

# **“Read All About It”**

**Welcome to our 27<sup>th</sup> Edition of  
'Read All About It', published Summer 2007**

Thank you to all the teachers and pupils who have written reviews for this edition of “Read All About It”. We really enjoyed reading them and hope you do too.

Join us if you can on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July in the Wentworth Hall, Woolley Hall, Woolley, Wakefield between 4.15p.m. and 6.00p.m. The speaker will be Joe Craig, author of the Jimmy Coates series. This will be the last meeting of the academic year, so please try to attend.

Teachers at schools subscribing to Wakefield SLS can download and print as many copies of this document as they require. The address is [www.wakefield.gov.uk/sls/](http://www.wakefield.gov.uk/sls/)

If your school is not represented at the meetings please contact SLS so that we can put you on the mailing list.

For further details of “Book Review Panel” meetings, please contact Lesley Marshall or Wendy Mitchell, SLS.  
Telephone: 01924 302238 Fax: 01924 302245

## PRIMARY KEY STAGE 1

### BUZZ BUMBLE TO THE RESCUE

By L. E. Hazen

Bloomsbury Publishing

Pbk £5.99

ISBN 0-7475-7297-6

Age range 5-8

Story:

Buzz is the centre of attention when along comes Baby bumble. Not only does everyone give her all the attention, they then expect Buzz to look after her! Feelings run high, but then Baby is in danger. Who is the only one who can save her?

Comments:

The children loved the story. I read it to a Y1 and a Y2 class, both were gripped, especially when Baby was in danger. The story was also very good as a prompt for discussing feelings.

T. Fairchild South Ossett Infant

By Thomas, George and Katrine  
South Ossett Infant

All the children will like this book.

By Cally and Ruby

South Ossett Infant

We think that the children will love this story. The author has thought about the words. The pictures are lovely. The pictures are colourful.

By Emily and Adam

South Ossett Infant

We think this was a funny book. We think this was a brilliant story. We think that the pictures were funny. We would give the book 10 out of 10.

By Elliot and Tim

South Ossett Infant

I think Buzz is a hero. I think Buzz was good. I think buzz is clever.

By Lauren and Kate

South Ossett Infant

The pictures were really nice because they were bright. We liked the way the author put that Buzz rescued Baby Bumble even though he didn't like her. We think the book can have ten out of ten.

By Phoebe and James

South Ossett Infant

We thought this book was exciting. The author used exciting and good words. We think the rating for this book should be 20 out of 20. This book was brilliant.

By Jamie and Bethany

South Ossett Infant

The book was funny. We think that other children will like the story.

## **SHHH!**

By J. Willis

Anderson Press

Pbk £5.99

ISBN 0-00-721609-2

Age range 5-any age

Story:

A shrew has an important message to share with all the world, but the world is a noisy place for a small shrew. What will happen?

Comments:

This is a great story, full of noise and quiet. The children really enjoyed the story, including the ending.

T. Fairchild South Ossett Infant

By Alice and Ella

South Ossett Infant

We thought the book was very noisy. This book is suitable for children under 9. We thought it was very good. We both liked the pictures. We think the book should be ten out of ten.

By Holly and Emma

South Ossett Infant

It is a funny book. It is a dark picture book. It is an exciting book.

By Joseph and Amos

South Ossett Infant

It was a shrew shouting. The shrew wanted everybody to quieten down. At the end it did. We like the story.

Hyaat and Libby

South Ossett Infant

We think that the children would like the book. We liked the book.

## **A NEW HOME FOR A PIRATE**

By R. Armitage

Puffin Books

Pbk £5.99

ISBN 978-0-141-50025-6

Age range 3-8

Story:

Imagine a pirate who feels seasick all the time. That's pirate Jed. He's fed up with bobbing around on the rollicking, rolling sea and packs up his pirate paraphernalia to go and look for a new home. His adventures take him on a long journey where he ends up helping out lots of others who need help.

By Ammarah

Sandal Endowed Junior

I read this book with my mum. The pictures were great. The best bit I liked was when he said, "Shiver me timbers!" So he found the house to live in, in the end.

By Rebecca

Sandal Endowed Junior

I think the most important page is the one when Jed and Farmer Ted swap what they do. I think you should read the book because it's got lots of surprises in it. I think it would be very exciting for a little

child. What Jed wants is a house that stands still, with a view from a hill and a roof that is blue like the sky. On his way, he meets a sheep caught in brambles, a bird that has lost her nest, a dog with a broken leg and a nasty bull with Farmer Ted. What Farmer Ted wants is a life on a rollicking, rolling sea like Jed had! So Jed and Farmer Ted swap what they do. I think it's a fabulous book and I would recommend it to anyone!

By Elizabeth

Sandal Endowed Junior

'A New Home for a Pirate' is about a pirate who gets seasick and he decides to live on the land. On his way, he meets a bird who can't find anything to make a nest. He also meets other animals on the way. He has a bag with everything that the animals needed. At last he finds a perfect home. I think the set up is very good and the pictures are very good.

