



## WINTER

*"To learn to read is to light a fire; every syllable that is spelled out is a spark."* – Victor Hugo

If you would like to renew a book, or have any comments/ queries, please don't hesitate to contact me at [library@newsteadwood.co.uk](mailto:library@newsteadwood.co.uk)

Happy reading! – Miss Mullins, Miss Walker, and Miss McGarr



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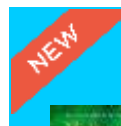
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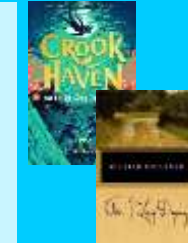
### Nevermoor #3 - Hollowpox: The Hunt for Morrigan Crow by Jessica Townsend

Morrigan Crow and her friends have survived their first year as proud scholars of the elite Wundrous Society, helped bring down the nefarious Ghastly Market, and proven themselves loyal to Unit 919. Now Morrigan faces a new, exciting challenge: to master the mysterious Wretched Arts, and control the power that threatens to consume her. But a strange and frightening illness has taken hold of Nevermoor, turning infected Wundimals into mindless, vicious Unimals on the hunt. As victims of the Hollowpox multiply, panic spreads. And with the city she loves in a state of fear, Morrigan quickly realizes it's up to her to find a cure for the Hollowpox, even if it will put her - and everyone in Nevermoor - in more danger than she ever imagined.



### Crookhaven #2 - The Forgotten Maze by J.J. Arcanjo

It's Gabriel's second year at Crookhaven School for Thieves. And with a tricky break-in challenge to the teacher's section of the library to attempt, plus a new class called Reclamation, his Miscreant year is already off to a busy start. Then Gabriel and his friends learn about Maravel's Maze. Hidden deep beneath the lake, forgotten about by the school, it's a labyrinth of obstacles. Each tests a crook-related skill - and all are nearly impossible. But the impossible has never stopped Gabriel's crew before, especially not when there's something at the heart of the maze that they all desperately want... The second book in the 'criminally good' Crookhaven series, the secret school where students are taught to do wrong, so that one day, they can put the world to rights.



### As I Lay Dying by William Faulkner (Recommended for Older Readers)

As I Lay Dying is Faulkner's harrowing account of the Bundren family's odyssey across the Mississippi countryside to bury Addie, their wife and mother. Narrated in turn by each of the family members -- including Addie herself -- as well as others; the novel ranges in mood, from dark comedy to the deepest pathos.



### My Mechanical Romance by Alexene Farol Follmuth

Bel would rather die than think about the future. College apps? You're funny. Extracurriculars? Not a chance. But when she accidentally reveals a talent for engineering at school, she's basically forced into joining the robotics club. Even worse? All the boys ignore Bel -- and Neelam, the only other girl on the team, doesn't seem to like her either. Enter Mateo Luna, captain of the club, who recognizes Bel as a potential asset -- until they start butting heads. Bel doesn't care about Nationals, while Teo cares too much. But as the nights of after-school work grow longer and longer, Bel and Teo realize they've made more than just a combat-ready robot for the championship: they've made each other and the team better. Because girls do belong in STEM.

### Days at the Morisaki Bookshop by Satoshi Yagisawa

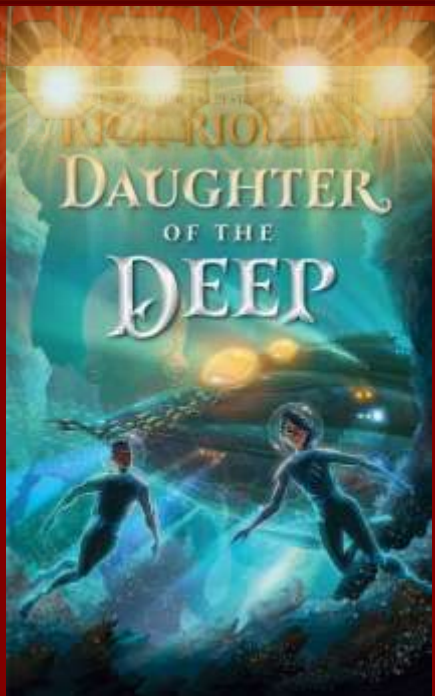
Hidden in Jimbocho, Tokyo, is a booklover's paradise. On a quiet corner in an old wooden building lies a shop filled with hundreds of second-hand books. Twenty-five-year-old Takako has never liked reading, although the Morisaki bookshop has been in her family for three generations. It is the pride and joy of her uncle Satoru, who has devoted his life to the bookshop since his wife Momoko left him five years earlier. When Takako's boyfriend reveals he's marrying someone else, she reluctantly accepts her eccentric uncle's offer to live rent-free in the tiny room above the shop. Hoping to nurse her broken heart in peace, Takako is surprised to encounter new worlds within the stacks of books lining the Morisaki bookshop. As summer fades to autumn, Satoru and Takako discover they have more in common than they first thought. The Morisaki bookshop has something to teach them both about life, love, and the healing power of books.

