

No Shelf Control

Edition 24 April 2023

Sarthak Sinha Farah Loves Mangos

This month's Book of the Month is a picture book and it is a real stellar month for picture books - I could have easily only included picture books for the whole edition. Readers young and old have a lot of brilliant books to choose from. Sarthak Sinha's 'Farah Loves Mangos' is our pick as the cream of the crop. Let us tell you exactly why!

Farah Loves Mangos is an enchanting picture book that will leave you feeling warm and fuzzy inside. The story centres around Farah, a little girl who adores mangos and is determined to make her grandpa's mango tree grow fruit again. However, in her quest, she discovers that there is more to the tree than just the fruit it bears.

The spread where Farah declares the tree useless only for us to see that it is in fact bursting with life is truly exquisite. There's lots for readers to notice and discuss.

Sarthak Sinha's illustrations are absolutely breathtaking and full of life. The colours are bright and vibrant, which make the story come alive. The humour and emotion that Sinha infuses in each page add an extra layer of depth to the story, making it a joy to read.

The heartwarming story teaches us about the importance of valuing nature and appreciating it for more than just its tangible offerings. The inter-generational relationship between Farah and her grandpa is beautifully portrayed and adds a sense of warmth and love to the story.



Overall, it is a delightful read that will leave you feeling uplifted and content. It's a celebration of nature, family, and the simple joys of life that are often overlooked. A perfect addition to any child's library, Farah Loves Mangos is sure to capture the hearts of both children and adults alike.

Farah Loves Mangos is out now in hardback from Flying Eye Books £12.99



Books



Reviews



Chats



Nic Blake and the Remarkables

Angie Thomas

Walker 9+

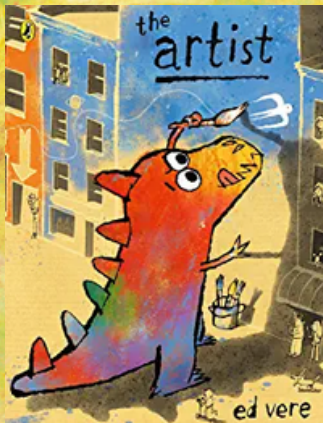
I couldn't put this brilliant fantasy novel down. Nic Blake is excited that on her 12th birthday, her dad will finally teach her how to use her powers. But her world changes when she sneaks out to meet her favourite author. She finds out that her whole life has been a lie. She is left with a mission to clear her father's name!

Olly Brown, God of Hamsters

Beth Walker & Jack Noel

Scholastic 8+

Olly REALLY wants to take his class's pet hamster home but it's never his turn. Then one day a hamster turns up at his house, only this hamster seems to be a little out of the ordinary! It turns out that there is a whole civilisation of highly intelligent hamsters that worship Olly as a God!



The Artist

Ed Vere

Puffin 3+

An ode to young artists. Our young reptilian artist goes on an art adventure and learns that art doesn't have to be perfect. A super book to share and discuss mistakes and intentions. You can't go wrong with an Ed Vere book, but I think this may be my favourite!

Please Write Soon

Lisa Thompson & Gemma Correll

Scholastic 7+

Lisa Thompson always manages to keep you gripped to her books, you'll be unable to put this one down! Vincent is off on an activity weekend with children from his class - not his idea of fun. He is desperate for the trip to be over so he can get home but then someone reveals that they think there may be treasure nearby... Suddenly the trip becomes a brilliant adventure!

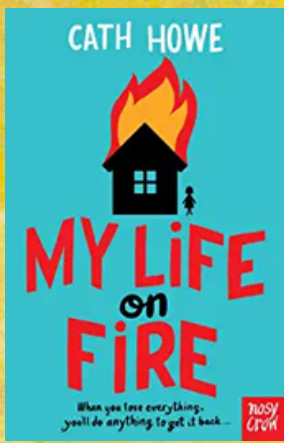


One To Wait for...

Vivi Conway - Lizzie Huxley-Jones

Knights Of - June 23

Vivi finds out that she is part of a magical group of children that have the souls of witches! She also realises that she can now control water. I can't wait to read this adventure



My Life on Fire

Cath Howe

Nosy Crow 9+

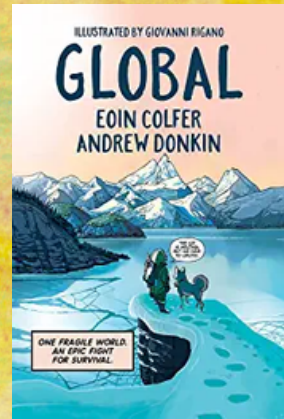
We have made no secret of the fact we're huge fans of Cath Howe's writing so it should be obvious that we loved this! When Ren's family home is destroyed by a fire they have to move in with her grandma. Her class need to gather objects for their 'my life in a box' project but Ren realises that she has nothing left. So she starts taking things from other people - surely they won't notice when they have so much!

Global

Eoin Colfer, Andrew Donkin & Giovanni Rigano

Hodder 9+

Five years after their last collaboration, the team behind 'Illegal' are back with another superb graphic novel. This time they tackle climate change and its effect on two completely different children - Yuki in Nova Scotia and Sami in Bengal. The contrasting consequences will lead children to think more about climate change and hopefully make them fight for a better future!



School Trip

Jerry Craft

Quill Tree Books 8+

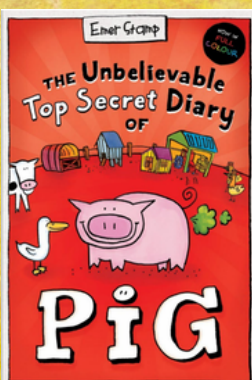
Another superb graphic novel from Jerry Craft. This is the third book in the 'New Kid' series - but each book can be enjoyed as a stand alone - although you'll want to read all three! This time, the characters embark on a school trip to Paris. How will they all fare in a new country? As an added lure to read this, some groups in America are calling for it to be banned - Who doesn't want to read a banned book?

Silver Linings

Fiona Woodcock

Green Willow 3+

I fell in love with this book the moment I set eyes on it! We join two young friends, who are polar opposites, on their adventures. We quickly realise that even though they are different, they both share one thing - friendship! Pip's pessimism is balanced by Parker's optimism and he constantly finds creative ways to put a smile on her face!



One You Might Have Missed

The Unbelievable Top Secret Diary of Pig - Emer Stamp
Scholastic - 7+ Re-released April 2023

An old favourite is back with a colourful twist! Meet Pig and his hilarious farmyard friends in this colour-illustrated diary. A fresh and silly read filled with unforgettable characters, laughter, and themes of friendship and bravery. A super read aloud!

9 Books about... Kings



There is apparently something very important happening to do with the monarchy soon. So why not have a royally good time and read one of these books about kings (some real and some fictional)!

1. The King's Pants

Nicholas Allan

2. The King's Hats

Sheila May Bird & Mark Beech

3. King of the Swamp

Catherine Emmett & Ben Mantle

4. The New King

Roger Hargreaves

5. Amazing Facts: King

Charles III

Hannah Wilson and Chris Dickason

6. The King Who Banned the Dark

Emily Haworth-Booth

7. The Cat and the King

Nick Sharatt

8. King of the Sky

Nicola Davies & Laura Carlin

9. Winnie the Pooh Meets the King

Jane Riordan & Andrew Grey

