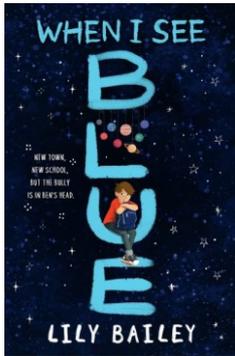


## Education Library Service Secondary Best Books Autumn Term 2022



**Bailey, Lily**

Orion

Interest age:

**When I see Blue**

Pbk 7.99 978151010980  
3

11+ Reading age: 10+

Ben is 12 and has OCD. Sometimes his brain makes him count to 4 to prevent bad things happening or do something similar. He and his family have moved to a new school. Kyle, his older brother is moody and uncommunicative. Mum and Dad are struggling with their relationship and leaves during the story. Mum is an alcoholic and has been for a while. All of this means Ben feels he is out of control. Then he meets April, who becomes his friend, and she encourages him to stand up to his brain and get help. A great story oozing empathy for Ben, the main character.



**Bailey, Susanna**

Farshore

Interest age:

**Raven Winter**

Pbk 7.99 978140529996  
1

11+ Reading age: 10+

Billie's dad is sent to prison and her life falls apart; she finds herself very alone as her mum has a new boyfriend. The family move house and Billie feels even more isolated at her new school where she is bullied as the children find out about her past. Even worse her new dad is emotionally and physically abusive towards her. Billie finds an injured raven and nurses him back to health, but she must hide him from her new dad. A very moving and emotional story about family friendships and the healing power of nature.



**Earle, Phil**

Andersen

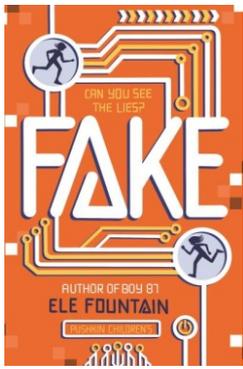
Interest age:

**While the Storm Rages**

Pbk 7.99 978183913205  
6

9+ Reading age: 9+

Set in England in September 1939 Noah's Dad is going off to war and Noah and their dog Winn are going to miss him so much. Dad asks Noah to keep the Winn safe. When the government advises everyone to have their pets put down as part of the preparations for war, Noah is distraught. He finds queues of children outside vets following the government advise, crying and is determined this will not happen to Winn. With two other children Clem (his best friend, who has an old dog of her own) and Big Col (the class bully who has a python), Noah makes a pledge to go on the run and save as many animals as he can, no matter what. A compellingly written story.



**Fountain, Ele**

Pushkin

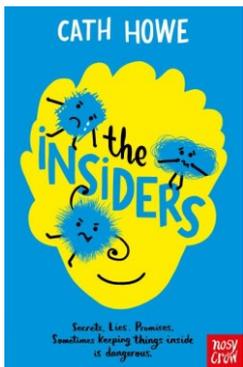
Interest age:

**Fake**

Pbk 7.99 9781782692904

10+ Reading age: 10+

Jess is 14 and lives in a future world where your friends are virtual and big IT companies control access to food, healthcare, leisure etc. When she turns 14 she can go to school with other children for the first time. Society generally seems to hate the real world, but Jess questions if it is as perfect as is portrayed. Chloe, Jess's younger sister is poorly and regularly needs life-saving medication, but this is becoming more and more expensive. Jess hacks into a computer system and finds out some explosive truths, which will change her view of the world and show her how manipulated reality has become. A compelling story set in the future, which is easy to read with short chapters and great characterisation.



**Howe, Cath**

Nosy Crow

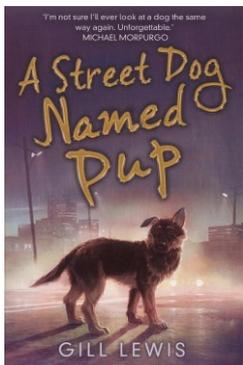
Interest age:

**The Insiders**

Pbk 7.99 9781788006125

10+ Reading age: 10+

Callie, Ted, Zara, and Nico are best friends. Since being humiliated at school by the annoying Billie, Ted has stopped talking to the rest of the gang. When Callie, Zara and Nico discover that someone has been living in their school, and sleeping in the building at night, they decide to investigate - without Ted. Easy to read with short chapters and unputdownable. Great for a variety of issues and Reading for Pleasure.



**Lewis, Gill**

David Fickling

Interest age:

**A Street Dog Named Pup**

Pbk 6.99 9781788452205

10+ Reading age: 9+

Pup has been dumped from the car and all he wants to do is find his way home to the boy who loves him, but doesn't know where he is and is wet, cold and frightened. Some street wise dogs take him to a safe place where he becomes part of a new pack. However, life on the streets is hard. Pup holds onto his dream of finding his boy again. This animal story of abandonment, friendship, cruelty and redemption is compelling and hard to put down. It is a hard-hitting and tense story with some funnier parts, which will appeal to a wide range of readers. parallels with the human world and will appeal to a wide range of readers. Animal lovers may need tissues and be aware there are some episodes of animal cruelty. A great Reading for Pleasure book!



