



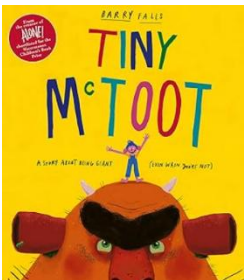
## Book of the Month Newsletter – April

Welcome to our **April** edition of the **Book of the Month** newsletter!

Spring has arrived, bringing brighter days, blooming flowers and the perfect opportunity to share a wonderful new story together.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our second-hand book sale last month. Our Key Stage Two Reading Ambassadors thoroughly enjoyed helping to organise and sell the books, and we are delighted to share that they raised an incredible **£300** to spend on even more books for our school! We will share more details soon, along with information about future book-buying opportunities in school. Several of this month's books are the first in a series, offering children the opportunity to immerse themselves in a longer reading journey and discover new worlds and characters to follow beyond a single book. We look forward to seeing our pupils dive into the pages and uncover the adventures, ideas and surprises waiting inside.

### **Here are the books that have been shared this month:**

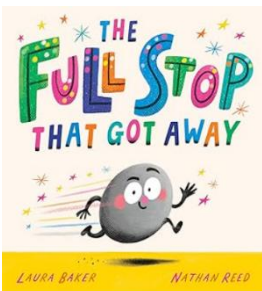
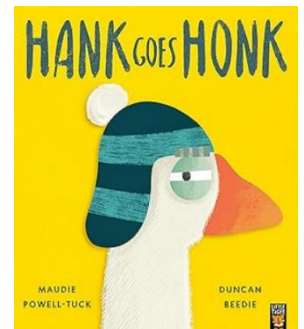


#### **Acorns – Tiny McToot**

Tiny the giant lives in a shoe, and as the smallest giant in the land, he is always overlooked. But, when a HUGE and dastardly troll comes along, could it be Tiny's diminutive size (along with his HUGE courage) that saves the day? A joyfully exuberant rhyming story about being seen, heard and accepted – however small you may be!

#### **Conkers – Hank goes Honk**

Meet Hank the Goose. He's never met a balloon he didn't pop, or a conversation he didn't - HONK! - interrupt. Hank even honks in the library and during movies! But being this way isn't always fun - and it's upsetting everyone else . . . Maybe it's time for a change? Time for Hank to learn how to be an im-PECK-able goose! Only it's not quite as easy as it looks. This hilarious picture book teaches children the importance of being mindful and kind to others.

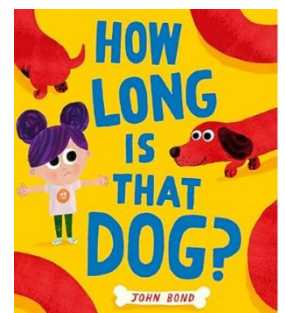


#### **Holly – The full stop that got away**

*This is Frank. Frank is a full stop. He's round and small and things quietly stop when he's around. Frank is a full stop, and he acts exactly like a full stop should. He splits up sentences that get too long . . . "It's true. I do." He never shouts . . . "Ouch. Ouch. Help." And he never asks questions. "That's right." But what if Frank decides to stop acting like a full stop? What would happen then?*

#### **Hazel – How long is that dog?**

A witty and heartwarming story of one girl and a dog she really *really* wants from stellar picture book creator John Bond. John Bond, author of *Much Too Busy* and the Mini Rabbit series, returns with a delightfully funny tale of one little girl who is desperate for the dog in the pet shop window to come home with her – if only she can guess his correct size. But can she reach the right answer before it's too late?



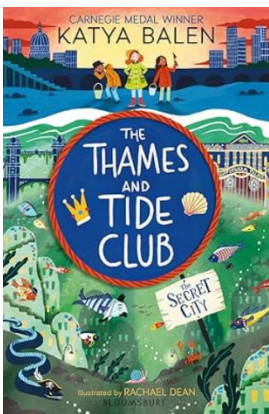
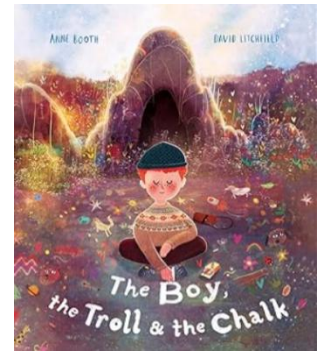


**Willow – The dinosaur next door**

Liz is sure that her next-door neighbour has a secret. He's got a very long neck, clumpy feet and a strange taste for green leaves... he's a dinosaur! Unfortunately, she's not the only one who's noticed. When Mr Wilson is taken away by scientists, Liz realises that everyone is free to live the life they wish and she must help save her friend.

**Cherry – The boy, the troll and the chalk**

Everybody knew that a big fierce troll lived in the cave. Only one child cannot turn their back on the troll. One day, he draws a flower with every petal coloured in but one, and leaves the chalk outside the cave. The next day, the flower has been completed. Day-by-day, the boy and the troll finish each other's drawings, until they one shows a boy holding hands with a fierce, scary troll. "But you're not a troll," says the boy. "You're a boy - just like me." Patience, kindness and the power of art win out in the end: the two boys wordlessly draw together. Soon everyone joins in and forgets that there was ever a troll inside the cave. This touching story delicately embodies the philosophy of art therapy, in the face of isolation and difficult emotions.

