



SPRING

If you would like to renew a book, or have any comments/ queries, please don't hesitate to contact us at library@newsteadwood.co.uk

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



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Orpington Library's Younger Teens Reading Group

Do you enjoy reading?
Enjoy talking about books?



Would you like to join the
Younger Teens Reading
Group at Orpington Library?

If you would like to join, please contact us by
email: orpington.library@gll.org

Meetings are once a month on a Monday from
5:30-6:30pm, during term time, for ages 11-
14 years

We look forward to seeing you!

On This Day... MLK Jr was born 15th January 1929

Martin Luther King, Jr. was born on January 15th, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia, to Reverend Martin Luther King, Sr. and Alberta Williams King, and was originally named Michael King before his father changed both of their names in 1934. He grew up as the middle child in a close family, enjoyed music, and sang in his church choir, but he also experienced racism at a young age when a childhood friendship with a white boy ended because of segregation. King was highly educated, earning a bachelor's degree in sociology from Morehouse College and later a Ph.D. in systematic theology from Boston University, where he was influenced by church leaders who shaped his commitment to social justice. In 1955, during the Montgomery bus boycott sparked by the actions of Claudette Colvin and Rosa Parks, King emerged as a leader who believed in nonviolent protest, and this event made him a national figure in the civil rights movement. He went on to become president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, wrote *Stride Toward Freedom*, and played a key role in major civil rights actions, including the Birmingham protests and the 1963 March on Washington, where he delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. In recognition of his peaceful fight against racial injustice, King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, but his life was tragically cut short when he was assassinated on April 4, 1968, leaving a lasting impact on the United States and the struggle for equality. Find out more information of MLK Jr. [here](https://www.mlkfday.org/).



A Gift of Love: Sermons From Strength to Love and Other Preachings by Martin Luther King Jr

The classic collection of sixteen sermons preached and compiled by Dr. King as he prepared for the Birmingham campaign in early 1963, he drafted the final sermons for *Strength to Love*, a volume of his best-known homilies.

The Civil Rights Movement by Bruce J. Dierenfield

Organised in a clear chronological fashion, the book shows how concerted pressure in a variety of forms ultimately carried the day in realizing a more just society for African-Americans. It will provide students of American history with an invaluable, comprehensive introduction to the civil rights movement.

Letter from Birmingham Jail by Martin Luther King Jr

This landmark missive from one of the greatest activists in history calls for direct, non-violent resistance in the fight against racism, and reflects on the healing power of love.

Judge for Yourself: Martin Luther King Jr by Christine Hatt

'Judge for Yourself' is a series that presents in-depth accounts of the lives of historically important people. Extensive primary evidence is quoted, both for and against the subjects, and readers are invited to make their own judgement.

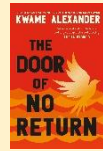


"In the midst of winter, I found there was, within me, an invincible summer," - Albert Camus

NEW

Love Hurts by Malorie Blackman

Have you ever fallen for someone the rest of the world thought you shouldn't have? Malorie Blackman brings together the very best young adult authors writing today in a stunningly romantic collection of love against the odds. Featuring stories and extracts about modern star-crossed lovers, Love Hurts looks at every kind of relationship, from first kiss to final heartbreak. This is a collection for anyone who has ever loved and lost - and loved again...

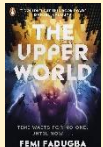


The Door of No Return #1 by Kwame Alexander

In his village in Upper Kwanta, 11-year-old Kofi loves his family, playing aware with his grandfather and swimming in the river Offin. He's warned though, to never go to the river at night. His brother tells him "There are things about the water you do not know." "Like what?" Kofi asks. "The beasts," his brother answers.

The Upper World by Femi Fadugba

During arguably the worst week of Esso's life, an accident knocks him into an incredible world—a place beyond space or time, where he can see glimpses of the past and future. But if what he sees there is true, he might not have much longer to live, unless he can use his new gift to change the course of history. Rhia's past is filled with questions, none of which she expects a new physics tutor to answer. But Dr. Esso's not here to help Rhia. He's here because he needs her help—to unravel a tragedy that happened fifteen years ago. One that holds the key not only to Rhia's past, but to a future worth fighting for.



Echo Mountain by Lauren Walk

After the financial crash, Ellie and her family have lost nearly everything—including their home in town. They have started over, carving out a new life in the unforgiving terrain of Echo Mountain. Though her sister Esther, especially, resents everything about the mountain, Ellie has found more freedom, a new strength, and a love of the natural world that now surrounds them. But there is little joy, even for Ellie, as they all struggle with the sorrow and aftermath of an accident that left her father in a coma. An accident for which Ellie has accepted the unearned weight of blame.

