



AUTUMN

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



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External Competition (Sixth Form): The Keats-Shelley Prizes

Launched in 1998, the Keats-Shelley Prizes are held annually with the purpose of encouraging people of all ages to respond personally to the emotions aroused in them by the work of the Romantics...

The Young Romantics Poetry Prize:

- Poems must centre around the theme of 'exile'.
- Poems must be no more than 30 lines of text in length and must fit onto a single A4 page.
- Entries must be original - no AI generated work will be accepted.

The Young Romantics Essay Prize:

- Essays must be no more than 3,000 words including quotations.
- Essays may be on any aspect on the writing and/or lives of the Romantics and their circles.
- Entries must be original - no AI generated work will be accepted.

The deadline for both competitions is the 31st of January 2025 at 10am. Find further information and entry forms here.

Inaugural Michael Rosen Day to be Held on 12th November



The first ever Michael Rosen Day, in celebration of the brilliance of poet and author Michael Rosen, will take place on 12 November 2024. The day, held in partnership with literary charity Read for Good...

Michael Rosen's A-Z edited by Michael Rosen

From Agard to Zephaniah, the very best of children's poetry from the very best of children's poets appears in this wonderful and exciting anthology edited by Michael Rosen, the Children's Laureate.

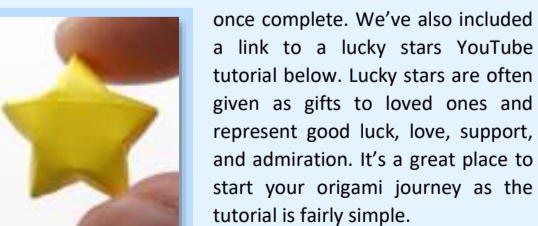
Michael Rosen's Sad Book by Michael Rosen

Sad things happen to everyone, and sometimes people feel sad for no reason at all. What makes Michael Rosen sad is thinking about his son, Eddie, who died suddenly at the age of eighteen. In this book the author writes about his sadness...

National Origami Day

National Origami Day is celebrated on November 11th each year. It's a day to honour the Japanese art of paper folding, which involves creating intricate shapes from square pieces of paper.

The image to the right is a step-by-step photo tutorial for creating origami lucky stars. The photo below (from allthingspaper.net) shows what the stars should look like once complete.



Lucky stars YouTube tutorial here.

Origami by David Petty

It is amazing how a simple piece of paper and a few folds can create so many different shapes and models. In this delightful guide you will find a wealth of projects from birds to frogs; from people to plants and from simple models to complex geometrical designs.



The Perfect Guy Doesn't Exist by Sophie Gonzales

Ivy Winslow has the house to herself for a week while her parents are away. She's planning to use this newfound freedom to binge-watch her favourite fantasy TV show, H-MAD, and hang out with her best friend, Henry. She'll also have to avoid her former best friend-turned enemy (and neighbour), Mack.



Death Note Black Edition: Volume 3 by Tsugumi Ohba

Light Yagami is an ace student with great prospects—and he's bored out of his mind. But all that changes when he finds the Death Note, a notebook dropped by a rogue Shinigami death god.

Lunar New Year Love Story by Gene Luen Yang and LeUyen Pham

Val is ready to give up on love. It's led to nothing but secrets and heartbreak, and she's pretty sure she's cursed — no one in her family, for generations, has ever had any luck with love.

The Arrival by Shaun Tan

In a heart-breaking parting, a man gives his wife and daughter a last kiss and boards a steamship to cross the ocean. He's embarking on the most painful yet important journey of his life—his leaving home to build a better future for his family.

Onyeka #2: Onyeka and the Rise of the Rebels by Tolá Okogwu

Having uncovered head teacher Dr Doyinbó's hidden agenda behind the Academy of the Sun, Onyeka and her friends are on the run. But they've got bigger problems to worry about — they desperately need to find a cure for the Solari disease that comes with using their Ike power.

Onyeka #3: Onyeka and the Heroes of the Dawn by Tolá Okogwu

Solari—children with superpowers—have always been native to Nigeria, but Onyeka and her friends have been alerted to one hidden in England. Tasked with retrieving the young Solari, they successfully complete their mission, arriving safe and sound back at the Academy of the Sun.



Spy x Family: Volume 1 by Tatsuya Endo

Master spy Twilight is the best at what he does when it comes to going undercover on dangerous missions in the name of a better world. But when he receives the ultimate impossible assignment—get married and have a kid—he may finally be in over his head!



