



# JPCE's Reading Newsletter

## Summer Term 2021



### Author Spotlight: Dominic Berry

**Bracknell Central Library  
Opening Hours (when things  
are a bit more normal)**



Dommy B [AKA Dominic Berry] is a performance poet, whose work has taken him across Europe, North and South America, Australasia and Asia. He is a winner of the UK's Superheroes of Slam and New York's famous Nuyorican Poets' Café Slam, and a two-times winner of Sabotage Review's Best Spoken Word Performer award. His poetry theatre shows have been a staple of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival for nearly a decade and he regularly performs in schools, libraries and theatres throughout the UK.

When speaking about his latest book, Dommy B told Jennett's Park:

"I wrote this book because I'm always looking for new subjects to write poems about. Remembering my old school days and the things I learned which helped me on my way was a tale I really wanted to share with people. I hope it might be of interest and perhaps also of help to them too."



**Available from  
April 2021**

Monday - 10am to 4pm  
Tuesday - 10am to 4pm  
Wednesday - Closed  
Thursday - 10am to 4pm  
Friday - 10am to 4pm  
Saturday - 10am to 4pm  
Sunday – Closed

#### **Address:**

Bracknell Central library,  
Town Square,  
RG12 1BH

### Pet Corner



Our star of pet Corner is Eve Dawkins' cat, Gyda, who is reading *My Life as a Cat* by Charlie Sorosiak.

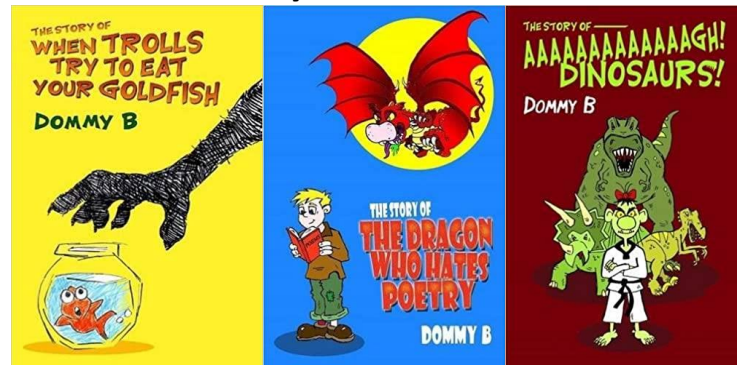
Keep sending your brilliant pics of your pets reading their favourite book! Yours could be next term's reading star!

## The Blurb from Dommy B's Best Adventure Ever:

Ten-year-old Dom knows the power of a wonderfully weird imagination. He knows all there is to know about goblins, zombies, ninjas, and the horror of too many mushy peas. Whilst Dom is trying to adjust to moving home, an unexpected event suddenly changes everything. With his whole world turned upside down, how far will he go to be accepted at a new school where attitudes seem very different to anything he has seen before?

The story of Dommy B's Best Adventure Ever! is filled with humour and memorable, magical rhymes. It is adapted from the author's exciting poetry-theatre show for children ages 5 and over.

### Books by the same author:



## Review of the term!

We have been monitoring the book reviews on the Padlet's over the last half term, and this fantastic review is our book review of the term!

Created by.... Harrison in Year 6:  
**Jake Atlas by Rob Lloyd Jones**

Jake Atlas is a kid who, on a trip to Egypt with his parents, finds out they went missing overnight! Ever since, he and his sister, Pan (kind of a strange name), have been going on crazy, wild adventures. In the 1st one, Jake finds himself in the ancient Osiris' tomb, trying to stop Osiris worshippers from killing his parents! In the 2nd book, he goes, along with his recently rescued parents, to an intense jungle with ancient Aztec temples, trying to find an emerald shard before another scientist and his partner do! It's an amazing series from Rob Lloyd Jones, author of Wild Boy!

Review by (you guessed it) Harrison!



