



## Author Spotlight Nizrana Farook

## Message from Mrs Florence (Assistant Headteacher)



### A special message from Nizrana

Dear Children of Green Lane Primary, I hope the lockdown has been kind to you and that you are ready for the next few weeks ahead. I've been enjoying the quiet, different fruits and lots of books!

A new start brings so many changes, and this one especially so. But some things always remain constant, and for me, reading is one of them. It's an escape into different worlds that are always there for me, and I find that so comforting.

Some of the new books I've read are Moonchild, Voyage of the Lost and Found by Aisha Bushby, The Beast and the Bethany by Jack Meggitt Phillips, The Unadoptables by Hana Tooke, Sky Pirates by Alex English, The Ship of Shadows by Maria Kuzniar, and Glassheart by Katharine Orton. Every one of them had a new world just waiting to be discovered.

In addition, I've been writing my next book, and that's taken me to a different world too. My first book, The Girl Who Stole an Elephant, is about a girl who steals from the rich to help the poor – getting herself, and her friends, into a lot of trouble over it! And yes she does steal an elephant. The second, which I'm editing now, is set in the same world and has some great new characters, including another gigantic animal...

I hope your term is filled with lots of good things – seeing your friends and teachers again, immersing yourself in your school activities, and I hope lots of new discoveries through your reading and writing.



Welcome to our second reading newsletter of the year. Whether your child hasn't been able to put a book down during lockdown or if you've struggled to get them to pick one up, this newsletter is for you! It's a chance to find out about new, high quality fiction, non-fiction and poetry as well as a chance to get tips and up to date information about helping your child with their reading journey.

## Importance of Reading

### HERE'S THE IMPACT OF READING 20 MINUTES PER DAY!

A student who reads

**20:00**

minutes per day

will be exposed to  
**1.8 MILLION**  
words per year  
and is more likely  
to score in the  
**90th PERCENTILE**  
on standardized tests

A student who reads

**5:00**

minutes per day

will be exposed to  
**282,000**  
words per year  
and is more likely  
to score in the  
**50th PERCENTILE**  
on standardized tests

A student who reads

**1:00**

minute per day

will be exposed to  
**8,000**  
words per year  
and is more likely  
to score in the  
**10th PERCENTILE**  
on standardized tests

Source: Nagy, Anderson and Herman, 1987



There is overwhelming evidence that literacy has a significant relationship to people's life chances. Reading for pleasure is more important than either wealth or social class as an indicator of success at school.

