



Book of the Month Newsletter – October

Welcome to our Book of the Month Newsletter!

Last month, we were delighted to welcome our newly appointed team of Reading Ambassadors to their first meeting of 2026. They shared some of their highlights from their September Books of the Month before getting a sneak peek at our exciting October selections. We also enjoyed creating cryptic clues for the covers of our soon-to-be wrapped-up books to share with our peers!

Here are the books that have been shared this month:



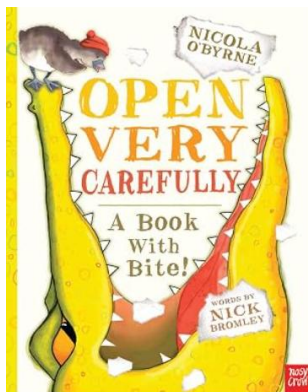
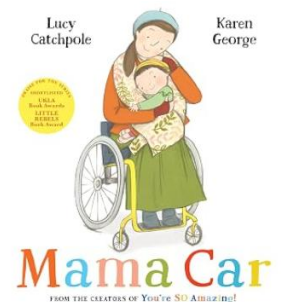
Acorns – The bear who stared

There once was a bear who liked to stare... and stare... and STARE.

Bear doesn't mean to be rude, he's just curious but too shy to say anything. But nobody likes being stared at and it soon gets Bear into trouble. Luckily a goggle-eyed frog helps Bear realise that sometimes a smile is all you need to turn a stare into a friendly hello.

Conkers – Mama Car

The Mama Car has big wheels and a soft cushion. It can take you outside and anywhere and right back home again. The Mama Car has so many things, but the best thing is, it has Mummy. This way, Mama Car! The Mama Car can take children on adventures, big and small. Even just going to the kitchen for snacks becomes an expedition. And when a child falls and hurts herself, the Mama Car is always there, and so is Mummy.

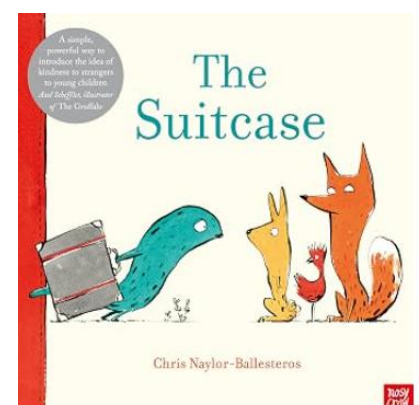


Holly – Open very carefully (A book with bite!)

What would you do if you were settling down for a quiet bedtime story and you realised that a crocodile had fallen into your storybook and was - not to put too fine a point on it - furious? Would you slam that book shut, cram it in the bookshelf for evermore or would you be brave enough to peek? This very grumpy crocodile has ended up in totally the wrong book, so he proceeds to eat his way out, in this fantastic debut picture book. He tries to escape a storybook that is all wrong for him, but is great fun for the reader! "What is he doing now? He's chewing the pictures! And he's eating the letters too! I think his favourites are O and S."

Hazel – The suitcase

When a strange-looking animal arrives pulling a big suitcase, the other animals are curious. What on earth could be inside that suitcase? A teacup? Maybe. A table and chair? Perhaps. A whole home and hillside with trees? This stranger must be fibbing! But when the animals break into the suitcase and discover a very special photograph, they begin to understand what the strange creature has been through, and together they create a very special welcome present...



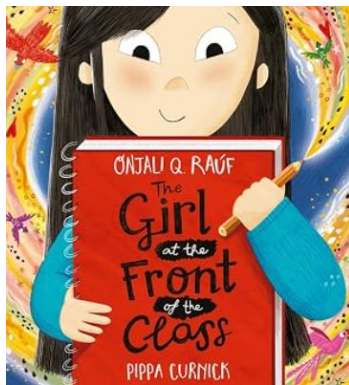
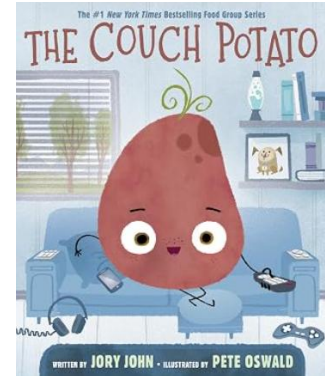


Willow – A swift return

Aria has her head in the clouds. Yusuf keeps his feet on the ground. But when they work together to save a bird who has lost her way, something magical happens. When Swift loses her way on her epic migration. Aria and Yusuf come to her rescue and are inspired to think big about looking after the sky above their city.

Cherry – The couch potato

The Couch Potato has everything within reach and doesn't have to move from the sunken couch cushion. But when the electricity goes out, Couch Potato is forced to peel away from the comforts of the living room and venture outside. Could fresh air and sunshine possibly be better than the views on screen?