If you would like your review to be featured next, make sure you visit our Padlet sites:

Year 6: <https://padlet.com/amerrills/jpyear6reviews>

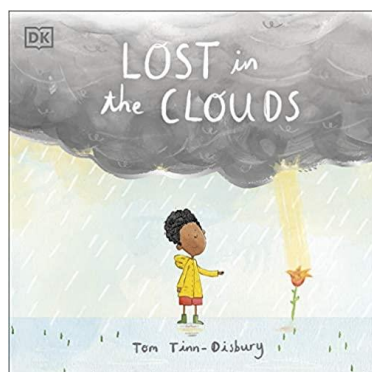
Year 5: <https://padlet.com/amerrills/jpyear5reviews>

Year 4: <https://padlet.com/amerrills/jpyear4reviews>

Year 3: <https://padlet.com/amerrills/jpyear3reviews>

The password for every child is: JP2020

## What's new: EYFS and KS1 Fiction



### Lost in the Clouds

**Tom Tinn-Disbury**

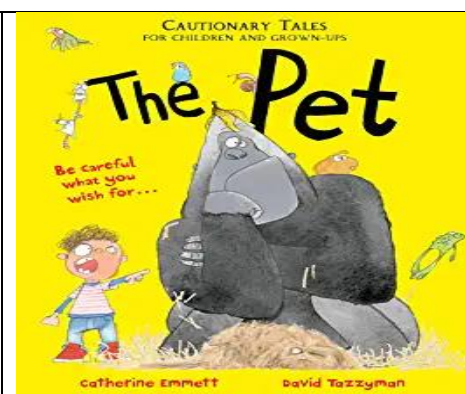
Billy misses his mummy very much. She lives in the clouds. Some days the sun is shining and Mummy's clouds are nowhere to be seen. Those are Billy's favourite days. He and Daddy would play in the garden all day long, and Billy knows that Mummy is letting the sun shine for them. But not all days are like that. Sometimes Mummy's clouds are dark, and Billy feels sad and alone.

This moving and sensitively-written picture book gently explores grief and teaches children how to deal with their emotions surrounding the death of a loved one.

### The Pet: Cautionary Tales for Children and Grown-ups

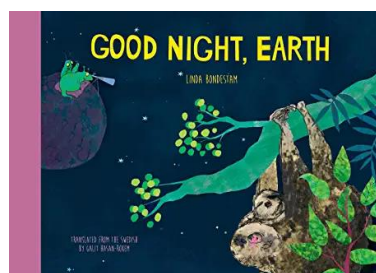
**Catherine Emmett**

Digby David wants a pet, but not just any pet - it has to be TWICE as big as Reuben's guinea pig and even better than Lily Jean's cat. Digby David's Daddy does what he's told, and soon Digby has a guinea pig, which he loves with all his heart... for half a day. Digby demands bigger and better, Daddy's hair gets greyer and greyer, and when Digby's dog gets boring too, he insists Daddy buy him... a gorilla! A hilarious tale with a 'be careful what you wish for' message, especially if you wish for a gorilla and don't look after it properly.



### Good Night, Earth

**Linda Bondestam**



Discover the bedtime routines of animals all over the world through the eyes of an alien family on a faraway planet. Little monkey needs his mama to play at least seventy-three songs on the ukulele to fall asleep. A meerkat family enjoys some stretches together as the sun goes down, while baby sloth is a bedtime expert—she's already snoozing soundly in the trees. Die-cut pages invite little ones to help new animal friends get cozy under the covers.

### The Best Worst Day Ever

**Sophy Henn**


Arthur is having the WORST DAY EVER. So he runs away - nearly to the end of the garden.

But when it's time to go home, Arthur's journey back is full of surprises and he learns how to turn a stomp into a skip, a huff into a hoot and a roar into a song!

