

Spotlight on Northcote Library

At a time when so many libraries are closing down, we are fortunate that a brand new library has opened recently a stone's throw away from Webb's Road.

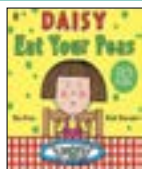
We asked Lauren, a children's librarian at Northcote Library, to tell us more about the library, to give us some book recommendations and explain why she thinks reading is so important.

"The library holds hundreds of children's books, from board and picture books, to beginning to read, through to chapter books, non-fiction and teen fiction. Becoming a member of the library is incredibly easy – [you can sign up here](#) and then pop along to see us to collect your library card. Library members can borrow 50 books at any one time, and can borrow them for up to three weeks.

From Saturday 8th July, children are invited to sign up to the [Summer Reading Challenge!](#) This year's theme is 'Ready, Set, Read!' and we will have a number of sport-themed activities throughout Wandsworth Libraries over the course of the summer. For more information, please see [here](#).

My three favourite children's books are:

Daisy: Eat Your Peas
- Kes Gray



A hilarious story about the struggle of encouraging children to eat their vegetables.

The House with Chicken Legs
- Sophie Anderson



A beautiful story steeped in Slavic folklore about discovering who you are.

Everyday STEM Science Space
- Izzie Clarke



A brightly illustrated book packed with facts about space and at-home science experiments!

Reading is a proven way of boosting your child's self-esteem, communication skills and even their future careers. We can't wait to see you at the library!"

A huge thank you to Lauren for her contribution and we hope that you feel inspired to join your local library and participate in the Summer Reading Challenge!

Fiction Recommendations Infants

Martha Maps It Out - Leigh Hodgkinson



A great picture book where Martha takes us on a magical tour from the universe into her thoughts via her town and apartment block. Each page offers a brilliantly drawn and fun map of Martha's world. We are sure it will inspire you to draw maps of your world!

What Feelings Do When No One's Looking - Tina Oziewicz, Aleksandra Zajac



A creative and thoughtful book which personifies feelings through large, grey figures. It offers a great way to start a conversation about emotions. What do you think joy does when no one's looking? According to the author, it "bounces on a trampoline".

The Artist - Ed Vere



A fun and imaginative picture book that celebrates creativity and tries to answer the question: "What is an artist?" We find out that artists are inspired by life around them and learn from mistakes. A great book for any budding artist (and/or dinosaur fan).

Speak Up! - Nathan Bryon (author) and Dapo Adeola (illustrator)



An informative and uplifting book in which Rocket, who loves reading and libraries, is inspired by Rosa Parks and starts a campaign to save her local library from closure. Check out the other titles by the same duo - 'Clean Up!' and read in Y1 'Look Up!'

Non-fiction Recommendation Infants

My First Garden - Livi Gosling



This is a perfect companion for any child who wants to get into or learn more about gardening. The book offers great tips and beautiful illustrations which show you how to plant seeds, grow your own fruit and vegetables or try a gardening project. There is a strong ecological message in the book and it's a great way to spend time outside (in the hopefully glorious weather) and away from screens! We're sure that members of gardening club will be keen to read it.

Fiction Recommendation - Juniors

The Thames and Tide Club - Katya Balen



Clem and her friends are mudlarkers - they search the Thames's riverside for hidden objects. A certain find leads to an unexpected and magical adventure which will make you see the Thames in a different light. A fun read with lots of humour and fishy puns!

The Good Turn - Sharna Jackson



Josie aims to make a positive difference and starts a Scout group with her friends which leads to adventures. This thrilling book promotes activism and is a poignant reminder about some of the difficulties faced by the Windrush Generation.

Poetry Recommendation - Juniors

Marshmallow Clouds - Ted Kooser and Connie Wanek (authors) Richard Jones



The 2023 CLiPPA Winner! A beautifully produced poetry collection inspired by nature. A favourite is a tadpole being described as 'a huge comma... the liveliest of all punctuation'. The poets encourage us to look around, be curious and let our imaginations run wild.

Let's Chase Stars Together - Matt Goodfellow



This moving collection contemplates growing up from a young person's perspective. The poems cover themes of friendship, family, separation and navigating school experiences. We're sure that many will spark personal reflection.

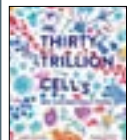
Non-fiction Recommendation - Juniors

We've Got This! - Rashmi Sirdeshpande



This book has been written in partnership with the EmpathyLab, an organisation which aims to build children's empathy, literacy and social activism through high-quality literature. The book explains the importance of reading and the science of empathy.

Thirty Trillion Cells. How Your Body Really Works - Isabel Thomas, Dawn Cooper



A must-read for any budding scientist, doctor or any one who has ever wondered what we are made of! It is packed with mind-blowing facts and diagrams. Look out for the ciliated epithelial cells that run a "snot escalator" to keep your lungs clean!

The Island of Brilliant Podcast



A fun, new monthly podcast hosted by authors Frank Cottrell-Boyce and Nadia Shireen who are supposedly stranded on a desert island with nothing to read or talk about apart from children's books. It features famous guest authors (episode 1 - Cressida Cowell, episode 2 - Maisie Chan and episode 3 - Ed Vere) and informs listeners what's new in the world of children's literature. Have a pen and paper ready to take a note of the recommendations!

Exciting Booklists and Awards



'Marshmallow Clouds' by Ted Kooser and Connie Wanek won the 2023 CLiPPA - an award celebrating published poetry for children. Nicola Davies, who featured in our Spring Term newsletter, was Highly Commended for her moving poems in the collection 'Choose Love' which is about the refugee experience. [Find out more information here.](#)

Windrush Day took place on 22 June. It offers an opportunity to celebrate the contributions made by the Windrush Generation and their descendants and reflect on some of the difficulties faced by that community. If you would like to read books on this topic then check out the reading list provided by loverreading4kids.co.uk [here.](#)



The shortlist for the Klaus Flugge Prize June celebrated Pride and the LGBTQ+ was announced on 17 May and can be found [here.](#) It is an award for the most interesting their relationships and sex education promising and exciting newcomer to children's picture book illustrations. The winner will be announced on 13 September. If you would like to discuss in more detail then take a look at this list of children's books curated by loverreading4kids.co.uk

Buy books and support the school



If you buy your books online, please consider buying them from <https://www.love-reading-4kids.co.uk/> and nominate the school. Not only do you get 10% off but the school receives 25% of the cover price, which we can then spend on new books for the children. Thank you.