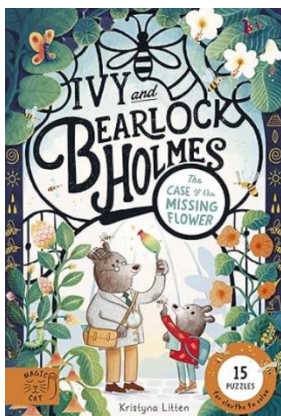
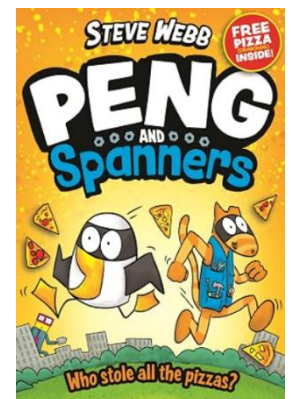
Birch and Rowan – The girl at the front of the class

There's a new girl in my class. She has eyes as wide and as golden as a tiger's, skin as pale as a glass of milk, and hair as shiny as a mirror. I'd like to be her friend. But she never plays with me in the playground or makes sandcastles in the sandpit. She's doesn't even like Story Time. The cleverest people I know say that the new girl is sad because she had to leave her home, her family, her school, her toys, her books and all her friends too. But I've got an idea! There is something I can do to make her feel better when she's missing everything she's left behind ...

Chestnut – Peng and Spanners: Who stole all the pizzas?

Join your new favourite superheroes, Peng and Spanners, in a story full of . . . SUPERHEROES! GADGETS! GIANT ROBOTS! AND PIZZA! Starring Peng, the silliest penguin, and Spanners, a clever cat with a tool belt.

When the school pizza parlour mysteriously disappears and a giant robot suddenly appears, it's down to Peng and Spanners to investigate the craziest pizza mystery ever. Only they can help the headmaster find his pizza parlour before the school inspectors arrive and shut him down...

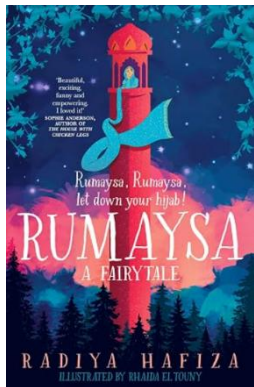
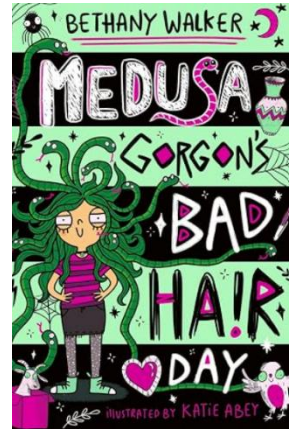


Maple – Ivy and Bearlock Holmes: The case of the missing flower

When the rare Agave flower goes missing from Bearona's botanic gardens, it's up to super-sleuth Ivy and her grandpa Bearlock Holmes to crack the case. But with multiple suspects and a trail that's starting to run cold, can they catch the culprit before the flower is lost forever? The first book in a brand-new mystery fiction series, this interactive book features 15 puzzles that are woven into the action, so readers can feel immersed in the exciting detective plot.

Lime – Medusa Gordon's Bad Hair Day

So far, so normal. You know the kind of thing: frustrations with her self-absorbed sisters; problems with idiotic classmates; disagreements with pompous teachers; and, of course, her troubles dealing with the occasional flock of owls, swarms of snakes, or even the odd many-headed dog. And then there's the small problem of the snake hair that appears if she doesn't control her anger. You see, Meddy Gordon is not actually from the twenty-first century. She is, in fact, a human from ancient Greece and she has made a powerful enemy. Meddy G is MEDUSA and she just happens to have angered Athena, the goddess of war. And what happens when the goddess of war is on the warpath? You get a bad day. A very bad day indeed.

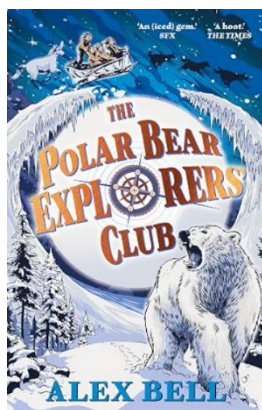
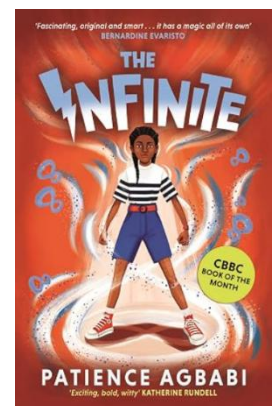


Sycamore – Rumaysa

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!

Elder – The Infinite

Leaplings, children born on the 29th of February, are very rare. Rarer still are Leaplings with The Gift - the ability to leap through time. Elle Bíbi-Imbelé Ifiè has The Gift, but she's never used it. Until now. On her twelfth birthday, Elle and her best friend Big Ben travel to the Time Squad Centre in 2048. Elle has received a mysterious warning from the future. Other Leaplings are disappearing in time - and not everyone at the centre can be trusted. Soon Elle's adventure becomes more than a race through time. It's a race against time. She must fight to save the world as she knows it - before it ceases to exist . . .



Oak – The Polar Bears Explorer's Club

Join Stella Starflake Pearl and her three fellow explorers as they trek across the snowy Icelands and come face-to-face with frost fairies, snow queens, outlaw hideouts, unicorns, pygmy dinosaurs and carnivorous cabbages... When Stella and three other junior explorers get separated from their expedition can they cross the frozen wilderness and live to tell the tale?

Until next month...
Happy reading!