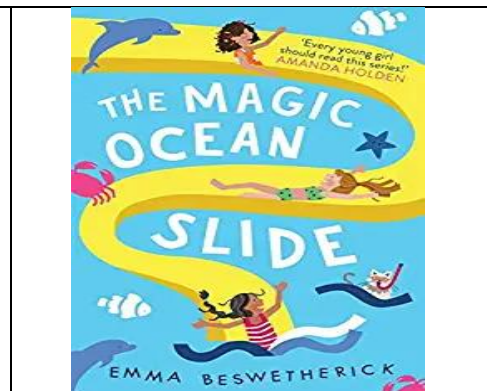
Maybe Arthur's day isn't so bad after all...






	<p><b>Gloria's Porridge</b> <b>Elizabeth Laird</b></p> <p>Inspired by an Ethiopian folk tale, Gloria's Porridge shows young children how one act can cause a chain reaction and affect other people's lives.</p> <p>When Cat wanted some of Gloria's porridge, he ignored her saying no and ate it all. Gloria then scares Cat who tickles the donkey, who interrupts the bees who then frighten the hen.</p> <p>It is up to the fox then to show the others the importance of not letting this setback slow them down.</p>
--	---

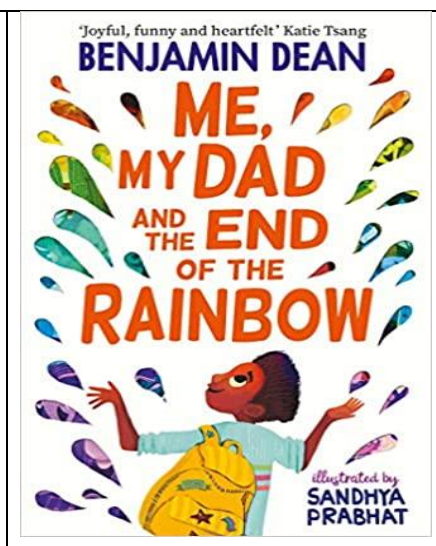
<p><b>The Magic Ocean Slide</b> <b>Emma Beswetherick</b></p> <p>On the hottest day of the year, the friends imagine a water slide coming out of Katy's bedroom window. As they plunge into an underwater world, they can't wait to explore.</p> <p>But when they meet a dolphin in distress, they realize the ocean is in big trouble. It's so full of plastic that the sea creatures have been forced to flee their homes. Can the friends come up with a plan to put things right?</p>
--

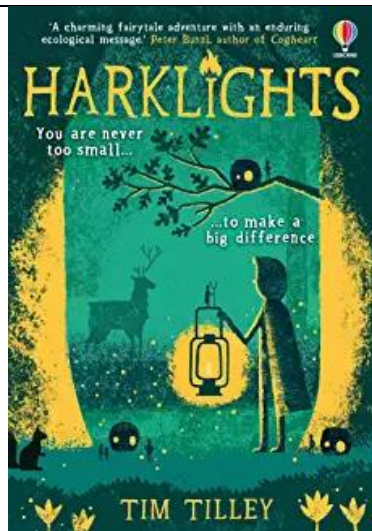


## What's new: KS2 Fiction

	<p><b>The Secret Detectives</b> <b>Ella Risbridger</b></p> <p>When Isobel Petty is orphaned, she finds herself being taken away from her home in India and sent to live with a distant uncle in England. On board the S.S. Mariana, she witnesses a shocking act - somebody being thrown overboard in the middle in the night.</p> <p>But when the ship's captain insists that nobody is missing, Isobel and her two new reluctant friends must solve two mysteries - the identities of both the murderer and the victim - before they reach England and the culprit has the chance to escape!</p>
--	--

<p><b>Me, My Dad and the End of the Rainbow</b> <b>Benjamin Dean</b></p> <p>Things aren't going great for Archie Albright. His dad's acting weird, his mum too, and all he wants is for everything to go back to normal, to three months before when his parents were happy and still lived together. When Archie sees a colourful, crumpled flyer fall out of Dad's pocket, he thinks he may have found the answer. Only problem? The answer might just lie at the end of the rainbow, an adventure away.</p> <p>Together with his best friends, Bell and Seb, Archie sets off on a heartwarming and unforgettable journey to try and fix his family, even if he has to break a few rules to do it...</p>
--





## Harklights

**Tim Tilley**

Wick has always lived in the dark and dreadful Harklights Match Factory and Orphanage, working tirelessly for greedy Old Ma Bogey. He only dreams of escaping, until one day a bird drops something impossible and magical at his feet - a tiny baby in an acorn cradle...