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—until now. And it's the day he met Mal, a girl on the run who desperately needs his help. Mal and Christopher embark on a wild adventure, racing from island to island, searching for someone who can explain why the magic is fading and why magical creatures are suddenly dying. They consult sphinxes, battle kraken, and negotiate with dragons. But the closer they get to the dark truth of what's happening, the clearer it becomes: no one else can fix this. If the Archipelago is to be saved, Mal and Christopher will have to do it themselves.

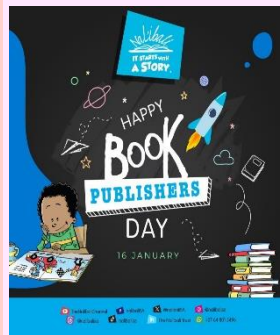


Skulduggery Pleasant: The Faceless Ones #3 by Derek Landy

If you've read the previous Skulduggery books then you know what the Faceless Ones are — and if you know what the Faceless Ones are, then you can probably take a wild guess that things in this book are going to get AWFULLY sticky for our skeletal hero and his young sidekick. If you haven't read the previous Skulduggery books then what are you doing reading this? Go and read them right now, so that you know what all that stuff in the previous paragraph was about. Done? Good. So now you're on tenterhooks too, desperately awaiting the answers to all your questions, and instead you're going to have to wait to read the book. Sorry about that.

Let's Celebrate... Book Publisher's Day on 16th January!

Publishing began with the invention of writing, when scribes carefully copied texts by hand, but it changed dramatically with the invention of the printing press by Johannes Gutenberg around 1440, which allowed books to be produced faster and shared more widely. Even before Gutenberg, important advances had been made, such as the movable type created by Chinese inventor Bi Sheng around 1045 and the first metal movable type invented in Korea by Choe Yun-ui in 1234. Early printed materials in Europe made before 1501 are known as *incunabula* and mark the beginning of mass-produced books. Traditional book publishers are selective, usually choosing manuscripts based on proposals rather than accepting everything authors submit, and they often work differently from newspaper and magazine publishers, who



rely more on staff writers and freelancers. Publishing is not limited to books and media; governments, organisations, and businesses also publish reports, research, and official documents to share information with the public. Over time, publishing expanded beyond books to include newspapers in the early 1600s, magazines in the mid-1600s, and printing presses spreading to regions such as the African continent by the late 1700s, showing how publishing has played an important role in sharing knowledge and ideas across the world. Find out more information on Book Publisher's Day [here](https://www.bookpublishersday.org/).

Children's Literature: a Very short Introduction by Kimberley Reynolds

This Very Short Introduction provides a lively and comprehensive discussion of children's literature—what it is, why it is interesting, how it contributes to culture, and how it is studied as literature. Reynolds provides a general overview of the history of the subject as it has developed in English, at the same time introducing key debates, developments, and figures in the field. Reynolds demonstrates how writing for children—whether on page or screen—has helped in shaping ideas about culture, society and childhood. She also raises questions about the future of children's literature generally and discusses the shape that it might take.

On This Day... Haruki Murakami was Born 12th January 1949

Haruki Murakami, born on January 12, 1949, in Kyōto, Japan, is a world-famous Japanese novelist, short-story writer, and translator known for his imaginative, dreamlike, and sometimes mysterious stories that have become international bestsellers. Raised by parents who taught Japanese literature, Murakami grew up reading classic Japanese works but was strongly influenced by Western writers such as Raymond Chandler, Franz Kafka, Fyodor Dostoyevsky, and especially F. Scott Fitzgerald, whose novel *The Great Gatsby* deeply shaped Murakami's writing style. In 1978, while watching a baseball game, Murakami suddenly realized he wanted to write a novel, an experience he describes as life-changing, and soon after he wrote *Hear the Wind Sing*, which won a prize for new writers. Murakami became hugely popular with *Norwegian Wood*, a more realistic coming-of-age novel, but he later returned to his surreal style in books like *Dance Dance Dance*, *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle*, *Kafka on the Shore*, and *1Q84*, which explore themes such as loneliness, identity, love, memory, and alternate realities. In addition to writing, Murakami has translated many American authors into Japanese, and several of his works have been adapted into films, most notably *Drive My Car*, which received international acclaim. Learn more about Murakami [here](https://www.harukimurakami.com/).



Norwegian Wood by Haruki Murakami

When he hears her favourite Beatles song, Toru Watanabe recalls his first love Naoko, the girlfriend of his best friend Kizuki. Immediately he is transported back almost twenty years to his student days in Tokyo, adrift in a world of uneasy friendships, casual sex, passion, loss and desire - to a time when an impetuous young woman called Midori marches into his life and he must choose between the future and the past.

January 13th is Poetry Break Day!