### The Importance of Being Interested by Robin Ince

Comedian Robin Ince quickly abandoned science at school, bored by a fog of dull lessons and intimidated by the barrage of equations. But, twenty years later, he fell in love and he now presents one of the world's most popular science podcasts. Every year he meets hundreds of the world's greatest thinkers. In this erudite and witty book, Robin reveals why scientific wonder isn't just for the professionals. Filled with interviews featuring astronauts, comedians, teachers, quantum physicists, neuroscientists and more - as well as charting Robin's own journey with science - The Importance of Being Interested explores why many wrongly think of the discipline as distant and difficult. From the glorious appeal of the stars above to why scientific curiosity can encourage much needed intellectual humility, this optimistic and profound book will leave you filled with a thirst for intellectual adventure.



### Wish List Spotlight:



#### Daughter of the Deep by Rick Riordan

Ana Dakkar is a freshman at Harding-Pencroft Academy, a five-year high school that graduates the best marine scientists, naval warriors, navigators, and underwater explorers in the world. Ana's parents died while on a scientific expedition two years ago, and the only family she's got left is her older brother, Dev, also a student at HP. Ana's freshman year culminates with the class's weekend trial at sea, the details of which have been kept secret. She only hopes she has what it'll take to succeed. All her worries are blown out of the water when, on the bus ride to the ship, Ana and her schoolmates witness a terrible tragedy that will change the trajectory of their lives.

But wait, there's more. The professor accompanying them informs Ana that their rival school, Land Institute, and Harding-Pencroft have been fighting a cold war for a hundred and fifty years. Now that cold war has been turned up to a full boil, and the freshmen are in danger of becoming fish food. In a race against deadly enemies, Ana will make amazing friends and astounding discoveries about her heritage as she puts her leadership skills to the test for the first time.

### January's MOST POPULAR BOOKS

1  A Good Girl's Guide to Murder by Holly Jackson	2  One of Us is Lying by Karen M. McManus	3  The Woman in Black by Susan Hill	4  This Mortal Coil by Emily Svada
5  The Secret History by Donna Tartt	6  Circe by Madeline Miller	7  They Both Die at the End by Adam Silvera	8  As Good as Dead by Holly Jackson

### STAR BORROWERS OF THE MONTH

Each month we highlight star borrowers - those that have borrowed 5 or more books.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13			
Avni 7N Neev 7N Florence 7N Amélie 7N Lea 7N Samaira 7N Anisah 7W Jenny 7W Electra 7W Isabelle 7W Siddhi 7W Simran 7W	Nidhi 7W Hriya 7W Tripti 7F Zainab 7F Fiona 7F Sophie 7G Mehr 7G Rebecca 7P Sophie 7P Elizabeth 7P Mia 7P	Azka 8N Sara 8W Satar 8W Zara 8W Bella 8W Akshara 8W Madeleine 8W Diyansa 8S Zara 8S Charlotte 8S Olivia 8S Tia 8S Senumi 8S	Imaan 8F Avni 8F Rose 8F Sara 8F Srisha 8F Tara 8G Ming Em 8G Tarika 8G Dhiviyaa 8G Thuwaraka 8G Liya 8G Aksha 8P Ming Hui 8P Ojal 8P	Layla 9N Abigail 9N Aleena 9W Aadhya 9W Sophiyaa 9S Emice 9S Precious 9S Arielle 9S Eniola 9F Abigail 9F Aashvi 9G Olivia 9G	Christine 9P Lucy 9W Saffron 9P Wenxuan 9P	Saahithi 10F Lucy 10G Nandana 10G Joanna 10G Sophia 10G Zam 10P Anthiya 10P Hannah 10P Lizzy 10P	Aayushi 11W Livia 11W Ileesha 11S Sorena 11S Vyshally 11S Klementyna 11S Audrey 11P	Dylan 12S Julia 12P Evie 12P	Ethan 13F Thiyya 13F Imaan 13P Hephzibah 13H

