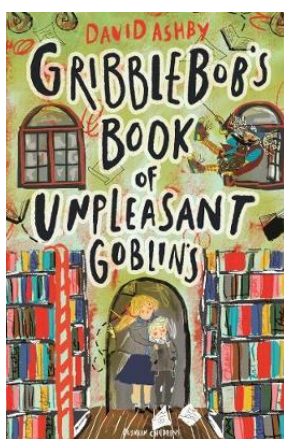


## Education Library Service Recommended Primary Fiction Autumn Term 2019

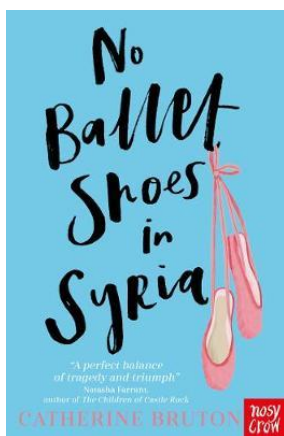


**Ashby, David**

**Gribblebob's Book of Unpleasant Goblins**

Pushkin	Pbk	7.99	9781782692348	
Children's				
Interest age:	10+	Reading age:		10+

When Anna and Nils meet Bob Gribble walking through the woods after school one Wednesday afternoon, little do they know that he is in fact Gribblebob, a goblin from the other side of the veil. Anna and Nils soon become embroiled in an adventure to save some magical books from a very evil witch, aided by two young heroes with a broadsword and a partly invisible dog. Superb fantasy adventure which draws the reader in and grips from the first page. Excellent characterisation, very imaginative plot, some humour, short and easy to read, would be enjoyed by either gender. Some violence but which is appropriately described for the reading level. Worth promoting.



**Bruton, Catherine**

**No Ballet Shoes in Syria**

Nosy Crow	Pbk	6.99	9781788004503	
Interest age:	9+	Reading age:		9+

11-year-old Aya has newly arrived in Britain with her mum and younger brother, seeking asylum from the war in Syria. Gradually we learn more about their journey to Britain and how they have become separated from Aya's Dad. Aya loves ballet and joins a local ballet class, where her teacher spots her exceptional talent and thinks she has the potential to earn a prestigious scholarship. Well written so you feel empathy with Aya's family and their fight to remain in this country. A cross between "Ballet shoes" and "The boy at the back of the class." Loved it.



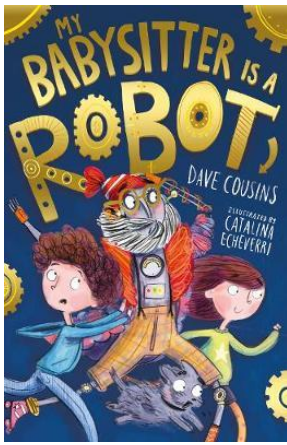
**Clarke, Ed**

**The Secret Dragon**

Penguin	Pbk	6.99	9780241360514	
Interest age:	8+	Reading age:		9+

Mari's dad was killed in a thunderstorm when she was little. Now Mari and her mother live on the family farm. Mari's mum tries to encourage Mari to take an interest in the farm, but Mari is determined to make a new scientific discovery and name it after her dad. While out fossil hunting she discovers an unusual rock which splits open revealing a tiny Welsh dragon inside. Mari looks after the dragon but doesn't want people to find out as they will take it off her. A new boy in school takes an interest in Mari and discovers her secret. He helps her look after the dragon, but when she decides to share her find with an eminent professor, she realises that things aren't always as they seem.

The mischievous dragon should prove to be a popular character in this fairly short, easy to read story.



**Cousins, Dave                      My Babysitter is a Robot**

Stripes                      Pbk                      5.99                      9781788950749  
 Interest age:                      8+                      Reading age:                      8+

Jake and his twin sister Jess have a robot, invented by their Grandma to babysit them. Robin the robot picks them up from school, makes them do homework, turns their games off after 30 mins and causes chaos. So, they plan to get rid of him. They try but fail, until he falls in the swimming pool and is robot napped! Then, they realise they would like their robot back.

A romp of a story for younger readers, which is easy to read and has black and white line drawings throughout.



