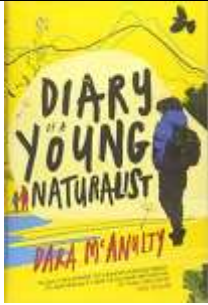


## Twitter Book List: September 2020

### Middle-Grade Monday Books for S1+2 pupils



#### Diary of a Young Naturalist by Dara McAnulty

Diary of a Young Naturalist chronicles the turning of Dara McAnulty's world, from spring to summer, autumn to winter, on his home patch, at school, in the wild and in his head. Evocative, raw and beautifully written, this very special book vividly explores the natural world from the perspective of an autistic teenager juggling homework, exams and friendships alongside his life as a conservationist and environmental activist. With a sense of awe and wonder, Dara describes in meticulous detail encounters in his garden and the wild, with blackbirds, whooper swans, red kites, hen harriers, frogs, dandelions, skylarks, bats, cuckoo flowers, Irish hares and many more species. The power and warmth of his words also draw an affectionate and moving portrait of a close-knit family making their way in the world.



#### Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky by Kwame Mbalia (#1 Tristan Strong series)

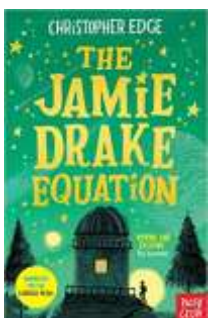
Tristan Strong feels anything but strong ever since he failed to save his best friend when they were in a bus accident together. All he has left of Eddie is the journal his friend wrote stories in. Tristan is dreading the month he's going to spend on his grandparents' farm in Alabama, where he's being sent to heal from the tragedy. But on his first night there, a sticky creature shows up in his bedroom and steals Eddie's notebook. Tristan chases after it - is that a doll? - and a tug-of-war ensues between them underneath a Bottle Tree. In a last attempt to wrestle the journal out of the creature's hands, Tristan punches the tree, accidentally ripping open a chasm into the MidPass, a volatile place with a burning sea, haunted bone ships, and iron monsters that are hunting the inhabitants of this world. Tristan finds himself in the middle of a battle that has left black American folk heroes John Henry and Brer Rabbit exhausted. In order to get back home, Tristan and these new allies will need to entice the god Anansi, the Weaver, to come out of hiding and seal the hole in the sky. But bartering with the trickster Anansi always comes at a price. Can Tristan save this world before he loses more of the things he loves?



#### Asha and the Spirit Bird by Jasbinder Bilal

Asha lives in the foothills of the Himalayas. Money is tight and she misses her papa who works in the city. When he suddenly stops sending his wages, a ruthless moneylender ransacks their home and her mother talks of leaving. From her den in the mango tree, Asha makes a pact with her best friend, Jeevan, to find her father and make things right. But the journey is dangerous: they must cross the world's highest mountains and face hunger, tiredness - even snow leopards. And yet, Asha has the unshakeable sense that the spirit bird of her grandmother - her nanijee - is watching over her ...

Winner of the Costa Children's Book Award 2019, Winner of the Times/Chicken House Children's Fiction Competition 2017, Shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2020, Longlisted for the Jhalak Prize 2019



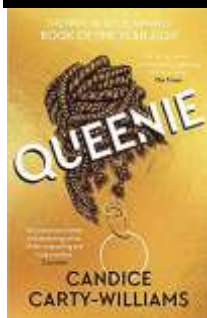
#### The Jamie Drake Equation by Christopher Edge

When your dad's lost in space and his only hope is you and a bunch of aliens, it's going to be a bumpy ride... How amazing would it be to have a dad who's an astronaut? Rocket launches, zero gravity, and flying through space like a superhero! Jamie Drake's dad is orbiting the Earth in the International Space Station and Jamie ought to think it's cool but he just really misses him... Hanging out at his local observatory, Jamie picks up a strange signal on his phone. It looks like alien life is getting closer to home. But space is a dangerous place and when his dad's mission goes wrong, can Jamie prove that he's a hero too? Cover illustration by Matt Saunders.

