

# Bury and Whitefield's Reading Newsletter



## Introduction

Welcome to Bury and Whitefield's new reading newsletter. This monthly newsletter will act as a means of communication for all things 'book-ish'. Here, you will find book recommendations for all year groups; activities you can carry out at home and plenty of other book related news. As this month is Black History Month, our first newsletter will use this as the theme for its recommended reads; picking some of the best books to explore BAME characters and authors.

## Reading at BWJPS

At Bury and Whitefield, we understand the importance of reading and aim to develop fluent readers who not only can read but enjoy reading. To do this, we have added a 'reading for pleasure' slot to our daily timetable where children can explore a range of books to find something they truly enjoy. These books come from our individual class libraries. To help keep this as up-to-date as possible, we have set up Amazon wish lists for each class. These have recommended reads for each class' age and offer a variety of genres, text types and authors in order to develop a breadth of reading materials. Should you wish to donate a book to your child's class library, please follow the link on the right and choose school's address for delivery straight to class.



Above shows the wonderful selection of books already donated.

EYFS: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/>

Y1: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2PS0FETXIL21C...>

Y2: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/YH5HJ18NF0LZ...>

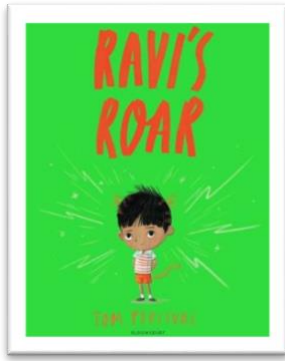
Y3: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3DZGBMF58GM5V...>

Y4: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/71EK0739YJCH...>

Y5: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/Z5YGGCC81RM3...>

Y6: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3F3MPM8THCCEW...>

“You are never alone when lost in the magic of a book.” – Marie Lu



## EYFS Recommendation

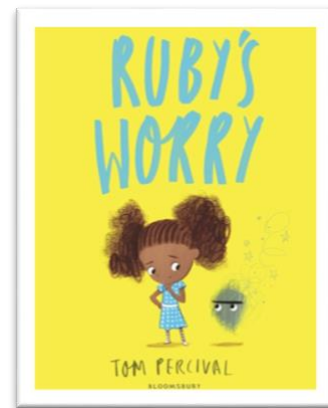
### Ravi's Roar (Tom Percival)

Temper tantrums are brilliantly visualised in this witty story about how Ravi deals with his. As the youngest and smallest in the family, he is always the last one to get what he wants. It makes him feel terrible! And when Ravi feels terrible he ROARS. Now he can get what he wants but will anyone want to play with him?

## Years 1 and 2 Recommendation

### Ruby's Worry (Tom Percival)

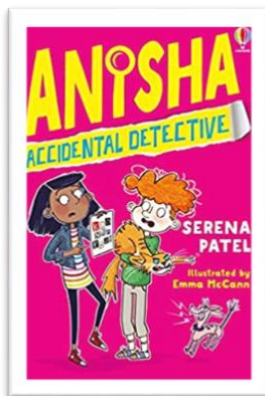
Ruby loves being Ruby. Until, one day, she finds a worry. At first it's not such a big worry, and that's all right, but then it starts to grow. It gets bigger and bigger every day and it makes Ruby sad. How can Ruby get rid of it and feel like herself again? A perceptive and poignant story that is a must-have for all children's bookshelves.



## Years 3 and 4 Recommendation

### Anisha Accidental Detective (Serena Patel)

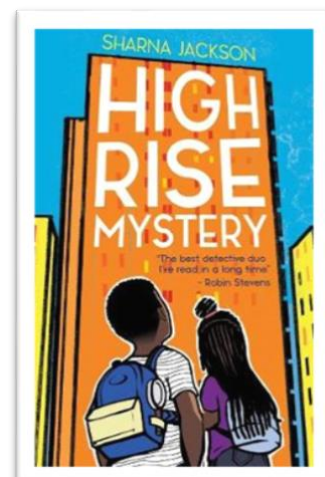
Comic capers explode when science-mad Anisha must solve a mystery ahead of her Aunty's Bindi's "Big Fat Fabulous" Indian wedding. A hilarious race against time ensues, with clues to pursue, undercover surveillance to be done and the involvement of some decidedly curious characters (among them a weeing lobster), and the menace of Anisha's "evil" cousins-to-be.



