

# SUMMER READING

## RAB book recommendations for the summer

### Picture Books



#### Meesha Makes Friends by Tom Percival

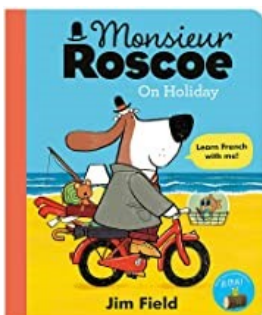
We're big fans of Tom Percival at RAB, it seems that we're recommending all of his books in our reading newsletter. His new book 'Meesha Makes Friends' is a superb addition to his collection. It is about a little girl who finds it hard to make friends, so she decides to make some friends out of cardboard and glue. Will this help her make some real friends?

Great to share with young children and start a conversation about being different

#### I Can Catch A Monster by Bethan Woolvin

Bethan Woolvin is the master of feminist fairy tales! Bo wants to go out with her brothers to catch a monster. But they won't let her because she is small and a girl... But that's not going to stop her!

Join Bo as she sets out to defeat a monster, but comes to a startling discovery (the monsters aren't the bad ones... her brothers are!)



#### Monsieur Roscoe by Jim Field

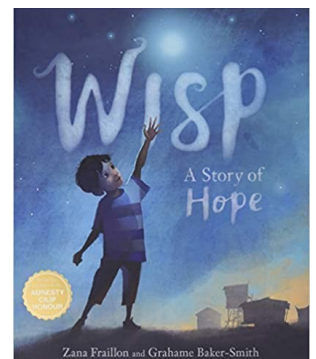
Jim Field is the fabulous illustrator of the 'Oi Frog' and 'Rabbit and Bear' series. In this picture book he gives us a fun story about Mr Roscoe and his holiday in France.

The added benefits of this book is that there are French translations that will help younger children to learn French! Whoever thought that you could learn things from reading books?

#### Mrs Spaxman recommends Wisp by Zana Fraillon and Grahame Baker Smith

We have all needed a bit of hope recently. Idris is a child refugee who has been born into a world of tents and fences. He has never known anything different. Then Wisp floats by inviting people to reawaken their memories and have hope for freedom. Idris has no memories though, so what will happen when he holds the magical Wisp?

The illustrations are hauntingly beautiful. It is an important and sobering message even for adults and promotes discussion. Although suggested age range is KS1, all children and adults would be moved by this.



#### Draw with Rob by Rob Biddulph

Rob Biddulph deserves a knighthood for his amazing services during lockdown! I think that many children will fondly remember his drawing tutorials as they grow up. This activity book has the best tutorials along with other fun activities. I think this will be a godsend for anyone, no matter what age this summer.

(I might buy a copy for me and my children!)

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### B:O:O:K:S f:O:r y:O:u:nge:r readers



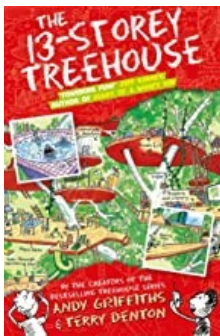
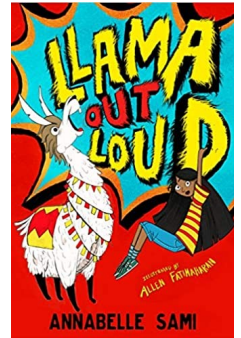
**Roxy & Jones by Angela Woolfe**

I love a modern take on fairy tales so I think Roxy & Jones is brilliant. Roxy is half-sister to Hansel and Gretel. Cinderella ("Call me Jones") Jones, who most definitely does NOT want to marry ghastly Prince Charming and is far too busy hunting for lost relics of the Cursed Kingdom. But now she needs Roxy's help. And Roxy's about to discover the truth about her world and her family!

**Llama Out Loud by Annaelle Sami**

Yasmin's family are so loud. So loud that she decides that there's not actually any point in her talking. The only problem with not talking is that it's hard to make friends, so she spends her time playing chequers at the local old people's home.

But her life is turned upside down when a toy llama comes to life and tries to help her out, but in the most unhelpful ways! A great giggle for younger readers .



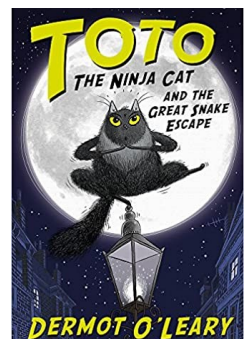
**Mrs Pickthall recommends The 13-Storey Treehouse by Andy Griffiths and Terry Denton**

Andy and Terry live in the **WORLD'S BEST** treehouse! It's got a giant catapult, a secret underground laboratory, a tank of man-eating sharks and a marshmallow machine that follows you around and shoots marshmallows into your mouth whenever you're hungry! Just watch out for the sea monkeys, and the monkeys pretending to be sea monkeys, and the giant mutant mermaid sea monster . . . Oh, and, whatever you do, don't get trapped in a burp -gas-filled bubble . . . !