Nominated for the 2018 CILIP Carnegie Medal, Shortlisted for the North Somerset Teachers' Book Award, the Haringey Children's Book Award and the Bolton Children's Fiction Award.

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Senior Tuesday  
Books for senior pupils and staff



Queenie by Candace Carty-Williams

Queenie is a twenty-five-year-old Black woman living in south London, straddling Jamaican and British culture whilst slotting neatly into neither. She works at a national newspaper where she's constantly forced to compare herself to her white, middle-class peers, and beg to write about Black Lives Matter. After a messy break up from her long-term white boyfriend, Queenie finds herself seeking comfort in all the wrong places. As Queenie veers from one regrettable decision to another, she finds herself wondering, *What are you doing? Why are you doing it? Who do you want to be?* - the questions that every woman today must face in a world that keeps trying to provide the answers for them.

British Book Awards Book of the Year, Shortlisted for the Costa First Novel Award, Longlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction



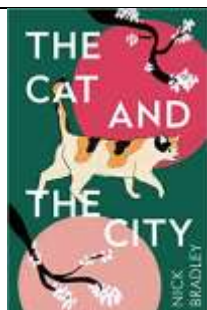
If I Had Your Face by Frances Cha

*If I Had Your Face* plunges us into the mesmerizing world of contemporary Seoul - a place where extreme plastic surgery is as routine as getting a haircut, where women compete for spots in secret 'room salons' to entertain wealthy businessmen after hours, where K-Pop stars are the object of all-consuming obsession, and ruthless social hierarchies dictate your every move. Navigating this hyper-competitive city are four young women balancing on the razor-edge of survival: Kyuri, an exquisitely beautiful woman whose hard-won status at an exclusive 'room salon' is threatened by an impulsive mistake with a client; her flatmate Miho, an orphan who wins a scholarship to a prestigious art school in New York, where her life becomes tragically enmeshed with the super-wealthy offspring of the Korean elite; Wanna, their neighbour, pregnant with a child that she and her husband have no idea how they will afford to raise in a fiercely competitive economy; and Ara, a hair stylist living down the hall, whose infatuation with a fresh-faced K-Pop star drives her to violent extremes.



The Young Team by Graeme Armstrong

Azzy Williams is ready. Ready to smoke, pop pills, drink wine and ready to fight. But most of all, he's ready to do anything for his friends, his gang, his young team. Round here, in the schemes of the forgotten industrial heartland of Scotland, your mates, your young team – they're everything. Azzy Williams is fourteen; a rising star, this is his life and he loves it. Azzy Williams is seventeen; he's out of control. Azzy Williams is twenty-one; he'd like to leave it all behind. But a way out isn't easy to find . . . Inspired by the experiences of its author, Graeme Armstrong, *The Young Team* is an energetic novel, full of the loyalty, laughs, mischief, boredom, violence and threat of life on these streets. It looks beyond the tabloid stereotypes to tell a powerful story about the realities of life for young people in Britain today.



The Cat and the City by Nick Bradley

In Tokyo - one of the world's largest megacities - a stray cat is wending her way through the back alleys. And, with each detour, she brushes up against the seemingly disparate lives of the city-dwellers, connecting them in unexpected ways. But the city is changing. As it does, it pushes her to the margins where she chances upon a series of apparent strangers - from a homeless man squatting in an abandoned hotel, to a shut-in hermit afraid to leave his house, to a convenience store worker searching for love. The cat orbits Tokyo's denizens, drawing them ever closer.