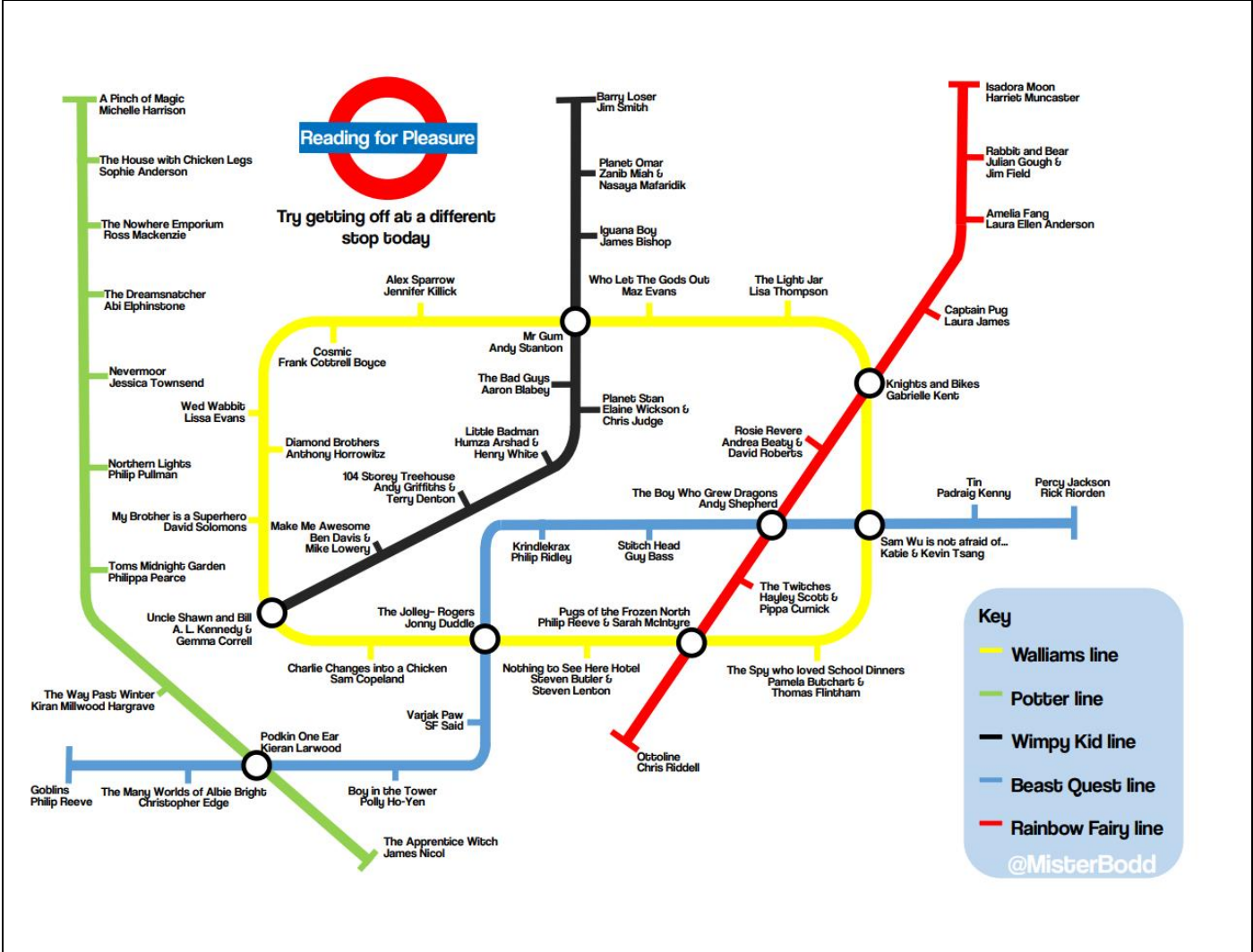
If your child isn't a 'book worm' yet, don't worry! There are so many wonderful and exciting authors out there, that there's a book to engage and inspire your child out there... they just may not have discovered it yet!



## Guiding Children's reading choices

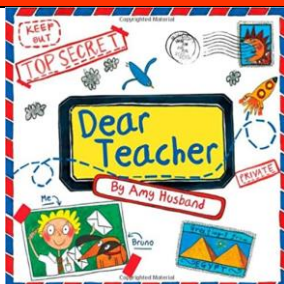
Does your child always read books by the same author or the same genre of book? Children's choice about what they read is really important, but it's also important that they know what's out there to be able to make an informed choice, with adults guiding them towards quality books wherever possible. Any reading is better than no reading, so it's not worth a battle, but children's series can often contain the same sort of style and vocabulary, making children read more passively (especially if the book has been made into a film that they have seen.)

'Banning' books by certain authors can make the problem worse... so why not offer your child one of these alternatives if they have got stuck on one of the most common series of books? Get in touch if you'd like any further support with this and I'd be glad to help.



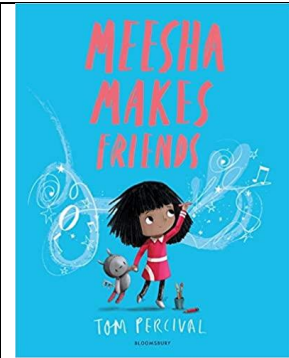
## Fiction: Teacher Picks

### Reception and returning to school: Dear Teacher by Amy Husband



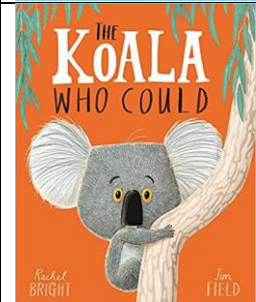
*Dear Teacher* is a hilarious collection of letters from Michael to his new teacher explaining why he can't go to class. From traveling to the pyramids of Egypt to getting attacked by pirates and going to the moon in a rocket ship, each letter is increasingly outlandish.

When Michael's teacher writes back telling him how sorry she is he'll miss all of the exciting school activities planned for the year, Michael realizes all the fun he'd really miss out on.