**Mrs Cooper recommends Toto the Ninja Cat by Dermot O'Leary**

It is all about a cat called Toto who is no ordinary feline. She is almost totally blind, she has ninja skills and at night has amazing adventures with her brother, Silver. This is the first book in the series and is all about Toto and Silver trying to capture a King Cobra who has escaped. Along the way they meet a new friend called 'Catface'.

It was a fab book enjoyed by lots of children in 2AB - so much so that our copy is now falling apart!



**Miss Peacock recommends The Truth Pixie Goes to School by Matt Haig and Chris Mould**

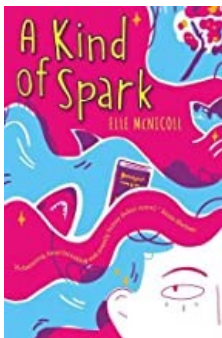
I loved this little book! It's about a pixie who always tells the truth, no matter what, and what happens when she and her human friend went to school. I found it so enjoyable to read because the whole book is written in rhyme and has some lovely quotes in it. 'Don't try to be something you really are not, your one true self is the best thing you've got!'



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### Books for older readers



Mr Boddington recommends *A Kind of Spark* by Elle McNicholl

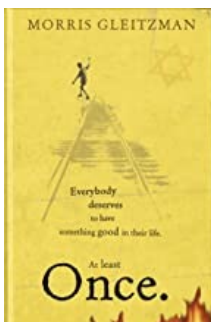
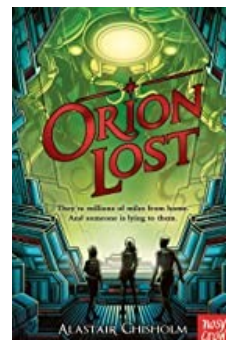
I think that this is a spectacular book that all children and adults need to read! *A Kind of Spark* tells the story of Addie, an autistic eleven year old from Scotland. Addie becomes interested in the injustice of the witch trials that took place near her town in history and fights for a memorial of those lives lost through misunderstandings.

All great stories have heroes and villains. One of the teachers in this book is horrible and I don't think I've hated a character in a book as much as I do her!

A short but important read!

Mrs Larkin recommends *Orion Lost* by Alastair Chisholm

The 'Orion' of the title is a spaceship. Four months after it has left Earth, a disaster occurs leaving the ship, and all its passengers, stranded in deep space. As if that isn't bad enough, all the adults are in 'sleep' mode, leaving thirteen year old Beth and her friends to get them home, if she can deal with the aliens and space pirates first! This sophisticated story is so fast-paced and packed with perilous moments and exciting twists and turns that I couldn't put it down. A thrilling read! (Mr Boddington agrees!)

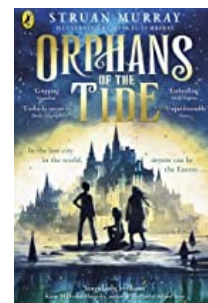


Mrs Kimber recommends *Once* by Moris Gleitzman

I loved this book and couldn't put it down after one of the children in my class recommended it. I'm now reading 'Then' (the sequel) which is equally brilliant. The story is set during the Second World War and follows the lives of two escaped Jewish children who slowly come to realise the terrifying world they are caught up in. It is written using the innocent thoughts of a child and then shows how he grows up as he has to keep himself safe. It is a very powerful book for upper KS2 which is also funny in places and strangely charming as it is written from the child's point of view. One of those books you will always remember.

Mr Parke recommends *Orphans of the Tide* by Struan Murray

I really enjoyed reading this book it is very gothiquesque/steampunk in style and keeps you guessing to the end, when there is a twist. The book hooks you in straight away with the intriguing arrival of a mysterious boy in the City. The constant threat of the 'Enemy' and the hysteria this brings creates a setting full of threat and menace that is the perfect backdrop to the continuing tale of Ellie and the mysterious boy. The book also contains pencil illustrations that add to the dark tone of the story. I would recommend this book to children in Year 5 and 6 who enjoy a darker tale.



Miss Alexander recommends *Bloom* by Nicola Skinner

*Bloom* by Nicola Skinner is a must read! A fantastic book about two friends who unknowingly start a flower epidemic! After finding a packet of seeds in the garden, the unimaginable happens!

A humorous story about friendship, looking after the world around us and standing up for what you believe in.