A BBC Radio 2 Book Club Pick

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## If It Bleeds by Stephen King

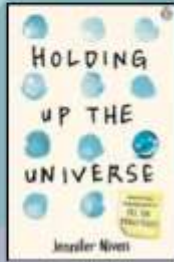
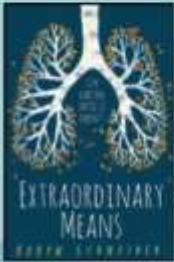
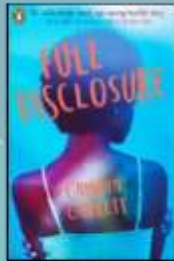
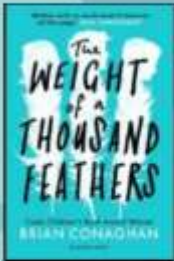
News people have a saying: 'If it bleeds, it leads'. And a bomb at Albert Macready Middle School is guaranteed to lead any bulletin. Holly Gibney of the Finders Keepers detective agency is working on the case of a missing dog - and on her own need to be more assertive - when she sees the footage on TV. But when she tunes in again, to the late-night report, she realises there is something not quite right about the correspondent who was first on the scene. So begins 'If It Bleeds', a stand-alone sequel to the No. 1 bestselling THE OUTSIDER featuring the incomparable Holly on her first solo case - and also the riveting title story in Stephen King's brilliant new collection. Dancing alongside are three more wonderful long stories from this 'formidably versatile author' (*The Sunday Times*) - 'Mr Harrigan's Phone', 'The Life of Chuck' and 'Rat'. All four display the richness of King's storytelling with grace, humour, horror and breathtaking suspense. A fascinating Author's Note gives us a wonderful insight into the origin of each story and the writer's unparalleled imagination

What Next? Wednesday  
Similar stories to well-known favourites

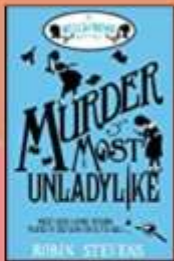
## WHAT NEXT? HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON



## WHAT NEXT? THE FAULT IN OUR STARS



## WHAT NEXT? RUBY REDFORT



## WHAT NEXT? THRONE OF GLASS

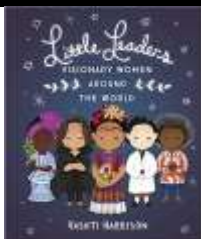


## WHAT NEXT? ALEX RIDER SERIES



### Nonfiction Thursday Featured Nonfiction titles for all ages

Little Leaders: Visionary Women Around the World by Vashti Harrison



Featuring the true stories of 40 inspirational women creators - from writers to inventors, artists to scientists - this book is as inspirational as it is educational. Readers will meet trailblazing women such as revolutionary architect, Zaha Hadid, actor/inventor Hedy Lamarr, environmental activist Wangari Maathai, modernist painter and animator Mary Blair and physicist Chien-Shiung Wu. Some names will be familiar, some will not - but all these women had a lasting impact on their fields.



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Fungarium by Ester Gaya, illustrated by Katie Scott

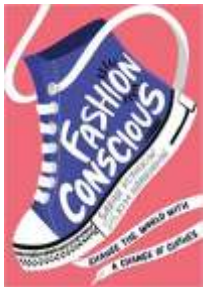
Illustrator Katie Scott returns to the Welcome to the Museum series with exquisite, detailed images of some of the most fascinating living organisms on this planet - fungi. From the fungi we see on supermarket shelves to fungi like penicillium that have shaped human history, this is the definitive introduction to what fungi are and just how vital they are to the world's ecosystem. Created in collaboration with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.



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Scientists Who dared to be Different by Emily Holland, illustrated by Salini Perera

This inspirational book celebrates the lives and achievements of highly original, convention-defying scientists who trod the road less travelled, overcame great odds, and changed the world. Spanning from the Renaissance to the present day, this beautifully illustrated full-colour book explores some of the greatest innovators in the history of science. Inside you will find the fascinating stories of 16 pioneering figures of strikingly different backgrounds: people of varied ethnicities, nationalities, genders, lifestyles, and wealth. What they all have in common - other than their genius - is their bravery, resilience, and ability to think beyond the bounds of established convention. This innovative and boldly visual book will inspire readers follow in the footsteps of these STEM heroes and spark their curiosity in the history of science.