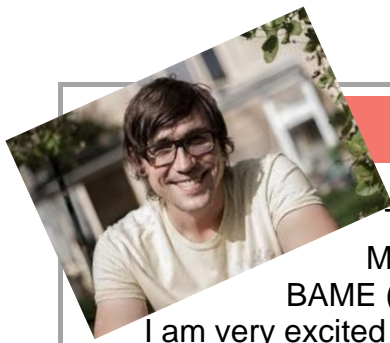
## Years 5 and 6 Recommendation

### High Rise Mystery (Sharna Jackson)

Sisters Nik and Norva would agree that they are slightly obsessed with murder mystery series on the television so, when a body is discovered in their block of flats, they are sure they are the right people to discover the truth. Balancing jokey dialogue and insights into the reality of city life, Sharna Jackson has written a very likeable, fast-paced book.



# Authors of the Month

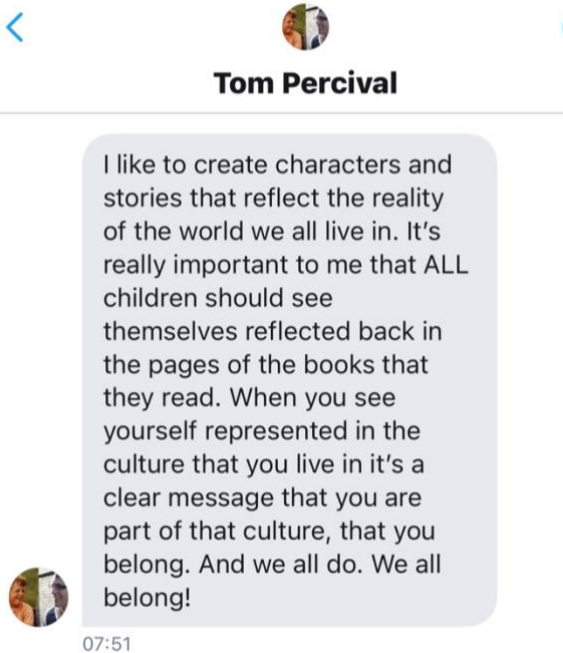


This month's theme for our newsletter is Black History Month, hence the selection of books that centre around BAME (Black and Minority Ethnic) characters and/ or authors. I am very excited to have been able to include some wonderful authors in this newsletter, such as Tom Percival and Serena Patel. Upon hearing that they had been included, both authors were eager to share a message with the children, parents and staff of BWJPS.

## Tom Percival

Tom Percival writes and illustrates all sorts of children's books. He has produced cover illustrations for the Skulduggery Pleasant series, written and illustrated the Little Legends and the Dream Team series, as well as twelve picture books, including the Carnegie-nominated *Ruby's Worry*, *Perfectly Norman*, and *Ravi's Roar*. Tom has been drawing since he's been able to hold a pencil, and making up stories for as long as he can remember, in fact, probably longer, especially as his memory is not what it once was. Basically, he's been making things up his whole life and he's not about to stop any time soon.

Tom's (@TomPercivalSays) message to BWJPS:



## Serena Patel

Serena Patel always loved writing and reading when she was younger. However, reading was her favourite as it allowed her to escape into other worlds and go on wild adventures with weird and wonderful characters. Serena always felt like the odd one out at school but in books it was better to stand out than fit in. As an author, she tries to write characters who are a bit weird and wacky and seem to always be getting themselves into trouble! Serena's first book was 'Anisha, Accidental Detective' which is now a series, with the second published last month.