As midnight chimes, Wick is visited by the Hobs, miniature protectors of the forest. Grateful for the kindness shown to their stolen child, they offer Wick the chance of a lifetime - escape from Harklights and begin a new life with them in the wild...

Winner of the Joan Aiken Future Classics Prize.

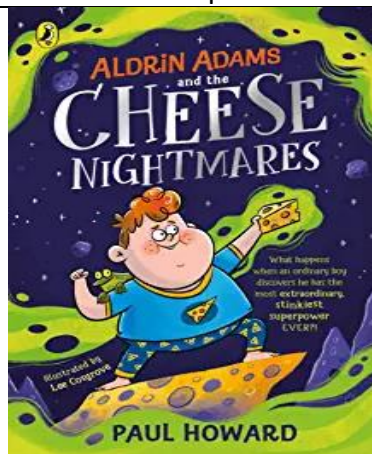
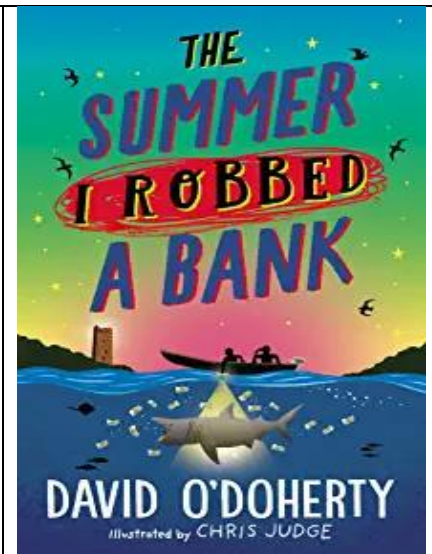
## The Summer I Robbed A Bank

**David O Doherty**

Rex's parents have split up, he's about to make the daunting move to secondary school, and to make matters worse he has to spend his summer holiday on a remote and rainy Irish island - with lots of unruly sheep for company.

The only upside: he'll be staying with his strange and brilliant Uncle Derm. Then Rex discovers Uncle Derm is about to execute his most hair-brained plan yet - to rob the island's travelling bank!

Like the local legend of medieval Pirate Queen Grace O'Malley, Uncle Derm plans to redistribute the money to local needy causes on the island and he needs Rex's help . . .



## Aldrin Adams and the Cheese Nightmares

**Paul Howard**

Aldrin Adams is an ordinary boy with an extraordinary superpower. When he eats cheese, just before he goes to sleep at night, he can enter into other people's dreams... and their nightmares!

What Aldrin doesn't realise, as he embarks on his journey of discovery, is that he is being watched by Habeas Grusselvar, a mysterious, supernatural villain who creates nightmares for millions and millions of children every night. Suddenly, a young boy poses a threat to his plans to control the world through fear. Which is why he must be stopped - at all costs!

## Katie On the Case

**Hannah Peck**

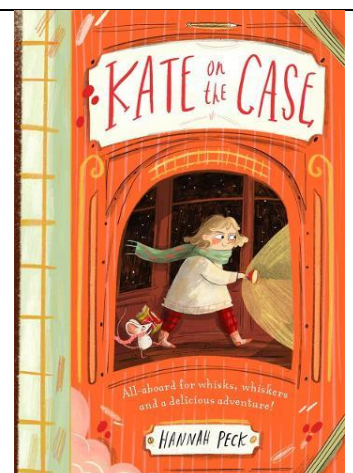
Young reporter-in-training Kate and her mouse-accomplice Rupert are on board a train, to visit Kate's mum in the Arctic. But as soon as the train departs, mysterious things start happening.