**Elphinstone, Abi                      Rumblestar**

Simon & Schuster                      Pbk                      6.99                      9781471173660  
 Interest age:                      9+                      Reading age:                      9+

First in the Unmapped chronicles series. 11-year-old Casper Tock accidentally stumbles into Rumblestar, an Unmapped Kingdom full of magical beasts. Casper wants to find a way home, but Rumblestar is in trouble. An evil harpy called Morg is sending her followers, the Midnights, into the kingdom to wreak havoc and pave the way for her to steal the Unmapped magic for herself. Casper discovers his world is bound up with that of the Unmapped Kingdoms. He meets a girl Utterly Thankless, and her miniature dragon, Arlo. Gradually Utterley becomes Casper's first friend and together they set off on an adventure full of cloud giants, storm ogres and drizzle hags.

A fantasy story for top KS2. Usual Abi Elphinstone style.

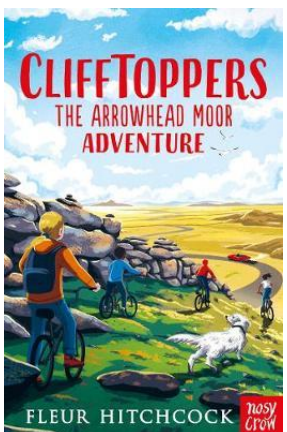


**Flanagan, Liz                      Dragon Daughter**

David Fickling                      Pbk                      6.99                      9781788450218  
 Interest age:                      10+                      Reading age:                      10+

When a stranger is murdered, Milla finds herself taking care of four precious dragon eggs. Before long the eggs are stolen and given to the Duke who rules the island, as these are supposedly the last eggs in existence. When the eggs hatch, Milla, the Duke's son and two friends bond with the dragons and are instructed to stay at the Duke's palace and raise them. Milla is delighted, but concerned that the Duke only wants to control them. She is also worried about the many people coming to the island who claim that the Duke stole their island and forced them to leave. There is much tension between the islanders and the migrants which leads to violence. Eventually the Duke is arrested and peace is restored.

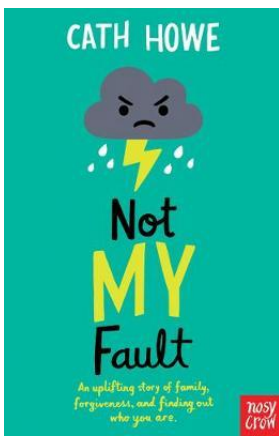
An exciting fantasy adventure for more committed readers.



**Hitchcock, Fleur                      Clifftoppers the Arrowhead Moor Adventure**

Nosy Crow                      Pbk                      6.99                      9781788004695  
 Interest age:                      9+                      Reading age:                      9+

Aiden, Chloe, Ava and Josh are cousins and all love staying with their grandparents and their dog Bella in the country. A picnic at a country home becomes an adventure when together they foil a gang of jewel thieves. Very easy to read and like an up to date Blyton adventure. The start of a series. The story is highly unlikely but will be enjoyed by young children.



**Howe, Cath**

**Not My Fault**

Nosy Crow	Pbk	6.99	9781788002868
Interest age:	9+	Reading age:	9+

Rose's sister Maya insisted that Rose push her really fast on the roundabout. Rose is cross with her sister and pushes her so hard that she falls off and damages her ankle. When she gets out of hospital with several pins in her ankle, Maya refuses to talk to Rose. The situation escalates on a school holiday where Maya becomes so angry and jealous with Rose that she starts to behave badly and is rude to everyone, including the teachers. Rose struggles to be tolerant and make allowances for Maya, but when her sister gets stranded on the beach, she is determined to rescue Maya and become friends again.

An absorbing story with well-drawn characters.