Serena's (@SerenaKPatel) message to BWJPS:





# Miss Pereira's Books of the Month



## Children's Fiction

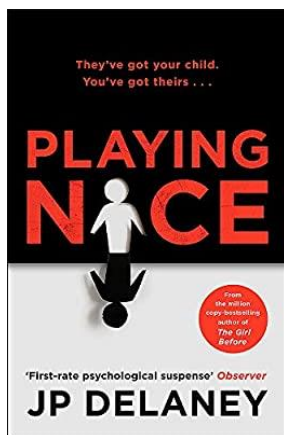
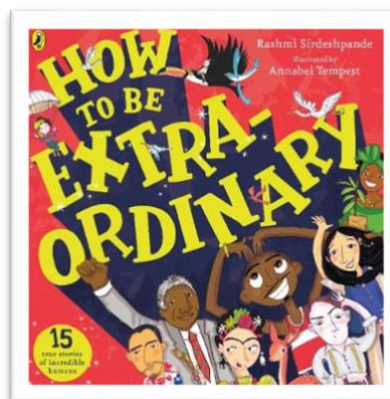
### Nevermoor (Jessica Townsend) – 9+

A completely captivating page-turning fantasy adventure that is strikingly original. Morrigan Crow is a Cursed Child held responsible for any and all mishaps and was expected to die before her 12th birthday. Fortunately for Morrigan, she has been mysteriously saved from her gloomy family and swept into a wonderful new world by one Jupiter Crow, magic-maker, hotel-owner, umbrella-flyer. All sorts of tests await Morrigan in Nevermoor, and she faces them all with intelligence, good-humour and resilience.

## Children's Non-Fiction

### How to be Extra-ordinary! (Rashmi Sirdeshpande)

A wonderfully diverse and surprising collection of real-life stories that are not just about the usual household names. They range from David Attenborough and Michelle Obama to Britain's first female spy- Krystyna Skabarek and Keiko Fukuda Sensei, who became the only woman to be awarded the 10th Dan in Judo at the age of 98! Each person is awarded a beautifully illustrated double-page spread with digestible chunks of information for all ages.



## Adult's Fiction

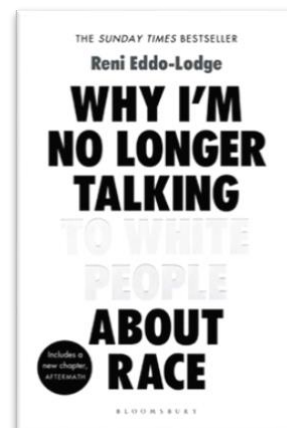
### Playing Nice (JP Delaney)

Pete Riley stays at home; his partner, Maddie, is the breadwinner. He spends his days browsing parenting blogs and pacifying their rambunctious son, Theo. Then, one day, a knock at the door. Miles and Lucy, a posh and near-perfect couple, tell Pete something shocking: Theo isn't his son. Their children were switched at the hospital. This gripping psychological thriller had me reading until the early hours. A definite page-turner. Recommended if you liked 'Girl on a Train' or 'Gone Girl'.

## Adult's Non-Fiction

### Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race (Reni Eddo-Lodge)

Exploring issues from eradicated black history to the political purpose of whitewashed feminism and the inextricable link between class and race, Reni offers an essential new framework for how to acknowledge and counter racism. A brilliantly illuminating read.



“Words. A child needs a forest of words to wander through, a sea of words to splash in. A child needs to be read to.” – Frank Bruni

### Developing Vocabulary through Reading

Does your child ever ask, “What does that word mean?” Books are bursting with a range of different vocabulary. The wider the range of genres and authors your child is exposed to, in turn, the wider the language they are exposed to.

Encourage your child to ‘maggie’ some interesting words that authors use, find out the meaning of the words in a dictionary (or a child-friendly online dictionary such as [oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com](http://oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com)) and maybe even try using them in a sentence or piece of writing of their own.

These are similar activities to those we do in class. Children love showing off new vocabulary so really encourage this by modelling it in your own sentences.

