



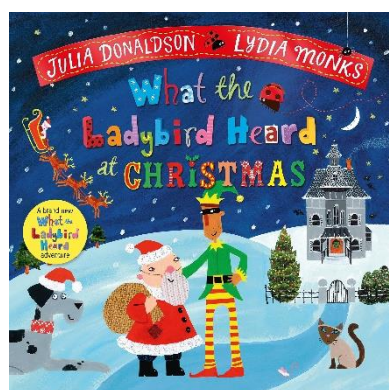
This half term we meet Lauren Child. Lauren Child burst on to the children's books scene in 1999 and has since published many bestselling and award-winning books, including those featuring the hugely popular Charlie and Lola, and the Clarice Bean series. Her books have been made into an award-winning TV series and have sold in many languages with runaway success. This Christmas' Fenwick window focuses on her new book Clarice Bean Think Like an Elf.

The Reading Squad we lucky enough to be invited to a special Christmas-themed event at Seven Stories where they met Lauren, asked her some questions, and received a signed copy of her new book. We had a great day!



The day was really good fun because when we explored the different exhibitions, there were lots of stories and books to discover. I also liked receiving a copy of Think Like an Elf which I am reading now!"
(Lola Reading Squad member).

New book recommendations



What the Ladybird Heard at Christmas by Julia Donaldson

Aimed at 3+

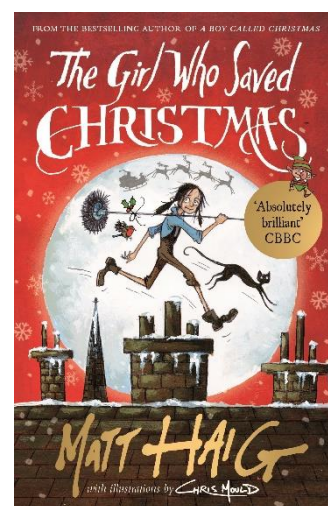
In a big old house, the ladybird is visiting her friend the spider for the festive season. But those two bad men, Hefty Hugh and Lanky Len, are up to no good again. They have a devious plan - to steal the children's Christmas presents from their stockings! It's a good thing that the clever little ladybird has overheard their awful plotting, and she has a cunning plan to make sure they don't get away with it.

The Girl Who Saved Christmas by Matt Haig

Aimed at 7+

It is Christmas Eve and all is not well. Amelia Wishart is trapped in Mr Creeper's workhouse and Christmas is in jeopardy. Magic is fading. If Christmas is to happen, Father Christmas knows he must find her.

With the help of some elves, eight reindeer, the Queen and a man called Charles Dickens, the search for Amelia - and the secret of Christmas - begins . . .



Tinsel: The Girls who invented Christmas by Sibéal Pounder

Aimed at 9+

How did the world come to believe Santa Claus is a man? It's all just a big misunderstanding! This tale of friendship, sleigh rides and two formidable girls is THE Christmas book of the year - a gloriously funny, festive adventure that will delight even the biggest Grinch.

I absolutely **ADORED** it! A really funny, clever, brilliant play on all the Christmas tropes. It just has to be made into a movie! — Emma Carroll

Very sparkly storytelling and a lovely portrayal of friendship — Hilary McKay



Events

This Term, Class 7 have been working with Seven Stories as part of the 'Whose Stories are these anyway?' Project. The children have explored the Seven Stories collection, gaining exclusive access to work from a range of authors, including some unpublished and undiscovered pieces, such as the original Horrid Henry illustrations! They have used the work found in the collection to create their own stories, artwork, and soundscapes, which will be added to the digital archive. In addition to this, they have visited Newcastle City Library to experience an archive first-hand.

"I enjoyed seeing all of the different features of the library. Daniel
Exploring the archive and seeing how many stories there are was amazing! Elena
I liked creating our own books with hidden stories inside." Summer

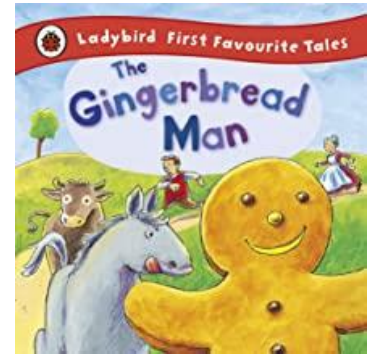


Pupil recommendations

Patrick and Ryan recommend!

Patrick (Class 1) and Ryan (Class 1) recommend *The Gingerbread Man*

"We like to make cookies at Christmas and we love how cute gingerbread men are!"



Kyla recommends!

Kyla (Class 3) recommends *The Snowman* by Raymond Briggs

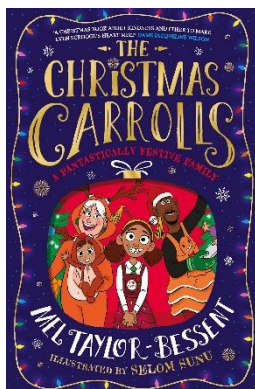
"It is really colourful and I love to make snowmen at Christmas time!"



Freya Recommends!

Freya (Class 6) recommends *The Christmasaurus* by Tom Fletcher

"I love this book because it is funny and easy to read. It also has a good story."



Alarna recommends!

Alarna (Class 7) recommends *The Christmas Carrolls* by Mel Taylor-Bessent

"The book is really funny, I enjoyed it a lot!"