### Newstead's Royal Society Young People's Prize Judging Group Cast Their Votes

Our year 7 judging panel have been working hard for the last seven weeks reading all of the books shortlisted for the 2024 Royal Society's Young People's Book Prize and deciding on their winner. We've now sent off our results to the Royal Society and await watching the prize giving ceremony together in March. Thank you to Amélie, Aniela, Ramiyah, Nancy, Carla, and our chairperson Tazrian for all your hard work. Our group's winner by a large margin was *Bodies, Brains and Bogies* by Paul Ian Cross.



### External Competition: Reveal Your Character Competition

Children's charity Coram have teamed up with bestselling author and illustrator Rob Biddulph to launch the 'Reveal Your Character' competition for young people aged 4-14. The competition invites entrants to submit a description of what a character representing themselves would look like on ITV show The Masked Singer, and how it represents their personality and interests.

Three winners will be selected by judges including Davina McCall and Mo Gilligan to have their characters brought to life in an illustration by Rob Biddulph and receive a signed print of their characters. Rob Biddulph said of the competition: "The Masked Singer is one of the most exciting shows on TV, but there is nothing more exciting than a child's imagination. That's why I'm thrilled to be involved with a project like this that can help fire it. The fact that I'll be working alongside my incredible friends at Coram only adds to the thrill. I can't wait to see what wild and wonderful creations the entrants come up with." The competition is open for entries until the 7th of February 2024.

[Click here for more details, and to access the entry form.](#)

### Rolling Stones' Member's Bayeux Tapestry Reproduction Now at Bayeux Museum



In 1872, a photographer from the Victoria and Albert Museum (then called the South Kensington Museum) travelled to France to photograph the Bayeux Tapestry. The resulting images were produced on glass plates and coloured by hand in a process that took two years. There were only six copies made, and at some point in the 150 years following, one of the six copies ended up in the possession of Rolling Stones drummer Charlie Watts. Watts passed away in 2021, and his copy of the tapestry photos was sold last year at auction to The Bayeux Museum for

£16,000. The Museum has now made the purchase public. Clémentine Paquier-Berthelot, of the museum, said the object was the longest panoramic photograph of the 19th century and was not only a precious historical artefact but a vital tool in tracking the deterioration of the tapestry. She said only three examples of the copy were believed to still exist: one in a private collection in Wales, a second that is in storage at the V&A, and the one owned by Watts.

[Click here](#) to read the original *Guardian* article by Kim Willsher.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the Bayeux Tapestry and its history.

### The Bayeux Tapestry: The Complete Tapestry in Colour by David M Wilson

"The Tapestry is reproduced in full colour, with captions on a fold-out page for easy reference. A second reproduction of the Tapestry in black and white has a detailed accompanying commentary. Sir David Wilson provides an up-to-date summary of the historical evidence, explaining each episode and covers related topics such as the costumes, armour, ships, buildings and customs." As a social document the Tapestry is of incalculable value. As a work of art, the Tapestry is the sole survivor of a form which may once have been wide-spread, the wall-hanging commemorating the deeds of a great man.



### On This Day in History... The Death of Mary Shelley, 1st February 1851



Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, born in August 1797, was a writer best known for writing classic horror novel *Frankenstein* (subtitled *The Modern Prometheus*). *Frankenstein*, published 1818, is a gothic horror that's also considered an early example of a science fiction novel. Author Brian Aldiss went to far as to claim it was the first true science fiction novel in his book *Billion Year Spree*. Aldiss said that *Frankenstein* represents "the first seminal work to which the label SF (science fiction) can be logically attached." It can also be argued that *Frankenstein* was the first novel published in the 'mad scientist' subgenre.

Mary Shelley's family was a successful one: she was married to the Romantic poet Percy Bysshe Shelley (whose works she edited and promoted), her father was the political philosopher William Godwin, and her mother was the philosopher and women's rights advocate Mary Wollstonecraft who sadly died just a year after the birth of her daughter.

