



I find television very educating.
Every time somebody turns on
the set, I go into the other room
and read a book.

— Groucho Marx

Northmead's Reading Newsletter

February 2021



The six books shortlisted for the 2021 Blue Peter Book Awards have been announced. These awards are judged by school children across the country.

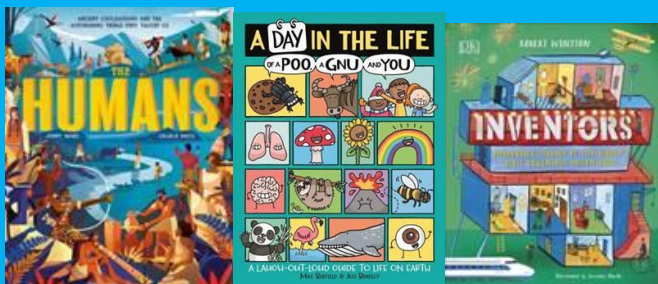
The winning titles, voted for by children from 12 schools across the UK, will be revealed live on Blue Peter on Thursday 4th March.

There are two categories and the shortlist are as follows:

Best Story



Best Books with Facts



We will celebrate World Book Day, with a dress up day. If they would like to, children can dress up in costumes inspired by their favourite book or character.

This applies to children learning at home or in school. We look forward to seeing your creations.



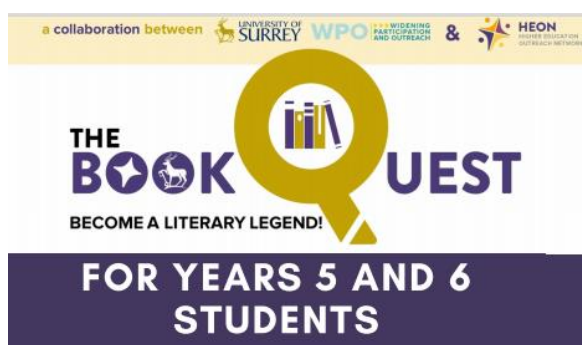
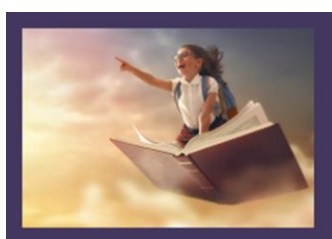
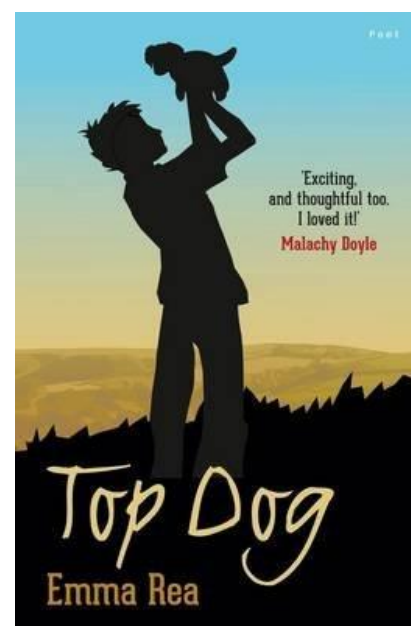
Northmead's Online Book Club

We held the first meeting of our online book club this month. Miss Lewis, Mrs Mansfield and Mrs Backhurst were pleased to welcome many children from across the school. It made us very happy teachers to know so many of our pupils share our love of reading and books.

The group chose to read *Top Dog* by Emma Rea.

Unfortunately, the book seems to be in short supply- so if you have a copy you would be happy to lend- please contact Miss Lewis. An alternative is to listen to Miss Lewis read the story online after school.

Any child who would like to join book club do let your class teacher know and they can pass on details of the Google Classroom code.



What is it?

The University of Surrey's Widening Participation and Outreach (WPO) team invite your child to join The Book Quest.

The Book Quest encourages reading for pleasure. To become a Literary Legend, students will need to read the chosen book over a 4-week period and interact with an activity workbook. They will have the chance to read books and complete optional expeditions that will bring the book to life.

We invite you to enrol your child onto our Years 5 and 6 Book Quest. Once their place is confirmed we will send you the book and workbook so that they can begin their quest!

To take part Parent and Carers must register by **Friday 26 February 2021** via the online booking form: <https://surrey.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/primary-book-quest-application-form>
The quest will begin on the 8th March 2021.

The Book Quest is targeted at pupils who meet one or more of the university's widening participation criteria including those eligible for free school meals, young carers or care-experienced young people.

Book of the Month

What is the story about?

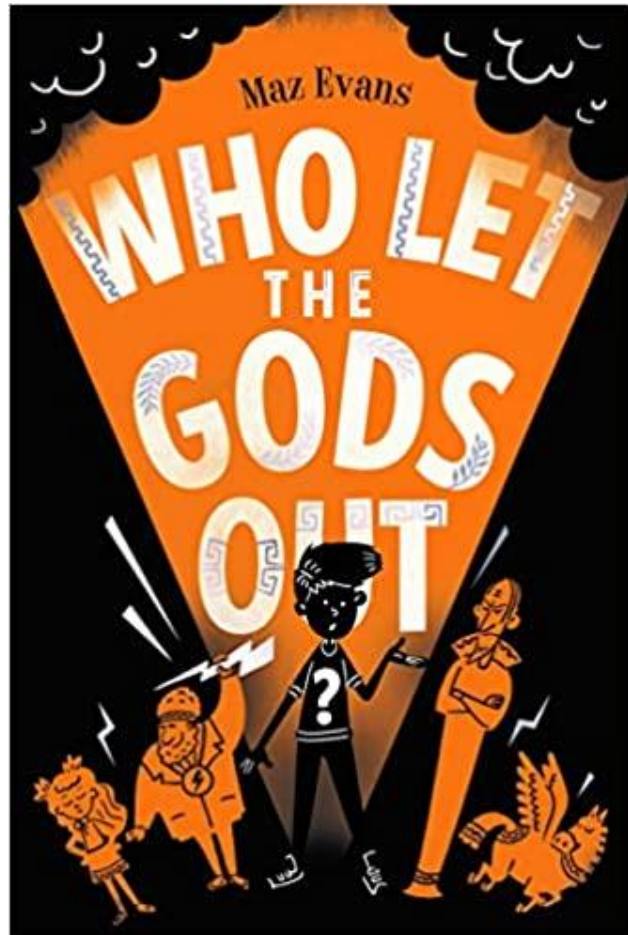
Elliot's mum is ill and his home is under threat, but a shooting star crashes to earth and changes his life forever. The star is Virgo – a young Zodiac goddess on a mission. But the pair accidentally release Thanatos, a wicked death daemon imprisoned beneath Stonehenge, and must then turn to the old Olympian gods for help. After centuries of retirement on earth, are Zeus and his crew up to the task of saving the world – and solving Elliot's problems too?

Who is the author?



The book is written by Maz Evans. Maz's writing career began in journalism as a TV critic and feature writer. After working as a creative writing

lecturer, she founded Story Stew, a creative writing programme that has visited primary schools and literary festivals around the UK. Maz lives in Dorset with her husband and four children.



Visit <https://maz.world/> to find out more about this author and her books.

Other books this author has written

If you like this book, there are more in the series.