Poetry is one of the oldest forms of human expression, with roots stretching back thousands of years to ancient civilisations around the world. Poetry has been discovered in nearly all ancient cultures, including those in Africa, the Indus Valley, and Sumer, where poems were often written as hymns or songs and focused on religious beliefs or fictional stories. As poetry developed, the Greek philosopher Aristotle classified it into epic, comic, and tragic forms around 350 B.C., helping shape how poetry was understood. Poetry later became very popular in the Middle East and rose to great importance in Europe during the Renaissance, although it was mostly enjoyed by educated elites at the time. Modern poetry began to emerge in the 19th century with poets like Alfred Lord Tennyson, and it continued to evolve in the 20th century through writers such as T.S. Eliot and Robert Frost, who experimented with new styles and themes. Today, poetry is celebrated through events like Poetry Break Day, when individuals take time to read poems, write verses for loved ones, and learn about the lives and inspirations of their favourite poets, showing that poetry continues to be a meaningful and creative part of human culture. Take time out of your day to write a collection of your own to explore your creativity!

Poetry Break Day



British Poetry Since 1945 by Edward Lucie-Smith

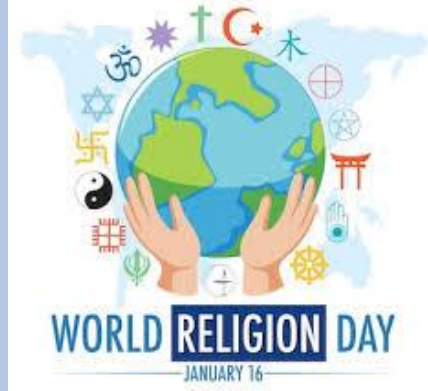
This revised edition contains new sections which recognize the increased influence of the Northern Irish and "university" poets, and, throughout, the commentaries render each poet - Larkin, Hughes, Porter, Heaney, Fenton, Raine, among others - immediately accessible. From the post-war movement to the post-expressionist movement, the poetic terrain is mapped out since the World War II.

English Romantic Verse Published by Penguin Classics

English Romantic poetry from its beginnings and its flowering to the first signs of its decadence. Nearly all the famous *pièces de résistance* will be found here - 'Intimations of Immortality', 'The Ancient Mariner', 'The Tiger', excerpts from 'Don Juan' - as well as some less familiar poems. As far as possible the poets are arranged in chronological order, and their poems in order of composition, beginning with eighteenth-century precursors such as Gray, Cowper, Burns and Chatterton. Naturally most space has been given over to the major Romantics - Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, Clare and Keats - as well as early poems by Tennyson and Browning. In an excellent introduction David Wright discusses the Romantics as a historical phenomenon and points out their central ideals and themes.

Let's Celebrate... World Religion Day on 18th January!

World Religion Day is a special day created to promote understanding, respect, and harmony among different religions around the world. Although it was first officially observed in 1950, the idea began earlier in 1947 in Portland, Maine, when members of the Bahá'í Faith organized an event called *World Peace Through World Religion*. By 1949, similar events were being held across the United States, and the name was later changed to World Religion Day. On this day, speakers such as authors, educators, and philosophers are invited to talk about different world religions and the importance of peaceful cooperation between them, giving people a chance to learn about other beliefs and cultures and connect with those of different faiths. The event is closely connected to the Bahá'í Faith, which began in Persia (modern-day Iran) in the 1800s



and is based on three main principles: the unity of God, the unity of religion, and the unity of all humanity. Bahá'ís believe in one God, see all religions as coming from the same spiritual source, and emphasize the equality of all, teaching that everyone has the same rights and responsibilities. Because it focuses on shared values and spiritual goals, the Bahá'í Faith helped inspire World Religion Day to encourage peace and mutual respect in an increasingly diverse world. Find out more information of World Religion Day [here](https://www.worldreligionday.org/).

The Existence of God by Richard Swinburne

This revised edition includes two new appendices. In the first, Swinburne replies to criticisms of his arguments made by J.L. Mackie in this *The Miracle of Theism* and in the second, he assesses the evidential force of recent scientific discoveries of the extent to which the universe is fine-tuned to the production of animals and humankind

A History of God by Karen Armstrong

The idea of a single divine being - God, Yahweh, Allah - has existed for over 4,000 years. But the history of God is also the history of human struggle. While Judaism, Islam and Christianity proclaim the goodness of God, organised religion has too often been the catalyst for violence and ineradicable prejudice. In this fascinating, extensive and original account of the evolution of belief, Karen Armstrong examines Western society's unerring fidelity to this idea of One God and the many conflicting convictions it engenders. A controversial, extraordinary story of worship and war, A History of God confronts the most fundamental fact - or fiction - of our lives.

