

# READING NEWSLETTER



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- information about Accelerated Reader
- a quick look at the texts we have covered this term
- some recommendations
- reading celebrations

We are absolutely delighted to be sharing our first ever reading newsletter with you. We hope that it will provide you with an overview of how we are approaching reading at AMS as well as recommendations of books your children can read.

At AMS, we want to foster a love of reading as well as ensure that children make rapid progress. Therefore, we are adopting a 'Love and Learn' approach to book selection. We currently use Accelerated Reader to support children in selecting books from the library. We are asking children to ensure that the book that they are reading in school is within their ZPD range (this links to their reading age) to make sure children are being challenged appropriately. They are then able to read an additional book which can be a book of their choice to help build a love of reading. This book can be enjoyed at home.

Alongside this, we are going to be approaching Accelerated Reader slightly differently next term. Each child will be given a target number of points to aim towards which is in line with their reading age. To earn points they need to read books, quiz on them and get over 60% right. Any child who achieves their target will receive a raffle ticket and will be entered into a draw to win a prize. Any class where all pupils achieve their target will also win a non-school uniform day on the last day of half-term. We hope this more inclusive, individualised approach will be far more motivational for students and will support us in developing a love of reading at AMS.

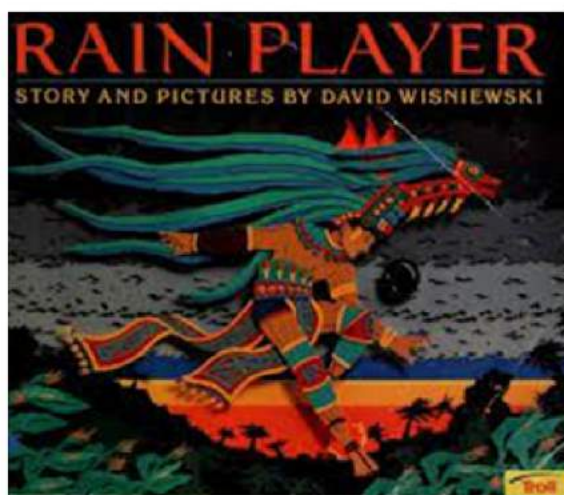


**Accelerated**<sup>TM</sup>  
Reader

## What we are reading at AMS

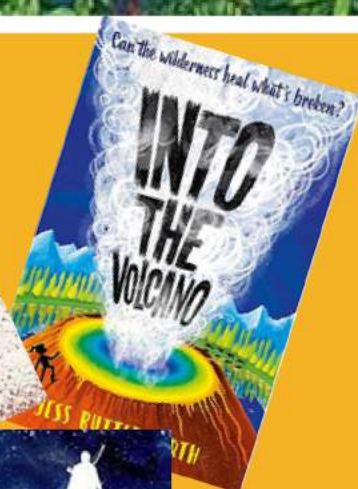
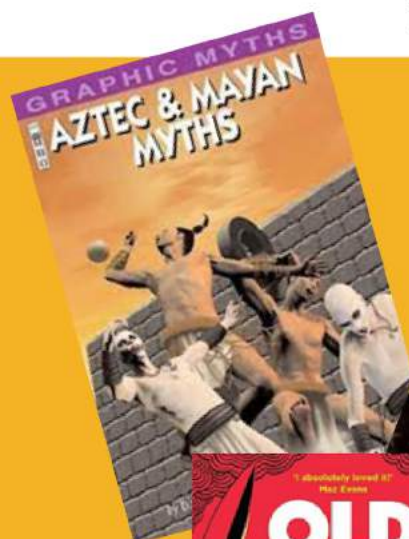
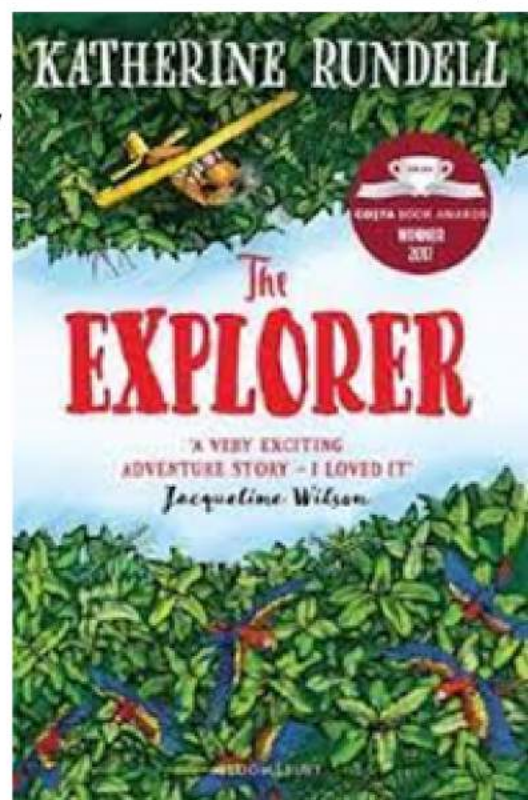
On the next few pages, you can see the books children have been reading in each year group along with some recommended reads.