### Questions to Ask Your Child When Reading

In addition to decoding (working out what a word actually says) it is very important that children understand what they read and think more deeply about a text.

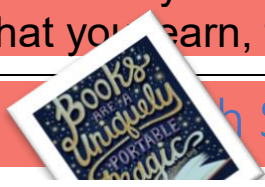
- What did the character just do? Why do you think they did that?
- What do you think the character is like? (Older children: Can you find clues in the text to support your answer?)
- Which part of the story did you like the most? Why?
- Why do you think the author chose to use this particular word? How would the sentence be different if they had used a different word?
- Did you find any new words you could use in your own writing?

### Reading Online

I know it is difficult to provide a wide range of text types, genres and authors – especially if your child is a fussy reader. Sometimes it is best to sample them before spending money on book after book. Below, I have listed some brilliant resources to find books – or samples – to cut down costs but not variety.

- Bug Club (your child has an individual log in from school)
- Reading Realm (a paid app which offers different reading activities too)
- Epic! (ask your child’s teacher for a free code)
- Borrow Box (a free app where you can borrow library books - you need to be a member of the library)
- Lovereading4kids.com (sample chapters from a wide variety of books – including brand new books!)

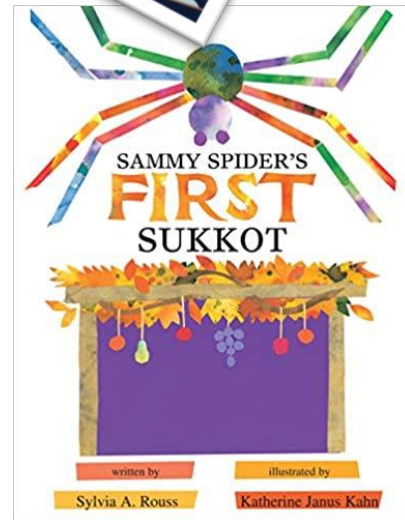
“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” – Seuss



## English Studies Book of the

### **Sammy Spiders First Sukkot** Written by **Sylvia A Rouss** Illustrated by **Katherine Janus Kahn**

A beautifully written, appealing story, aimed at younger children, telling the tale of Sammy Spider celebrating the lead up and beginning of Sukkos with the Shapiro family. The positional language is really well used and all highlighted, making it easy to point it out and discuss directions with young children. Sammy’s joy at celebrating Sukkos – putting the sukkah up, decorating it, eating in it and then shaking the lulav and esrog is truly infectious and makes this book a great read and a lovely way to share the happiness of Sukkos with our children.



## Upcoming Events

There are lots of fun, book-related events happening this month. Have a look at the list below and enjoy!

<p>2nd – 11<sup>th</sup> October Cheltenham Book Festival</p>	<p>There’s always lots going on at Cheltenham Literature Festival with a variety of authors participating each year. Some personal highlights this year are Anna James, Katherine Rundell and Anthony Horowitz. Go to <a href="https://www.cheltenhamfestivals.com/literature/whatson/grid">https://www.cheltenhamfestivals.com/literature/whatson/grid</a> to see what’s on and sign up.</p>
<p>3<sup>rd</sup> October National Poetry Day</p>	<p>National Poetry Day is a great opportunity to revisit your favourite verse, discover some new poets or have a go at writing your own poem!</p>
<p>5<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> October National Libraries Week</p>	<p>A chance to celebrate our much loved libraries and their vital role in the UK’s book culture. Libraries across the country will celebrate in their own way. Keep up to date with how by following @librariesweek on Twitter.</p>
<p>27<sup>th</sup> October National Tell-A-Story Day</p>	<p>National Tell-A-Story Day is a brilliant way to get all of your family involved in reading and writing. Have you got any stories that your parents told you when you were young? Has your child got a huge imagination? Is your uncle an amazing story teller? Sit back, relax and tell a story.</p>

**Happy reading!**  
*Miss Pereira*