## Meesha Makes Friends by Tom Percival

Meesha loves making things but there's one thing she finds difficult to make - friends. She doesn't know quite what to do, what to say or when to say it, and she struggles reading and responding to social cues. But one day she discovers that she has a special talent that will help her to navigate challenging social situations and help her to make friends. A warm and affectionate look at the joys and difficulties of making and keeping friends, relating to others, and finding your place in the world.



## The Koala who Could be Bright by Rachel Bright

Meet Kevin. A koala who likes to keep things the same. Exactly the same. But sometimes change comes along whether we like it or not... And, as Kevin discovers, if you step outside your comfort zone and try new things, you might just surprise yourself! A funny rhyming story about dealing with change and overcoming worries, from the bestselling creators of The Lion Inside.

## Young Journalist Recommendations

### Book Review

Title: Dork Diaries Pop Star

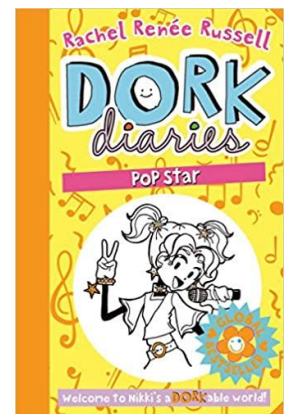
Author: Rachel Renee Russell

Illustrator: Nikki Russell

Fiction/non-fiction: Fiction

Genre: Story

My Rating:\*\*\*\*\*=5 Star Rating



### Who are the main characters?

In this book the main character is called Nikki Maxwell. She is very enthusiastic and gets excited very easily. Nikki is very confident sometimes however she isn't that independent she needs her friends to help her with that.

### The Setting:

In this book the setting could be anywhere it could be in a school, house, shopping centres, and outside.

### The atmosphere and mood:

This is an extraordinary story and I can't leave the book on a cliff hanger if I had a chance to have a full day of nothing to do I would definitely read the whole book all at once.

### Literary Effects

There is no alliteration or simile or even metaphors however there is some onomatopoeia.

This story could be better if there was some alliteration or some metaphors. Then, when people read it can give them ideas or help by putting in some more powerful vocabulary.

### My Favourite Part:

My favourite part was when Nikki got to play her song with the band called I'm not really sure yet.

### What happened in the story:

This story is about a girl called Nikki Maxwell and her dream of becoming a pop star . On the way to her dream there was a concert that Nikki ,Brandon ,Chloe ,Theo ,Zoey and Violet signed up for but Mackenzie did as well she also won.

### This is like another book

This book is similar to the Diary of Wimpy Kid book . The Diary Of Wimpy Kids Book is a diary of someone's life just like Dork Diaries book with Nikki's life in it.



This book is different to other books because in this book someone is telling you about the person's life. However, In other books they are not talking about someone's life they're talking about what is happening.

This book relates to me and my life because I am independent however I need my friends help to be more confident. I have improved a lot recently though!

Overall you should read this story because:

You should read this book because you can learn new words or have a laugh. I would recommend this book because it can help you to try and make your own diary one day.

*By, Hanifa Hakim 5VA*

Name: Anthony Horowitz

Date of birth: 5 April 1955

Place of birth: London, England

Famous for: Novelist and screenwriter



Anthony Horowitz was raised in a Jewish family. At that time he was an overweight and unhappy child (mainly because he was a single child and struggled a lot in school). At the age of four he enjoyed reading and soon was obsessed. He started writing at the age of 9 and became a fan of it very quickly. When he grew up he wrote more and he travelled the world. Anthony Horowitz's first book, *The Sinister Secret of Frederick K Bower*, was a humorous adventure for children, published in 1979 and later reissued as *Enter Frederick K Bower*. In 1981 his second novel was published and he moved to Paris to write his third book.

He worked in some movies from 1987 – 1990. In his travels, he got married to a Japanese woman called Jill Green. Together, they settled in London and had two sons. To start off the new century and millennium Anthony decided to write the Alex Rider series. Which he followed with the power of five series.

I like the Alex Rider series because it is very thrilling and it is a real page turner. It is also quite long so it doesn't take me five minutes to read. It also has vocabulary that I understand rather than vocabulary that I have not clue what it means. I do recommend it. The order you should read the books in is 1, 10, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11.

*By Subhan Zahid, 5VA*