The ancient Mayan belief that the future was divinely decreed and could not be changed is the basis for this original tale of a boy who must defeat the Rain God in a ball game to save his people from disaster. Mayan art and architecture were the inspiration for the spectacular cut-paper artwork.

Fred, Con, Lila and little Max's plane is on the way to Manaus when it falls out of the sky. Now, lost in the Amazon rainforest, they must figure out the basics of survival: water, shelter, food. Do they wait for rescue, or find a way to rescue themselves? As they get bolder and explore further afield, they see more traces of another human inhabitant, too – and then they find the map. Who was here before and where will the map take them? Themes of friendship, the environment and survival. (BookTrust)  
Other books by Katherine Rundell (adventure): Rooftoppers, The Wolf Wilder, The Good Thieves. Her latest book, Impossible Creatures, is a fantasy.

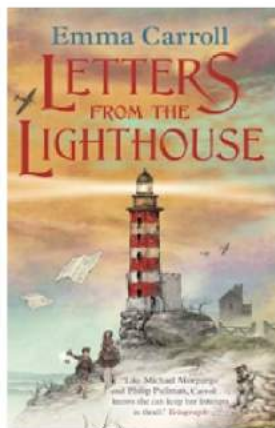


Recommended Reads



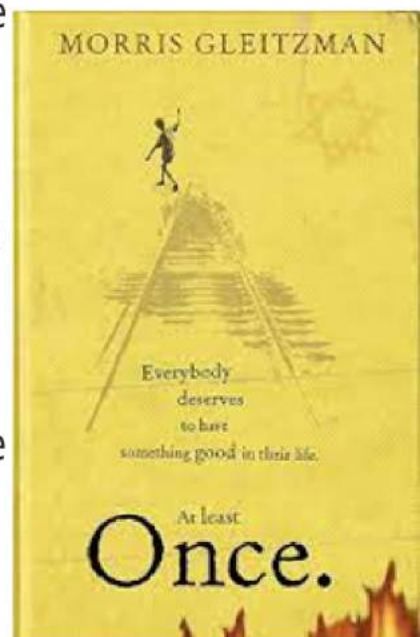


# YEAR 6



Olive and her brother have been evacuated to Devon, but her older sister Sukie is still missing from the night of the bombs. A mysterious note found in the coat of her sister suggests that Sukie was involved in something dangerous, but Olive can't make the pieces fit together. (BookTrust)

Felix has lived in a Catholic orphanage for over three years but always hopes that his Jewish bookseller parents to come for him. Alarmed by the sight of what he assumes are official 'librarians' burning Jewish books in the orphanage, he sets off in search of his parents to warn them of the danger. On his travels Felix uses his natural optimism and storytelling gift to explain away the horrific events he witnesses in Nazi-occupied Poland. Told in simple yet powerful language, his story reveals the redemptive power of stories and the potential for humanity and hope even in the most tragic times. (BookTrust)



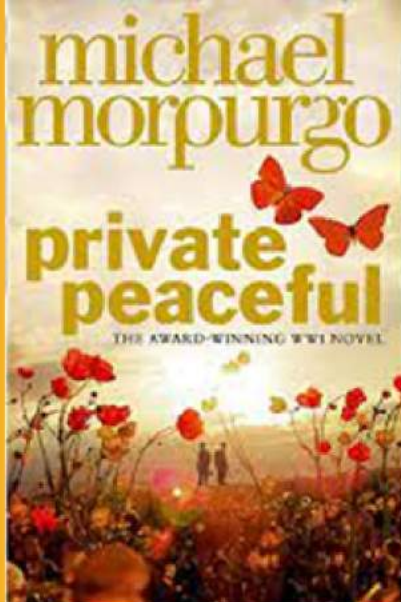
Once is first in a series of six books following Felix's life: the others are Then, After, Soon, Maybe, Now, Always.