### **HEADMASTER DISASTER**

By S, Mongredien

Orchard Books

Pbk £3.99

ISBN 1-84362-572-5

Age range 5-9

Story:

Bella Boffinbrain's dad is a headmaster and can't resist bringing his work home - he even takes the register over breakfast!

By Daniaal

Sandal Endowed Junior

One day Bella said to her friends, "Mr Boffinbrain is the bossiest man in the entire school and even to my two friends." (The friends did not have a name.) Mr Boffinbrain was Bella's dad anyway but he liked long assemblies, very long ones. Every word he shouts is probably boring because he has already said the word twice or triple. On the doorstep stood an old woman with very long, curly hair, the size of one strip of blinds. (They are on your window, of course.) She said, "I am the greatest trapeze lady in the world." "Mum, is that you?" replied Mr Boffinbrain. "No, silly, I am your Nana." "But you look so different to before," replied Mr Boffinbrain in a particular voice at school. At school the fire alarm went on. Mr Boffinbrain was the greatest man so he rescued all of the people. I liked this book very much.

By Lucy

Sandal Endowed Junior

It is about a girl called Bella Boffinbrain. Her dad is a head teacher at her school and Bella is so fed up. She wasn't always a Boffinbrain. When she was little, she grew up in a circus with her daredevil dad and her gymnastic mum. One day a stunt went terribly wrong and Bella's mum died. Bella's dad decided to leave the circus.

One day a lady came to visit Bella and her dad. One day Bella went to a party and the kitchen set on fire. But Mr Boffinbrain and the visitor saved the day. From that day everybody thought Mr Boffinbrain was cool. It was the most interesting book I ever read.

By Holly

Sandal Endowed Junior

I read this book with my dad and I really enjoyed it. This book is about a girl called Bella Boffinbrain who hated school because her dad was the head master of the school. Before her Dad was a head master he used to be in the circus. Bella's mum died because of a motorbike stunt that went wrong. "Knock Knock" Itsy Bitsy came in. Mr Boffinbrain is very strict at home, every morning he called the register and every day he did a fire drill. The best part of the book was where Bella went to a bowling party. A fire started and Mr Boffinbrain put the fire out. Because he used to be in a circus, he swung on the light fitting and got some mineral water and put the fire out. Everybody called him a hero. I will tell my friends to read this book as it was really good. I would give it 4 stars.

### A TALE OF TWO KITTIES

By L. Pichon

Scholastic Children's Books

Pbk £4.99

ISBN 0-439-95469-X

Story:

This is a story about two cats that are opposites and are certainly not friends until an army of unruly mice descends and drives them both to distraction! Joining forces, they manage to create a crafty plan and end up defeating the enemy. The book contains a good moral about getting on with others that you don't naturally see eye to eye with. The final illustration brings a smile every time!

Comments:

Although this is a story that the children will like, the author has used some vocabulary, which, in my opinion, was not very well chosen. E.g. I scoffed. With more careful word choices, this could be a fun story for young children.

R. Fryer Larks Hill J&I

By Chandler

Larks Hill J&I

I like the names Fluffy and Scruffy and I like it where Fluffy is always clean and Scruffy is always untidy. I like the pictures in it, they are very bright. I like the bit where the mice have a party and kick Fluffy out. At the end it's good because the two cats Fluffy and Scruffy get on with each other.

By Lili

Larks Hill J&I

I thought that this book was brilliant. I really liked the

illustrations. I liked the part at the end where Fluffy and Scruffy make friends. I recommend this book because it shows you don't have to do what you want, you could try doing what your friends do, like Fluffy and Scruffy did at the end. I think this story was brilliant. Others will love it, if they don't that is just silly, because I loved it.

By Charlotte

Larks Hill J&I

I liked the story very much! I can't decide which bit I like best. I especially liked the idea of the two cats being totally different from each other but in the end they became friends. I am not so keen on Scruffy because he has no manners, but I still like Fluffy. She is kind and well mannered. Over all I think I would give it 9/10.

By Emily

Larks Hill J&I

This is a story about two cats who don't get on at first, but when a group of mice invade both their homes, they decide to work as a team to get rid of them. I think this book is great for all ages and I think everyone will love it.

By Ella

Larks Hill J&I

I love when it said Fluffy ate delicious food from a delicate china bowl and Scruffy ate absolutely EVERYTHING he could find. Also, I like where Fluffy has a spotless

house and Scruffy's house was messy. I dislike when Fluffy changes into Scruffy and Scruffy changes into Fluffy.

By Megan

Larks Hill J&I

I liked Scruffy and Fluffy. I liked Fluffy's neat food and house. The cats started to chase the mice out into the garden. I liked Fluffy and they danced all night then the cats started to chase the mice together. I love this story. FANTASTIC!

### LITTLE OTTER'S BIG JOURNEY

By D. Bedford

Scholastic Children's Books

Pbk £4.99

ISBN 0-439-95084-8

Story:

Little Otter is happy lying on his mother in the warm sun, but when she needs to search for food, she has to leave him behind. He feels all alone and other animals come to help to try to keep him safe. Can Little Otter find his mother before the sea becomes too dangerous? Can he overcome his worst fears?