A packet of ginger nuts goes missing . . .


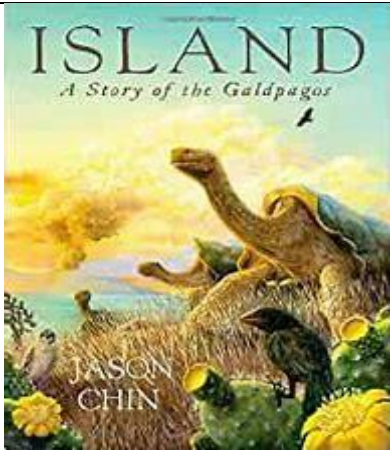
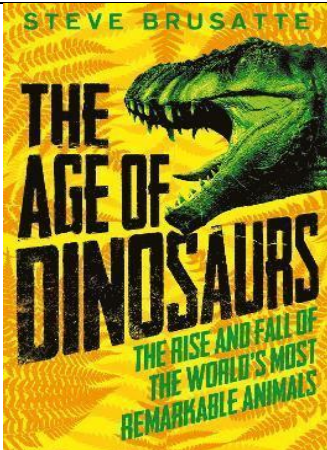

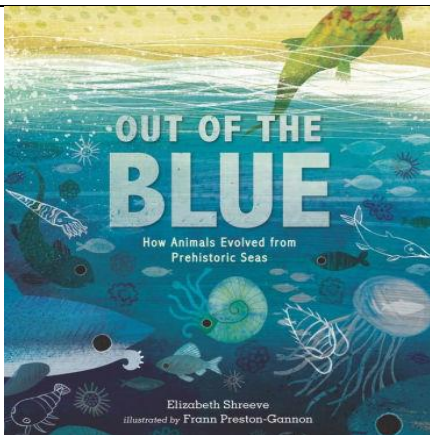
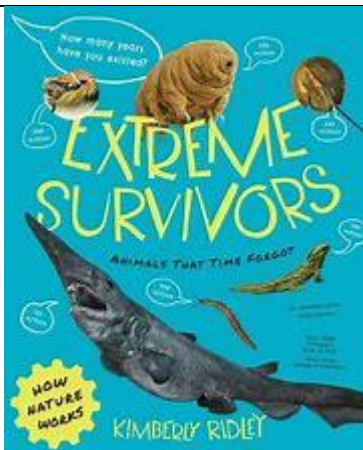
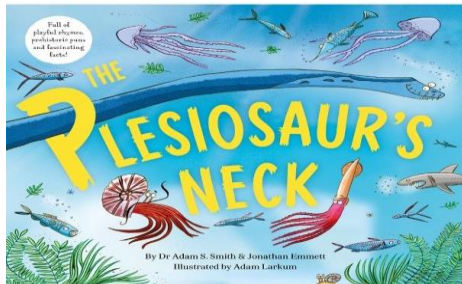
A collection of gymnastics trophies are stolen . . .

And some ancient scrolls disappear . . .

Fellow passenger Madame Maude seems the most likely culprit, until a surprising - and delicious - twist turns the whole investigation on its head.





	<p><b>The Time-Thief</b> Patience Agbabi</p> <p>It's mid-summer's day and thirteen-year-old Elle and her Leaping classmates are visiting the Museum of the Past, the Present and the Future. But on the day of the school trip, disaster strikes, and the most unique and valuable piece in the museum, the Infinity-Glass, is stolen! And worse still, Elle's friend and fellow Infinite, MC<sup>2</sup> is arrested for the crime!</p> <p>To prove his innocence Elle must leap back centuries in time, to a London very different from today. Along the way she will meet new friends, face dangers unlike any she has ever known, and face an old enemy who is determined to destroy her. Can Elle find the missing Infinity-Glass and return it to its rightful home before it's too late?</p>	
<p><b>What's new: Non-Fiction</b></p>		
<p>Time to marvel at the history of Earth's living creatures- both present and past! Find out why the Plesiosaur's neck was so long; track the rise and fall of the vicious T rex or read about the weird creatures that we still live amongst- such as inflating fish!</p>		
		