Spy x Family: Volume 2 by Tatsuya Endo

Twilight must infiltrate the prestigious Eden Academy to get close to his target Donovan Desmond, but has he ruined his daughter Anya's chances with his outburst during the admissions interview?



Spy x Family: Volume 3 by Tatsuya Endo

Twilight has overcome many challenges in putting together the Forger family, but now all his hard work might come undone when Yor's younger brother Yuri pops in for a surprise visit!



Getting Into Dental School by Adam Cross and Emily Lucas

Covering everything from application to interview, this guide takes students step-by-step through the process of applying to dental school, including up-to-date advice, details of current issues facing the profession and career prospects to ensure students have the best chance of success.

Emily Wilde's Encyclopaedia of Faeries by Heather Fawcett

Emily Wilde is good at many things: she is the foremost expert on the study of faeries; she is a genius scholar and a meticulous researcher who is writing the world's first encyclopaedia of faerie lore.



Dungeon Fun by Colin Bell

This is a story of a girl and her sword... Raised by trolls in the moat of a castle, Fun Mudlifter lives a life of boredom until, one day, when adventure finds her and a sword plummets into her village.

2025 Carnegie Medal Nominees Announced

The Carnegie Medal for Writing (along with its sister prize for illustration) is the UK's longest running children's book award, annually judged and awarded by children's librarians for 'an outstanding book written in English for children and young people'.

You Could Be So Pretty by Holly Bourne

Belle Gentle follows the rules of The Doctrine to the letter and is so close to Having It All. She's the highest Pretty in school, A Chosen One in her spare time, and she's about to win The Ceremony and fulfil her destiny.

A Kind of Spark #0.5: Keebie by Elle McNicoll

Set in Juniper five years before A Kind of Spark, Keebie is a powerful coming-of-age story that thoughtfully tackles bullying, navigating friendships, and the joys and difficulties of being an autistic teenager.

Impossible Creatures by Katherine Rundell

The day Christopher saved a drowning baby griffin from a hidden lake would change his life forever. It's the day he learned about the Archipelago, a cluster of unmapped islands where magical creatures of every kind have thrived for thousands of years.

On This Day in History... The Death of Stieg Larsson, 9th November 2004



Author Stieg Larsson, born 15th August 1954, was raised in northern Sweden until moving to Stockholm at age 9. As a teenager, he developed a strong interest in radical left-wing politics, influenced by his grandfather's anti-fascist views.

Larsson's writing blends investigative journalism with a deep social critique, particularly focusing on corruption, misogyny, and the abuse of power. His novels often explore themes of gender violence, and his portrayal of Lisbeth Salander (the protagonist in his Millennium series) as a complex, empowered woman has become iconic.

Millennium #1: The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo by Stieg Larsson

Harriet Vanger, a scion of one of Sweden's wealthiest families disappeared over forty years ago. All these years later, her aged uncle continues to seek the truth. He hires Mikael Blomkvist, a crusading journalist recently trapped by a libel conviction, to investigate.



Millennium #2: The Girl Who Played with Fire by Stieg Larsson

Lisbeth Salander is a wanted woman. Two Millennium journalists about to expose the truth about sex trafficking in Sweden are murdered, and Salander's prints are on the weapon. Her history of unpredictable and vengeful behaviour makes her an official danger to society - but no-one can find her.

Books of My Life: William Boyd



William Boyd is a British novelist, short story writer, and screen writer. In 1983 he was selected as one of the 20 'Best Young British Novelists' and has gone on to win numerous prestigious awards for his works of fiction.

'My Comfort Read': Pale Fire by Vladimir Nabokov

The American poet John Shade is dead. His last poem, 'Pale Fire', is put into a book, together with a preface, a lengthy commentary and notes by Shade's editor, Charles Kinbote.

'The Book I Could Never Read Again': The Fellowship of the Ring by J.R.R. Tolkien. One Ring to rule them all, One Ring to find them, One Ring to bring them all and in the darkness bind them.

The Book I Reread: Ulysses by James Joyce

Set entirely on one day, 16 June 1904, Ulysses follows Leopold Bloom and Stephen Daedalus as they go about their daily business in Dublin.

'The Book That Changed Me as a Teenager': Catch-22 by Joseph Heller

The book is set during World War II and follows the experiences of Captain John Yossarian, an American bombardier stationed on a fictional Mediterranean island.

'The Author I Came Back To': The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie by Muriel Spark

A teacher at a girl's school in Edinburgh during the 1930s comes into conflict with school authorities because of her unorthodox teaching methods.