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Fashion Conscious by Sarah Klymkiw, illustrated by Kim Hankinson

With the Covid-19 global lockdown and a call to action from David Attenborough in Blue Planet II making everyone re-evaluate the relationship they have with the natural world, it has never been so important to consider the impact our clothing choices have on the planet. Shake up the fashion world by taking action as conscious consumers and active citizens. We have the power to collectively change the world with a change of clothes! In the UK alone, over a million tonnes of clothes are thrown away each year and around £140 million worth of clothes head to landfill. Learn how to love your clothes by reusing, swapping and mending what you already have and discover how to choose wisely when you do buy something new. This practical, positive and empowering book will open eyes to the impact our clothing choices have on people and the planet and empower children to demand answers to questions and take action.

YA Friday  
Books for S3+



Meat Market by Juno Dawson

Jana Novak's history sounds like a classic model cliché: tall and gangly, she's uncomfortable with her androgynous looks until she's unexpectedly scouted and catapulted to superstardom... **But the fashion industry is as grimy as it is glamorous. And there are unexpected predators at every turn.** Jana is an ordinary girl from a south London estate, lifted to unimaginable heights. But the further you rise, the more devastating your fall ... Honest and raw, this is a timely exposé of the dark underbelly of the fashion industry in an era of **#TimesUp** and **#MeToo**. It might just be Juno Dawson's most important book yet.

Winner of the 2020 YA Book Prize



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The Loop by Ben Oliver

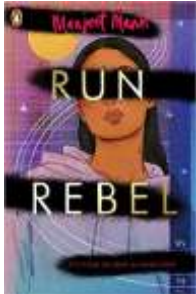
**Luka Kane has been inside hi-tech prison the Loop for over two years.** A death sentence is hanging over his head but his day-to-day routine is mind-numbingly repetitive, broken only by the books brought to him by the sympathetic warden, Wren. Then everything starts to change: rumours of war are whispered in the courtyard and the government-issued rain stops falling. On Luka's last, desperate day, Wren issues him a terrifying warning: breaking out of the Loop might be Luka's only chance to save himself - and the world.

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### Again, Again by E Lockhart

When Adelaide Buchman's younger brother succumbs to a drug overdose, she saves his life. In the aftermath, looking for distraction, she becomes a stylish, bright charmer who blows off school and falls madly in love - even though her heart is shattered. Adelaide is catapulted into a summer of wild possibility, during which she will fall in and out of love a thousand times while finally confronting her brother, their history, and her own strength. A raw and funny story that will surprise you over and over, Adelaide is an indelible heroine grappling with the terrible and wonderful problem of loving other people.



### Run, Rebel by Manjeet Mann

*I am restless, my feet need to fly.* Amber is trapped - by her father's rules, by his expectations, by her own fears. Now she's ready to fight - for her mother, for her sister, for herself. Freedom always comes at a price. *Run, Rebel* is a trailblazing verse novel that thunders with rhythm, heart and soul - perfect for fans of Sarah Crossan, Elizabeth Acevedo and Rupi Kaur.

## Comic Saturday Comics and Graphic Novel recommendations



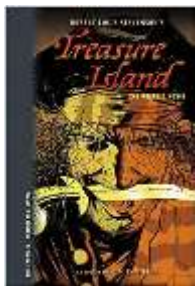
### YE by Guilherme Petreca

Ye is a curious young man, named after the only sound he knows how to make. His voice must have been stolen by the Colorless King, the source of all the world's sorrows—terrifying, unrelenting, all-taking, and never-giving. Now, Ye has no choice but to embark on a long voyage over land and sea, past grizzled pirates, a drunken clown, and more, to find the famous witch who can help him defeat the Colorless King. What he discovers may be a lesson for us all.