<p><b>Island: A Story of the Galapagos</b> Jason Chin</p>	<p><b>The Age of Dinosaurs: The Rise and Fall of the World's Most Remarkable Animals</b> Steve Brusatte</p>	<p><b>Exploding Beetles &amp; Inflatable Fish</b> Sam Quigley</p>
		
<p><b>Out of The Blue: How Animals Evolved from Prehistoric Seas</b> Elizabeth Shreeve</p>	<p><b>Extreme Survivors : Animals that time forgot</b> Kimberley Ridley</p>	<p><b>The Plesioaur's Neck</b> Dr Adam S. Smith, Jonathan Emmett</p>



## Have you tried...?

### Miss Szadowski recommends: Supertato!

*"Some vegetables are frozen for a very good reason. Don't believe me? Then keep reading!"*

Supertato is a book that never fails to make me smile and laugh out loud. It tells the adventure story of a terrible villain, Evil Pea and an unlikely superhero, Supertato! When evil pea escapes from the freezer, chaos soon follows. The poor veggies don't know what to do but luckily, the potato superhero is never far away.

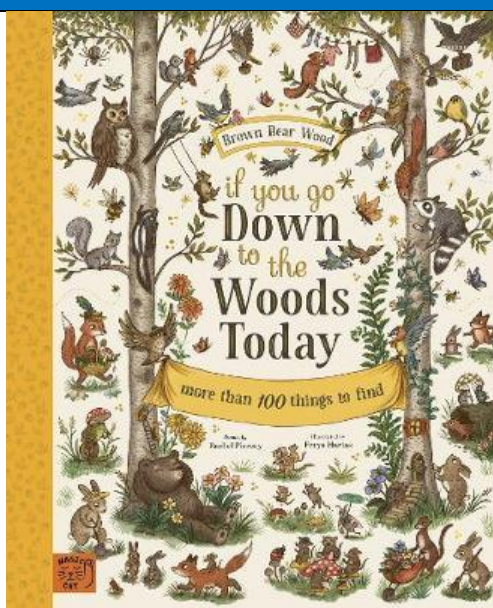
There is a whole series of picture books following the various adventures of the vegetables when the humans aren't looking. I recommend this read to anyone needing a smile! The funny antics and bright artwork are great for KS1 readers and can be appreciated by older children too.



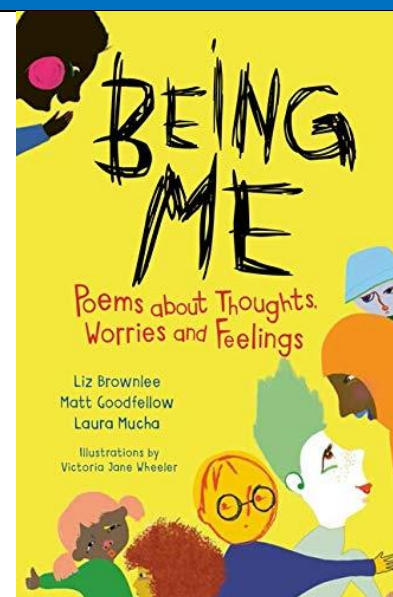
## Poetry: Why not try reading...