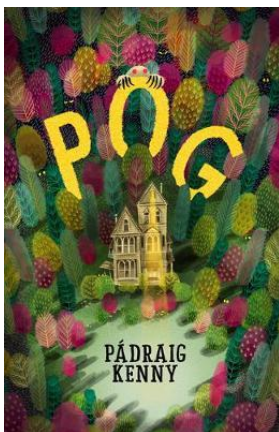
**Howell, A.M.**

**The Garden of Lost secrets**

Usborne	Pbk	6.99	9781474959551
Interest age:	9+	Reading age:	9+

In 1916 Clara is sent to live on the estate of a big house where her aunt and uncle work. Her Dad has returned from the war with gas poisoning and needs to recover. Her older brother is still at war. On the estate Clara finds secret fruit is being stolen, a locked room and a thief. She is determined to piece together the clues and solve the mystery.

A compelling story about courage and loyalty.



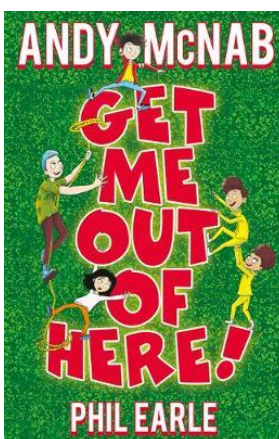
**Kenny, Pádraig**

**Pog**

Chicken House	Pbk	6.99	9781911490395
Interest age:	9+	Reading age:	9+

After their mother dies David and Penny move to an old family home in a forest. They soon discover a small furry creature called Pog who lives in the attic. Pog is guarding a portal to another world which is situated in the house. There are some nasty creatures who have managed to force their way into this world, who want to feed on the pain and unhappiness they sense in the family. The children join forces with Pog to try and seal the portal for good.

An interesting, easy-to-read fantasy with an unusual, yet appealing main character.



**McNab, Andy & Earle, Phil**

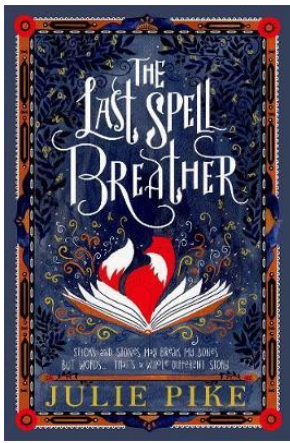
**Get me out of here**

Scholastic	Pbk	6.99	9781407195681
Interest age:	8+	Reading age:	8+

Danny is interested in free running and adventure. His family is hard up with Mum doing lots of jobs and he's often bullied/teased by his older brother, Dylan, who is keen on the SAS. When there is a school trip to an outdoor adventure centre, he's excited. Till he realises it will cost £150. Mum says she can manage to pay £50 but Danny must raise the rest of the money. He does so with some hilarious escapades with cutting hair and dog walking but manages to get £100. They go on the trip, but unfortunately a member of staff cannot come so, to Danny's horro, Dylan comes to help.

Humorous rip-roaring story and great characters.



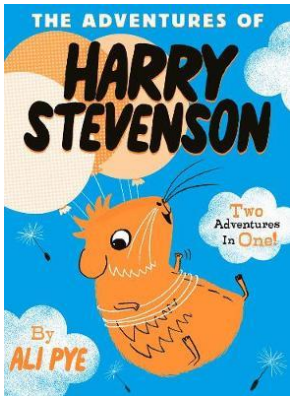


**Pike, Julie**

**The Last Spell Breather**

OUP Pbk 6.99 9780192771605  
Interest age: 9+ Reading age: 10+

Spell Breathing does not come naturally to Rayne - she loathes the hours of practice, the stacks of scrolls, and the snapping mud devils, the Grotesques, that cover her mother's precious spell book. But it is spell breathing that keeps her village safe from the dreaded monster curse that plagues their world. It is ancient powerful magic, but as Rayne learns to her horror it is also fragile. When Rayne damages the spell book, her village is plunged into danger. Together with her friend Tom and a fox called Frank she sets out to find her mother who she is sure will put everything right again. Good characters and world building and an imaginative look at the importance of words. All the characters make mistakes but act together to put them right. There may be a sequel.