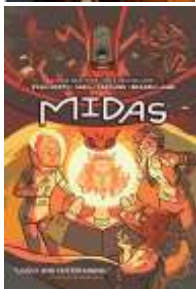
### Sword Art Online by Reki Kawahara

Read the novel that ignited the phenomenon! In the year 2022, gamers rejoice as *Sword Art Online* - a VRMMORPG (Virtual Reality Massively Multiplayer Online Role Playing Game) like no other - debuts, allowing players to take full advantage of the ultimate in gaming technology: NerveGear, a system that allows users to completely immerse themselves in a wholly realistic gaming experience. But when the game goes live, the elation of the players quickly turns to horror as they discover that, for all its amazing features, SAO is missing one of the most basic functions of any MMORPG - a log-out button. Now trapped in the virtual world of Aincrad, their bodies held captive by NerveGear in the real world, users are issued a chilling ultimatum: conquer all one hundred floors of Aincrad to regain your freedom. But in the warped world of SAO, 'game over' means certain death - both virtual and real...



### Treasure Island: Graphic Novel Classics by Robert Louis Stevenson, adapted by Tim Hamilton

While going through the possessions of a deceased guest who owed them money, the mistress of the inn and her son find a treasure map that leads them to a pirate's fortune.



### Midas by Ruan North, illustrated by Shelli Paroline, Brandon Lamb

The acclaimed team behind the Eisner Award-winning *Adventure Time* comic books, New York Times best-selling author Ryan North (*Squirrel Girl*) and beloved illustrators Shelli Paroline and Braden Lamb (*One Day a Dot: The Story of You, The Universe, and Everything*), combine forces once again for an original sci-fi space comedy unlike the universe has ever seen! Space captain Joey, navigator Fatima, and scientist (and dinosaur) Cooper are headed to Earth—a planet completely sectioned off, abandoned, and covered in gold—and are confronted by the most powerful weapon in the universe: some ancient dead guy's body?! Now they gotta keep King Midas' body from being dropped on planets

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across the universe, and figure out exactly what to do with a gross dead dude with one truly ridiculous superpower.

### Scots Book Sunday

#### Spotlighting books set in Scotland or written by authors living in Scotland



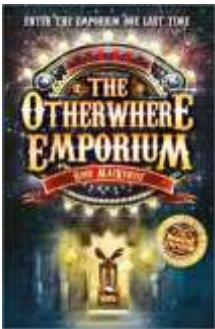
A Kind of Spark by Elle McNicoll

A KIND OF SPARK tells the story of 11-year-old Addie as she campaigns for a memorial in memory of the witch trials that took place in her Scottish hometown. Addie knows there's more to the story of these 'witches', just like there is more to hers. Can Addie challenge how the people in her town see her, and her autism, and make her voice heard? A story about friendship, courage and self-belief, perfect for fans of *The Goldfish Boy*. "Definitive and funny" Susin Nielsen "A fabulous, brilliant debut" Lisa Thompson



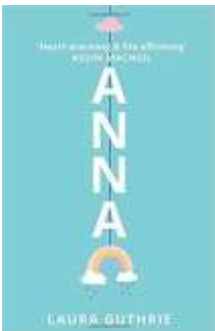
The Good Hawk by Joseph Elliott (#1 Shadow Skye series)

Agatha patrols the sea wall with pride, despite those in her clan who question her right to be there, because of the condition she was born with. Jaime is a reluctant Angler, full of self-doubt and afraid of the sea. When disaster strikes, the pair must embark on a terrifying journey to a land where forgotten magic and dark secrets lurk in every shadow... Thrilling and dark, yet rich with humour and compassion, this novel marks the debut of a wonderful new voice in fantasy and a welcome new kind of protagonist – perfect for fans of *The Girl of Ink and Stars*, Garth Nix and Michelle Paver.