**McNicoll, E**

Knights Of

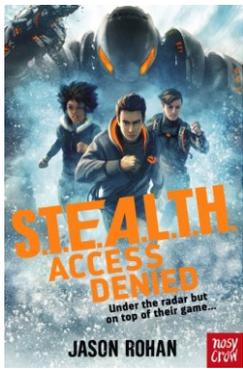
Interest age:

**Like A Charm**

Pbk 6.99 9781913311278

11+ Reading age: 10+

Ramya Knox is a young girl with dyspraxia who lives with her parents in Edinburgh, there is a family disagreement/feud when Ramya is young, and she then doesn't see her Grandpa again before he dies. She attends his funeral alone as she feels some real affinity with him. It is here that her journey begins to try and discover the truth behind the 'Hidden Folk' with only three words of warning from her Grandpa, 'Beware the Sirens'. It is not only a journey of discovery regarding the mysteries and magic of the streets of Edinburgh but a journey where she discovers herself and her hidden powers. A compelling fantasy adventure.



**Rohan, Jason**

**S.T.E.A.L.T.H Access Denied**

Nosy Crow

Pbk 7.99 978183994338

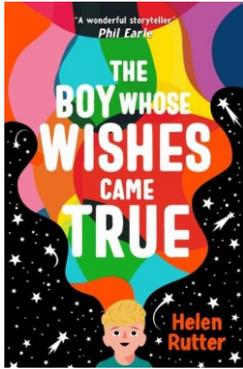
6

Interest age:

10+

Reading age: 10+

Donna realises that plain clothes police are at Arun's house, so she Arun and Sam bunk off school to find out why. They find out that Arun's Dad has been kidnapped on his way to work that morning. Gradually they discover that Arun's Dad's work is not what Arun thought! The three determine to help and recover Arun's Dad. An action-packed story from start to finish which is fast-paced and with short chapters. Totally improbable, but a great read and one I think pupils will enjoy Reading for Pleasure. First in a series



**Rutter, Helen**

**The Boy Whose Wishes Came True**

Scholastic

Pbk 6.99 978070230086

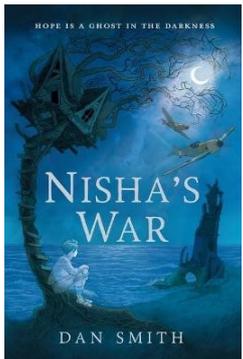
8

Interest age:

10+

Reading age: 10+

Eleven year old Archie Crumb is bullied at school and having a tough time at home, as his Dad left and has a new family. His Mum is so down, she rarely gets out of bed, so Archie is a child carer, and has to mostly look after her. One day Archie bumps his head, falling off his bike and sees stars – his local favourite footie player, who grants him 9 wishes. Archie realises he has to be very specific in what he wishes for, some bring him laugh but ultimately, he realises that only he has the power to really change his life. A moving story about a child carer which is uplifting and handles some serious subjects.



**Smith, Dan**

**Nishas's War**

Chicken House

Pbk 7.99 978191262675

5

Interest age:

10+

Reading age: 10+

When Nisha and her mother flee the Japanese invasion of Malaya in WWII, they are given refuge at her father's ancestral home on a windswept island in the North of England. However, Nisha must follow her stern grandmother's countless rules, and the culture shock is huge. But, then Nisha hears a ghost child calling her name from the old crooked "weeping tree" high on the cliff top, challenging her to find three treasures before the next full moon. Nisha can hardly believe what is happening, and as she explores the old house and the island, she begins to make some surprising discoveries. Grips from the very start of the narrative and is a compelling war story with a difference. The central characters are very believable, and Nisha is relatable. Very good descriptive world building, and the development of the mystery also keeps the reader engaged. The spooky book cover would also intrigue potential readers. Very enjoyable read.

**You can buy these books for your classroom or school library from Peters Library suppliers**

Register for a login at <https://peters.co.uk/register> and qualify for a **30%** discount. Enter the voucher code 'INSP30' before submitting the order. Books will be delivered and invoiced direct to school. For further details and contact information, visit <https://peters.co.uk/>

**Education Library Service, Inspire HQ, Glaisdale Parkway, Nottingham NG8 4GP**

**Tel: 0115 804 4499**

**E-mail: [elsg@inspireculture.org.uk](mailto:elsg@inspireculture.org.uk)**