**Pye, Ali**

**The Adventures of Harry Stevenson**

Simon & Schuster Pbk 5.99 9781471170232  
Interest age: 6+ Reading age: 7+

Two stories about a guinea pig called Harry Stevenson. The first story describes Harry's adventures when his owner Billy and his parents move from one flat to a bigger one. Harry gets out of his cage while they are waiting to go in the removal van to eat some dandelions, as they are so tempting, but the van leaves without him! Harry starts following the van, is chased by a tiger (cat), rides on a dog and eventually turns up at his family's new flat in a pizza box with a pizza delivery! The second story is about Billy preparing for his birthday party at his new flat with 4 friends. They are introduced to Harry and love him. Harry falls asleep on the rug and the children move on to other things. So that's how Harry gets to fly with the birthday balloons & ends up on a football pitch in the middle of a game. Loved it! Retro coloured illustrations throughout. Suitable for lower KS2 or able KS1.

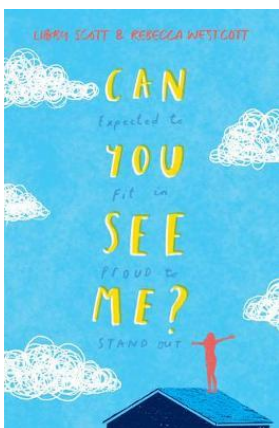


**Read, Benjamin & Trinder, Laura**

**The Midnight Hour**

Chicken House Pbk 6.99 9781911490906  
Interest age: 9+ Reading age: 10+

Emily's parents have vanished into the secret world of the Midnight Hour - a Victorian London frozen in time - home to magic and monsters. Emily must find them in this city of Night Folk, armed only with a packed lunch, a stowaway hedgehog and her infamously big mouth. With bloodthirsty creatures on her tail, Emily must discover the truth to rescue her parents. Great characters throughout with a well imagined alternative world. Good story for an experienced reader.



**Scott, Libby & Wescott, Rebecca**

**Can You See Me?**

Scholastic Pbk 6.99 9781407195674  
Interest age: 9+ Reading age: 9+

11-year old Tally lives with her older sister Nell and their parents. The book starts just as Tally is about to start secondary school. Tally is autistic and is very stressed about what will happen at her new school. The children at her old school understand her condition and accept her. Tally wants to try and fit in but struggles sometimes with basic social conventions, and can find herself behaving badly, but unable to stop. Tally's new classmates think she is weird, but she doesn't want them to know she is autistic. A thoughtful drama teacher connects with Tally, who then writes notes to her to explain how she feels and how the teacher can help. The book is told in the third person interspersed with some of Tally's diary entries explaining why she has behaved in a certain manner. The diary entries have been written by an 11 - year old girl, Libby Scott whose writing about being autistic caused a sensation in 2018.



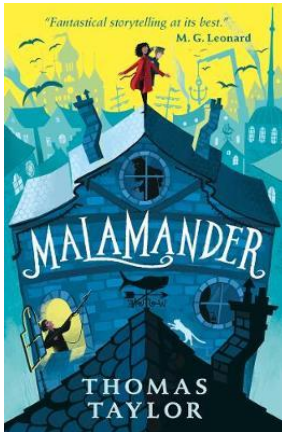
**Standish, Ali**

**The Secret Summer**

Hachette	Pbk	6.99	9781408343685	
Interest age:	10+		Reading age:	10+

Miranda and her Mum were close, but her Mum seems to have changed and be away from home with work a lot. This summer Miranda's parents are both busy with work, so Miranda is going to stay with her Mum's childhood friend on August Island, where her Mum used to spend summers. Miranda hopes to find out about her Mum's childhood and why she has changed.

A compelling story with great character development. Well worth promoting.



**Taylor, Thomas**

**Malamander**

Walker	Pbk	7.99	9781406386288	
Interest age:	9+		Reading age:	9+

Herbert Lemon is an orphan and works as the lost and found boy at the Grand Nautilus Hotel. One day a mysterious girl crashes into his room, asking him to hide her. He later finds out this girl is Violet Parma, who is trying to find out what happened to her missing parents, who disappeared from Herbert's hotel when she was a baby. Is their disappearance connected to the legendary sea monster, the Malamander?

A cracking fast paced read with lots of action and twists and turns in the plot. The children are in constant danger and attacked several times. There are several deaths, but none are described.

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