Recommended Reads



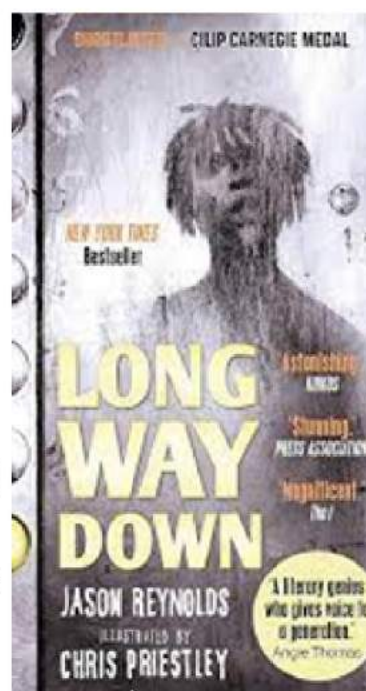
# YEAR 7



Set during World War I, *Private Peaceful* charts eight hours in the life of Tommo, a young soldier at the Front, as he looks back over the formative events of his life: his father's early death, his relationship with his loving mother and brothers, Big Joe and Charlie, and their beloved schoolfriend Molly – all set among an evocative and beautifully realised rural landscape. An unflinching examination of the horrors of war and the injustice surrounding the execution of soldiers by firing squad, on the – often false – grounds of desertion or cowardice. (BookTrust)

Some war books by Michael Morpurgo: *An Elephant in the Garden*, *Shadow*, *The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips*

Will is a black American teenager, living in a neighbourhood overshadowed by gun crime. When his older brother Shawn is shot dead in front of him, Will is overcome with grief, despair and fury. Focusing on the Rules – no crying, no snitching, get revenge – Will takes Shawn's gun, intending to avenge his brother's murder. However, the 67 seconds he spends in the lift from his apartment to the ground floor are life-changing for Will. He is joined by six 'ghosts', key figures from his past, whose deaths are all gun-related. Learning how and why each of them died prompts him to consider whether the perpetual cycle of revenge killing is the only way forward. (BookTrust) Written in verse, this is an accessible and thought-provoking book.



# YEAR 8





# READING CELEBRATIONS



## Surpassed Target

Daniel D	Sky L-G	Arun M	Grace A	Isla B	William G
Jack L	Poppy M	Antoni M	Peach S	Eddie S	Abigail S
Sebastian W	Charlotte W	Edie B	Lilly E	Claude F	Bella G
Alice G	Jayden H	Lucia B	Aiden D	Elsie H	Ada J
Emma M	Joseph M	Joshua P	Theo P	Hira S	Poppy S
Nathan S	Daniel S	Aabhik B	William B	Martha C-H	Elsie
D	Yasmin H-H	Darcey P	Ted S	Annabel S	Laiyla S
Jacob T	Freddie B	Bethany B	Emily C	Heide E	William M
Annabelle O-A	Matilda P	Bethany W	Cerys Y	Zac J	Lila R
Jace B	Oscar B	Lily B	Gabrielle C	Josh C	Jo G
Archie J	Arwenna M	Anabelle S	Tia S	Leana T	Florence W
Lucy W	Maisie B	Melis B	Millie C	Charlie C	Evie M
Albert O-A	Eva R	Alfie C	George F	Timmy H-E	Ellie R
Jake S	Isis S	Lara W	Emilie W	Liliya S	Madeleine M
Joy N	Noah S	Cody B	Evan H	Alfred M	Jamie C
B	Amelie I	Adelina R-F	Pranfa V	Noah B	Felix C-H
Florence C	Freya M	Harry R	Eloise S	Hana B	Darcey B-E
Jacob G	William H	Isabella J	Jaya M	William R	Emily R
			Iona S		

## Millionaire Readers

Isla B	Jack B	Annabelle O-A	Joshua C	Albert O-A
	Jamie C	Jaya M	Iona S	