the way for others by making their bodies and minds work for them.

These short biographies tell the stories of people who have faced unique challenges which have not stopped them from becoming trailblazers, innovators, advocates and makers. Each person is a leading figure in their field, be it sport, science, maths, art, breakdance or the world of pop. Challenge your preconceptions of disability and mental health with the eye-opening stories of some truly remarkable people.



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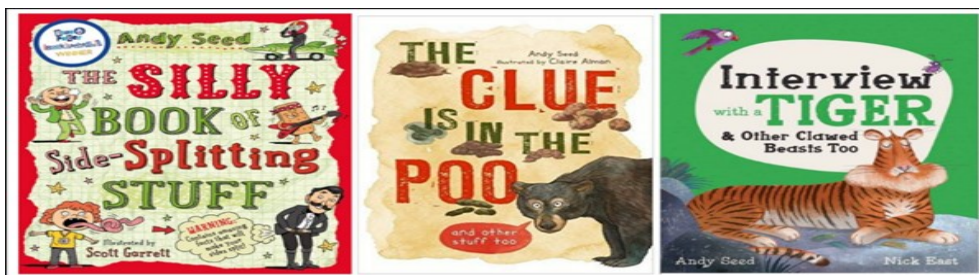
## EXCITING NEWS!

You may remember that the author, Andy Seed was due to visit St Mary's earlier this year to read his stories and inspire our writers but sadly his visit was cancelled due to school closures. Well, I have some good news -Andy has been in touch again and we have provisionally re-booked his visit for early March next year.



In fact, Andy is so pleased to be planning his next visit, he has sent us a message!

I'm really looking forward to visiting St Mary's in 2021 and working with the children. My mission is to get everyone excited about books because being a reader brings so many advantages to young people, as well as being fun! I write books which are a mixture of facts and humour and I'm very excited about my newest title *Interview with a Tiger* in which I, well, interview a tiger along with other clawed beasts including a wolf, polar bear, sloth, jaguar and honey badger! I'll be bringing lots of copies for a book signing when I visit. If you can't wait until then, you can order my books from The Yellow-Lighted Bookshop in Tetbury or buy online from <https://uk.bookshop.org/books?keywords=Andy+Seed> or other sites.



When Andy visits us in March, he will have a very busy day! Not only will he host an assembly for the whole school, where he will share his experiences of being a writer, but he will also run writing workshops with every class too. Andy has also very kindly offered to formally open our Reading Shed- this is a new project which is currently under development so watch this space for more news. Then, finally, after school, Andy will sign and sell some of his books in the school hall. As you can see, we will keep him very busy indeed and I'm sure the children will have a really enjoyable day.

*Please look out for the next newsletter in the Spring Term, where I will share some more news about the Reading Dell, the Reading Shed and new reading spaces around school. Please also watch out for an email from Mrs Glover about our reading wish-list which is linked to the Yellow-Lighted Bookshop. This list will contain books –poetry, non-fiction and fiction—that teachers would like to use with their classes to enrich their reading curriculum.*