Comments:

A delightful and enchanting story about overcoming fears and enjoying the challenges that life brings our way.

R. Fryer Larks Hill J&I

By Victoria

Larks Hill J&I

It's about an otter that is afraid of going under water. Then, he gets lost. In the end, his mother finds him and takes him under the water. I liked the pictures and the ending.

By Matthew

Larks Hill J&I

There was a good start, a very good illustration. I liked it when the Little Otter sat on the big wave, then a massive whale came from under the sea. My favourite character was the whale. He was very kind to the Little Otter. I think the otter appreciated all the work that his mum and friends did for him. There were very good descriptive words in the book and I think other children would like it.

By Jake

Larks Hill J&I

The story is about a little otter that was born on the edge of the deep blue sea. His mother needed to find some food but baby otter wouldn't go with her. He was afraid of the deep blue sea. During the story, Little Otter waited for his mum to return. At first he saw a pelican, then a family of sea lions, then he saw a large tail, which belonged to a killer whale. Each time he spoke to a different animal, he drifted further out to sea. Then he got really cold, tired and shivery. Very frightened, he called for his mummy. She appeared and he felt safe again. At the end of the story, Little Otter decided to dive

under the big blue sea with his mummy. He was still afraid, but went under because he didn't want to get lost again and he trusted his mum that he would be safe.

By Bethan

Larks Hill J&I

The best bit about it was when his mother found Little Otter. The sad thing about it was when all the animals left Little Otter by himself. My favourite character was Little Otter. The kindest character is Little Otter's mother. It was FANTASTIC!

By Emma

Larks Hill J&I

I really like this book because it is so sweet and cute. I like the start of it best because there is a nice description of where the baby otter was born and lived. I think this book has got a very interesting and catchy title. The artwork inside the book is very good. My favourite part of the book is when Little Otter meets the pelican, the sea lions and the whale.

# PRIMARY KEY

## STAGE 2

### DEAR WHISKERS

By A. Whitehead-Nagda  
Frances Lincoln Children's Books  
Pbk £4.99  
ISBN 1-84507-563-3  
Age range 8-9

#### Story:

As a letter writing exercise, the children in Y4 are asked to write a letter to the children in Y2 - but there's a catch! They have to pretend that the letter comes from a mouse. Jenny doesn't find writing easy and she thinks the whole project rather silly - especially when she discovers that her Y2 pen friend doesn't reply because she can't speak English.

#### Comments:

The book traces Jenny's frustrations at trying to befriend Sameera and interest her enough to engender some kind of response. A short, thought-provoking book, but I suspect that most children would find it a bit 'dry' and lacking adventure.

L. Rushforth Larks Hill J&I

By Emma  
Larks Hill J&I

The main characters in this book are Jenny and her pen friend Sameera. Jenny has to write letters to Sameera pretending to be a mouse, the only problem is Sameera can't speak English. At first, Jenny is sad when everyone in her class gets a letter except her. When Jenny realises that Sameera can't speak or write English, she finds ways to help Sameera with her letters. This book was not as interesting as I expected. It lacked action and was slow going, although I think readers would find the letters interesting. I think girls would enjoy this book more than boys.

By Jack

Mill Dam J&I

'Dear Whiskers' is about children in a school who have to write letters. I liked this book because some parts were a bit funny.

By Victoria

Mill Dam J&I

I like this book because there were really nice people in it. I like the bit at the end when you get to see the letter in the book. The best bit was when all the children sent a letter to Jenny.

By Grace

Mill Dam J&I

I really liked this book because it was really happy!

By Megan  
Mill Dam J&I  
I liked this book because it's funny,  
especially when Meera told the boys  
off.

**IGNORANCE IS BLISS**

By H. Townson  
Anderson Press  
Pbk £3.99  
ISBN 1-84270-042-1

Story:  
A convoluted and largely  
unbelievable plot about the troubles  
of two cousins, who meet up on the  
train on a journey to see their Gran,  
each seeking help for frightening  
personal problems.

Comments:  
Quite 'Laurel and Hardy', not  
particularly well written, with  
nothing to recommend it, in my  
opinion.

L. Rushforth Larks Hill J&I

By James Larks Hill J&I  
I really liked the bit where they  
went on the train and were arguing.  
I liked this book because it was  
very interesting. I would like to  
read more books from this author.

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO  
THANK THE FOLLOWING  
CHILDREN FOR THEIR BOOK  
REVIEWS, WHICH  
UNFORTUNATELY, WE WERE  
UNABLE TO INCLUDE IN THE  
27<sup>TH</sup> EDITION OF 'READ ALL  
ABOUT IT'.

Sophie, Abigail, Chloe, Richard,  
Zacharius, Bethany, Nathan, Joel,  
Rachel, Ben, Calvin and Nathan. All  
from Mill Dam J&I.