Shelley was present during the infamous summer spent by some of the day's literary elite at the Villa Diodati near Lake Geneva. Other writers in attendance included Mary's husband Percy, as well as the poet Lord Byron and the writer John William Polidori. During the time spent by the group at Lake Geneva the authors engaged in a ghost story competition – this competition inspired the writing of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* as well as *The Vampyre* by Polidori which is often viewed as the first story published in the romantic vampire subgenre. Mary Shelley died at the age of 53 from a suspected brain tumour and is buried at St Peter's Church in Bournemouth.

#### Frankenstein by Mary Shelley

Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* is a combination of Gothic novel and science fiction. It unfolds the story of a scientist Victor Frankenstein who creates a hideous monster from pieces of corpses and brings it to life. But the monster eventually becomes the source of his misery and demise. The plot of the novel is epistolary. The story is narrated through the first-person accounts of Captain Walton, Victor Frankenstein, and the monster himself. Moreover, *Frankenstein* is also a frame story. It means a story framed or surrounded by another story or a series of stories.



#### Mary's Monster: Love, Madness and How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein by Lita Judge

The dark, captivating story of one remarkable young woman. And her monster. Creative genius...? Inventor of science fiction...? Pregnant teenage runaway...? Who was the real Mary Shelley? Publishing to mark the 200th anniversary of the publication of *Frankenstein*, *Mary's Monster* is the compelling, and beautifully illustrated, story of Mary Shelley - the original rebel girl and an inspiration for everyone from teenage readers to adult. When her fractured bond with her beloved father, and her elopement with the mercurial (and married) poet Percy Bysshe Shelley at the age of 16, led her to Switzerland, few could have imagined the consequence would be such a book. But, in the crucible of societal disapproval and tenuous circumstances, Mary Shelley created *Frankenstein*, and his monster, forged in the fire of her troubled and tragic life. Part biography, part fantasy and part feminist allegory, *Mary's Monster* is an engrossing take on one remarkable young woman. And her monster.

### Bradford Boase Award 2024 Longlist Announced

The Bradford Boase Award was founded in 2000 in memory of author Henrietta Bradford, and her editor Wendy Boase. The award is given annually to the author of the year's outstanding debut novel for children and 'is the only award to honour the editor of the winning book highlighting the importance of the editor in nurturing new talent.' The Bradford Boase Award is known for identifying the most talented authors at the start of their career, with previous winners and shortlisted authors including Meg Rosoff, Frank Cottrell Boyce, Patrick Ness, Frances Hardinge, Philip Reeve, MG Leonard, Maisie Chan and Christine Pillainayagam. This year's longlist has now been announced. Below are the nominated books we currently have in the library. View the full longlist [here](#).

#### Gwen and Art are Not in Love by Lex Croucher

It's been hundreds of years since King Arthur's reign. His descendant, Arthur, a future Lord and general gadabout, has been betrothed to Gwendoline, the quick-witted, short-tempered princess of England, since birth. The only thing they can agree on is that they despise each other. They're forced to spend the summer together at Camelot in the run-up to their nuptials, and within 24 hours, Gwen has discovered Arthur kissing a boy, and Arthur has gone digging for Gwen's childhood diary and found confessions about her crush on the kingdom's only lady knight, Bridget Leclair. Realizing they might make better allies than enemies, Gwen and Art make a reluctant pact to cover for each other, and as things heat up at the annual royal tournament, Gwen is swept off her feet by her knight, and Arthur takes an interest in Gwen's royal brother.



#### The First Move by Jenny Ireland

Juliet believes girls like her - girls with arthritis - don't get their own love stories. She exists at the edges of her friends' social lives, skipping parties to play online chess under a pseudonym with strangers around the world. There, she isn't just 'the girl with crutches'. Ronan is the new kid: good looking, smart, a bad boy plagued by guilt over what happened to his brother Cianan. Chesslife is his escape; there, he's not just 'the boy with the brother'. Juliet thinks Ronan thinks someone like Ronan could never be interested in someone like her - and she wouldn't want him to be anyway because he always acts like he's cooler than everyone else. Whereas, Ronan thinks life is already too complicated for dating and just wants to keep his head down at school. Little do they know they've already discovered each other online, and have more in common than they think...