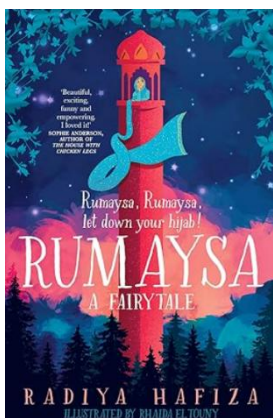


**Birch – The Thames Tide Club (The Secret City)**

Clem and her friends Ash and Zara are members of the Thames and Tide Club! Every weekend they go mudlarking by the river, searching for treasures that have washed up on the shore. Clem has found old things, new things and a whole heap of rubbish. But one day, she finds something really special. Something magical that belongs in the river and must be returned to its rightful owner. Or else. Before they know it, the Thames and Tide Club are on the weirdest, wildest, underwater-iest adventure they could possibly have imagined on a mission to save Underwater London!

**Rowan – You, me and the land of lost things**

Hey, you – yes, you! Remember our first ever adventure? You and me trekked to the Land of Lost Things in search of my lucky rabbit's foot. You remember it, right? Along the way we meet some wacky new friends, the Knucklehead brothers, a wristwatch that's lost its flock, a talking book, hundreds of snapping turtles and a pirate rabbit! Did we find my lucky charm? Well, you already know that, YOU were there! But if you've forgotten you'll just have to read the book!

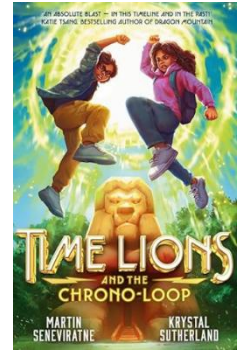


**Chestnut – Rumaysa**

For as long as she can remember Rumaysa has been locked away in her tower, forced to spin straw into gold for the evil Witch, unable to leave. Until one day, after dropping a hijab out of her small tower-window, Rumaysa realizes how she might be able to escape. Join Rumaysa as she adventures through enchanted forests and into dragon's lairs, discovers her own incredible magical powers and teams up with Cinderayla and Sleeping Sara!

### **Maple – Time Lions and the Chrono Loop**

Twelve-year-old twins Pearl and Patrick are definitely not ordinary children. Pearl, the engineering whizz, has invented a time machine, and Patrick, who has encyclopaedic knowledge of all human history, is the perfect person to test it out with her. They can't wait to find out what life was really like in Ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome! But when their time-travelling escapades threaten to break the world as we know it, it's the legends their dad has always told them about their homeland, Sri Lanka, that might just help them win an epic battle that could change past, present and future. Jump in for a funny, thrilling time-travel adventure - who knows what will happen when!

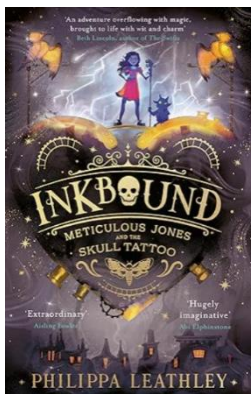


### **Lime – Fear Files**

*Nobody knows who started the Darkive. It's a database filled with first-hand accounts of strange, unexplained experiences. Ghosts; paranormal entities; weird anomalies. Each one is stored with a bank of evidence to prove the story. Are you ready to dive in?* Adam didn't think his camping trip with his best friend, Sol, could get any worse. Stumbling upon an abandoned ghost town, they find themselves playing a strange game of hide and seek. But who or what is trying to find them? And can Adam stay one step ahead?

### **Sycamore – The Island at the end of Everything**

Amihan lives on Culion Island, where some of the inhabitants – including her mother – have leprosy. Ami loves her home – with its blue seas and lush forests, Culion is all she has ever known. But the arrival of malicious government official Mr Zamora changes her world forever: islanders untouched by sickness are forced to leave. Banished across the sea, she's desperate to return, and finds a strange and fragile hope in a colony of butterflies. Can they lead her home before it's too late?

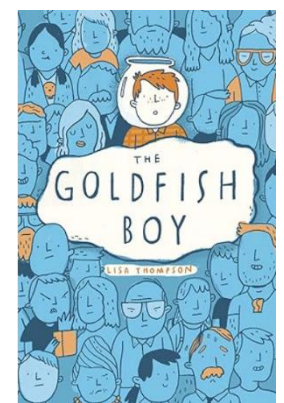


### **Elder – Inkbound (Meticulous Jones and the Skull Tattoo)**

On her tenth birthday, Meticulous 'Metty' Jones receives her fate, as all children do, in the form of a magical tattoo on her hand. She hopes that her tattoo will reveal an exciting destiny: travel, discovery or adventure. What appears is a skull in the palm of a violet glove – Metty's fate is to be a murderer. When Metty's father disappears in mysterious circumstances, Aunt Magnificent takes her to the glittering city of New London, filled with magic, wonder and enchantment. But when Metty hears rumours of a shadowy organisation known as the Black Moths, she begins to suspect they are connected to her own dark fate ...

### **Oak – The Goldfish Boy**

A story about finding friendship when you're lonely - and hope when all you feel is fear. Twelve-year-old Matthew is trapped in his bedroom by crippling OCD, spending most of his time staring out of his window as the inhabitants of Chestnut Close go about their business. Until the day he is the last person to see his next-door neighbour's toddler, Teddy, before he goes missing. Matthew must turn detective and unravel the mystery of Teddy's disappearance - with the help of a brilliant cast of supporting characters. Page-turning, heartbreaking, but ultimately life-affirming, this story is perfect for fans of Can You See Me, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time and Wonder.



**Happy reading!**