

No Shelf Control

Edition 49: March 2025

Charity Edition! CHICKENSHED

THEATRE CHANGING LIVES

This month we're using our front page to promote a charity that is close to our heart! On the 27th April No Shelf Control will be running the London Marathon for this amazing charity.

Chickenshed is an inclusive theatre company that uses the power of performance to change lives. Based in North London, it brings together young people of all abilities, backgrounds, and identities to create inspirational theatre. Through drama, music, and dance, Chickenshed provides a platform for voices that are often unheard, fostering creativity, confidence, and community. Their unique approach ensures everyone is welcome and able to contribute, regardless of disability or circumstance. Beyond the stage, Chickenshed runs education and outreach programs that empower thousands of children and young people each year. It's more than theatre - it's a movement for inclusion.



Before becoming a teacher, I worked for the company and saw first hand what amazing work they did for the community and for the young people they served. They inspired me to become a teacher and I decided that I wanted to give something back to them for changing my life and many others!



Donate to Chickenshed by scanning the QR code



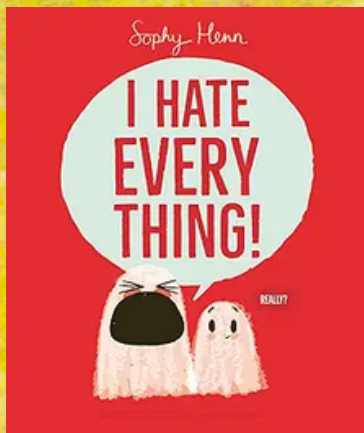
Books



Reviews



chats



I Hate Everything

Sophy Henn

Simon & Schuster Children's 3+

A brilliantly funny and heartfelt picture book about big feelings and mood swings. When one ghost declares, "I hate everything!", a friend tries to realign their mood, listing all the good things that they can think of. The book that we all need sometimes when we're feeling a little grumpy.

After

Padraig Kenny

Walker 9+

Padraig Kenny always delivers amazing stories! After is no different - In a post-tech-collapse world, Jen and her AI guardian must survive, stay hidden, and find hope. A gripping, emotional sci-fi adventure exploring humanity, identity, and trust. Powerful and thought-provoking.



DadBot

Jack Noel

Piccadilly Press 6+

When Josh and Daisy buy a robot dad for £3, their boring summer turns into wild, pun-filled chaos! Packed with laughs, colour, and robo-mayhem, Dadbot is a comic delight full of silliness. The first in a new series and I can't wait to read the next books and nor will you!

Serial Chillers

Jennifer Killick

Farshore 9+

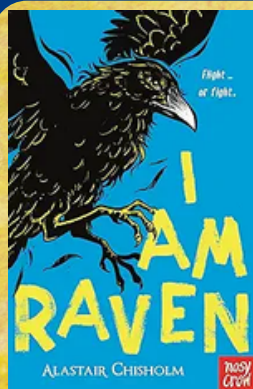
Packed with creepy twists, laugh-out-loud moments and eerie suspense, Serial Chillers is a spooky, thrilling adventure. As always, Jennifer Killick delivers horror and humour in perfect balance—ideal for brave readers who love Goosebumps, Stranger Things, and reading under their covers late at night!



One To Wait for...

I Am Raven - Alastair Chisholm

Nosy Crow - April 25



I must not have been paying enough attention. I didn't realise that the brilliant 'I Am Wolf' had a sequel coming and so soon! Coming next month!



Meet the Mubbles

Liz Pichon

Macmillan Childrens 5+

Bursting with colour, quirky creatures and silly fun, Meet the Mubbles is a wild new adventure for younger readers. When the Clouds of Joy bump and create a wonky rainbow, it signals a mysterious visitor is coming to the Isle of Smile. With the Wibbles, Drib Drabs, and singing Earworms in a flap, it's up to the Mubbles to uncover who—or what—is on their way.

Wildlands

Brogen Murphy

Puffin 8+



A breath taking survival adventure set in a rewilded future Britain. When sisters Astrid and Indie are stranded in the forbidden Wildlands, they must rely on courage, each other—and the natural world—to survive. Brimming with heart, danger and wonder, Wildlands is a powerful, hopeful eco-adventure



Recycling Day

Polly Faber & Klaus Fahlan

Nosy Crow 4+

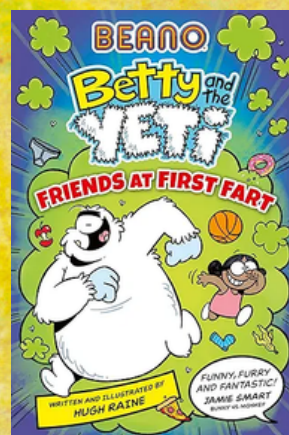
A bright, engaging introduction to recycling for ages 3-6! With stylish illustrations and friendly, accessible text, this picture book explores how rubbish is collected, sorted, and reused. Bonus eco-tips and real-life facts empower young readers to care for the planet, making every day a not-for-the-bin day. Perfectly pitched and inspiring!

Betty and the Yeti

Hugh Raine

Farshore 6+

Funny, furry, and fantastically silly, Betty and the Yeti is a riotous new graphic novel series - the first from the Beano! Packed with comic chaos, seasonal short stories, and fun activities, it's perfect for dipping into anytime. Betty's secret roommate is a yeti—what could go wrong? Guaranteed giggles, unforgettable characters, and nonstop mischief on every page!



One You Might Have Missed

The Midnight Guardians - Ross Montgomery
Walker - Nov 20



I recently found my daughter reading my copy of this stunning book. A thrilling and heartfelt wartime fantasy where imaginary friends become heroes. Brimming with magic, myth, and hope, The Midnight Guardians is an unforgettable adventure filled with warmth, wonder, and unforgettable friendships.

9 books inspired by tcs²⁰ 25



Here are 9 books about running that have inspired our London Marathon training. Hopefully they'll inspire you too! Although when faced with the choice between snuggling with a book or going for a run - the book wins everytime!

1. I Really Want To Win

Simon Philip & Lucia Gaggiotti



2. Running on Empty

S.E. Durrant



3. Jesse Owens

Maria Isabel Sanchez Vegara & Anna Katharina Jansen



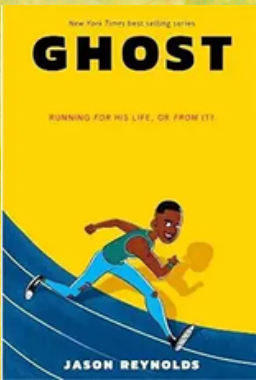
4. Bun On The Run

Smriti Halls & Chris Jevons



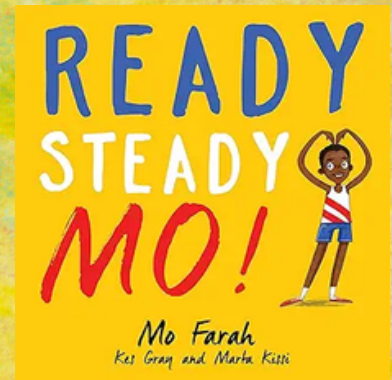
5. Ghost

Jason Reynolds



6. Ready Steady Mo

Mo Farah, Kes Gray & Marta Kissi



7. Running on the Roof of the World

Jess Butterworth



8. Fauja Singh Keeps Going

Simran Jeet Singh & Bajinder Kaur



9. The Fastest Boy in the World

Elizabeth Laird