**Take off Your Brave**  
Nadim Shamma  
Recommended for 4+



**If You Go Down to the Woods Today**  
Rachel Piercy  
Recommended for 4-7 Years



**Being Me: Poems about Thoughts, Worries and Feelings**  
Liz Brownlee et al.

# Poetry

## Poet's corner

In Year 4, Chloe from Kingfishers has written a fantastic poem:

Chloe

### The Magic Box

I will put in the box

the shoe of a happy horse on a patch of warm spring grass  
a picture of a great family memory in the sun  
the beautiful blooming blossom from a big sunny field

I will put in the box

a tree with an ancient face  
a gulp of water from a rainbow stream  
a pouncing spark from an electric firework

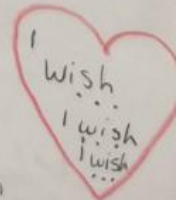
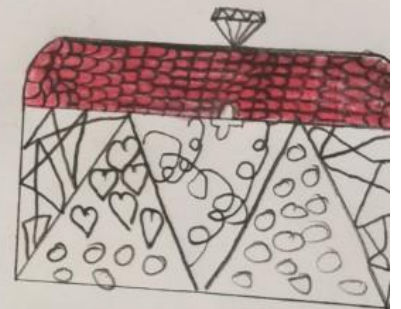
I will put in the box

three imperable wishes embroidered in my heart  
the last embrace of an ancient auntie  
and the first giggle of a newborn

I will put in the box

a second spring and a diamond moon  
a tiger in a house  
and a person in a jungle

My box is fashioned with emeralds and diamonds and sapphires,  
with rubys on the lid and patterns in the corners  
its hinges are made of an old birds feet





# Important Dates, Events & Competitions for Literacy

## May

Early May	<b>Children's Book Week</b>	Children's Book Week is the annual celebration of books for young people and the joy of reading. This is the longest-running national literacy initiative in the country (it was originally created in 1919). Every year, events are held nationwide at schools, libraries and bookstores. <a href="https://everychildareader.net/cbw/cbwresources/">https://everychildareader.net/cbw/cbwresources/</a>
Throughout May	<b>National Share a Story Month</b>	National Share-A-Story Month (NSSM), is an annual celebration of the power of storytelling and story sharing, providing a fantastic opportunity to bring children and stories together. Competitions during this period are also available. <a href="http://fcbg.org.uk/national-share-a-story-month/">http://fcbg.org.uk/national-share-a-story-month/</a>
Closing date 28 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Write Your Own Historical Fiction Competition 2021</b>	<b>Year 5 and 6.</b> One of the key attributes of historical fiction is that it has a convincing setting in a past time and place. Pupils can set their stories in ANY* period or place in the past, so the story can fit in with and extend any historical topic you may be studying. Winning students will each receive a cash prize of £25 and an engraved Bath Aqua Blue glass paperweight or bookmark. <a href="https://www.history.org.uk/primary/categories/530/news/3451/write-your-own-historical-fiction-competition-2021">https://www.history.org.uk/primary/categories/530/news/3451/write-your-own-historical-fiction-competition-2021</a>
Competition runs until 5pm on May 31st, 2021	<b>Short Story Challenge.</b>	<b>A writing competition for young UK writers aged 8 – 12.</b> Can you write a 'summer time' story in less than 500 words? It can be funny, scary, romantic or just plain silly. But it must have summer as a theme and be less than 500 words (Which is harder than you may think!). You could win a bundle of children's books and get your story in a brilliant anthology. <a href="#">Competitions (caabpublishing.co.uk)</a>

## June

23/06/2021	<b>National Writing Day</b>	National Writing Day is an annual celebratory project designed to inspire people across the UK to get writing. Download teaching resource packs and learning resources created by National Writing Day partners, for use with Key Stages 1 through to 5. <a href="https://firststory.org.uk/writeday/">https://firststory.org.uk/writeday/</a>
------------	-----------------------------	--

## July

The competition will close on July 3rd 2021.	<b>Alice in Wonderland</b>	Write a 'missing' chapter for either Alice's Adventures in Wonderland or Through the Looking-Glass. You can create new characters or re-use existing characters; create new scenarios or use an existing scenario and follow on. <a href="https://lewiscarrollssociety.org.uk/writing-competition/">https://lewiscarrollssociety.org.uk/writing-competition/</a>
--	----------------------------	--