The Otherwhere Emporium by Ross McKenzie (#3 Nowhere Emporium trilogy)

The mysterious Nowhere Emporium has appeared once more. With its shining bricks the colour of midnight, and rich scents of melting chocolate and exotic spices, it's easy to see why inquisitive Mirren isn't the only one bewitched by the magical store. Behind the Emporium's red velvet curtain lies a palace of unimaginable treasures - glittering jewels and gleaming gold, sparkling diamonds and shining armour. But hidden among these wonders, something sinister is lurking. The Emporium is under the control of a menacing figure in a top hat who calls himself Vindictus Sharpe. Who is he? And where is the Emporium's rightful owner, Daniel? Return to a world where imagination is power and anything is possible in the heart-stopping finale to the multi-award-winning Nowhere Emporium trilogy.



Anna by Laura Guthrie

Every cloud has a silver lining. Doesn't it? Anna is thirteen years old, lives in London with her father, and has Asperger's syndrome. When her father dies she travels up to the Scottish Central Belt to live with her estranged, reclusive mother. With little support to help her fit in, she must use everything her father taught her—especially her 'Happy Game'—to integrate into her new community, connect with her mother, discover her past, and cope with the challenges along the way. 'Heart-warming and life-affirming.' Kevin MacNeil 'Guthrie has an unerring instinct for the darkness that can daunt lives and for the robust spirit of optimism that time and again saves us. Narrated with simplicity and sincerity, the reader will be swept up in the adventures and misadventures of Anna.' Cynthia Rogerson

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## Author of the Week Spotlight

[Kiran Millwood Hargrave](#)

[Alex Bell](#)

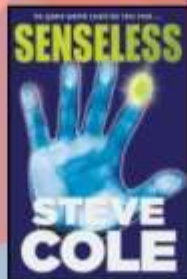
[Taran Matharu](#)

[Nic Stone](#)

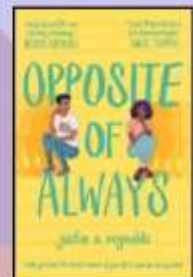
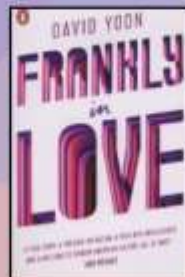
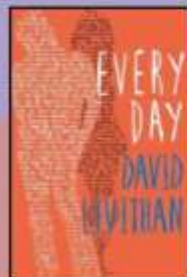
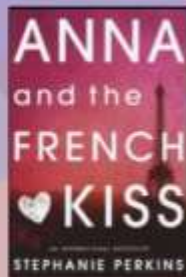


Literary/Cultural Days Reading Lists

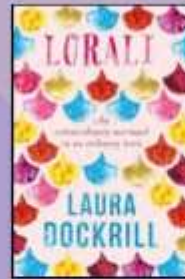
VIDEO GAME DAY READING LIST



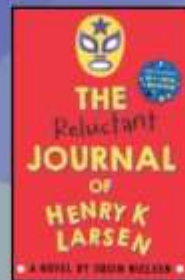
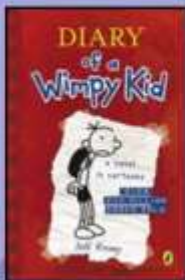
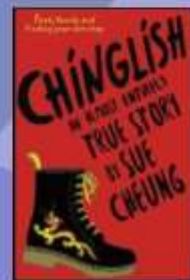
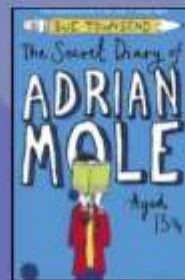
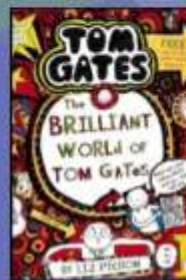
FIRST LOVE DAY READING LIST



## TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY READING LIST



## DEAR DIARY DAY READING LIST



# SPORTING HERITAGE DAY READING LIST

