

January

Books of the Month



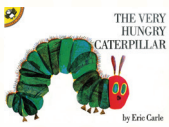
Chosen by our Writer in Residence

Sarah Webb



Hi, I'm Sarah Webb, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Writer in Residence. Every month I'll be recommending some of my favourite books for children and teenagers. The theme this month is new beginnings and transformations. Have you made any New Year Resolutions? How about reading more great books in 2017?

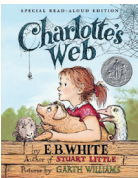
Picture Book Age 3+



The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle

The classic tale of a small, green, munching caterpillar who turns into a beautiful butterfly. Stunning collage illustrations and a clever story combine to make this an unmissable picture book.

Early Reader Age 6+



Charlotte's Web by E. B. White

A magical book about a special friendship between a pig, Wilbur, and a spider, Charlotte. It's full of gentle wisdom and wonder, ideal to read to children of age 6/7+. A modern classic, don't miss it.

Age 9+



Anne of Green Gables by L. M. Montgomery

Anne is one of my favourite book characters of all time. She's smart, funny and unforgettable. An orphan, when she goes to live with the Cuthberts on their farm, she changes their lives forever. Another great book for reading aloud.

I also love Heidi by Johanna Spyri – about a girl who goes to live with her grandfather in the Swiss Alps.

Teen



I'll Give You the Sun by Jandy Nelson

Noah and Jude are twins, but after a family tragedy they are barely speaking to each other. Slowly they both begin to put their lives back together. A gripping, immersive book about love, life and following your heart.

I also love Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli – a compelling book about a highly unusual girl.

February

Books of the Month



Chosen by our Writer in Residence

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Hi, I'm Sarah Webb, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Writer in Residence. Every month I'll be recommending some of my favourite children's books. This month's theme is incredible journeys – I hope you find some new favourites.

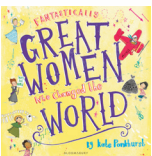
Picture Book Age 3+



Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers

One of my very favourite picture books by an Irish master of the form, with vibrant illustrations and a compelling story that speaks to both children and adults. A boy finds a penguin on his doorstep and decides to bring him back home to the South Pole. However perhaps the penguin isn't lost at all.

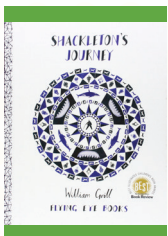
Early Reader Age 5+



Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World by Kate Pankhurst

Find out all about amazing women secret agents, explorers and scientists in this great picture book for readers of age 5+. Packed with information, and written in a fun, conversational style, it's a must to share with all boys and girls.

Age 9+

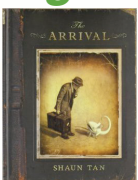


Shackleton's Journey by William Grill

One of the best books around about Shackleton and his crew and their epic journey. The text is beautifully written and the pencil illustrations are outstanding. Perfect for sharing with younger children too.

I also love *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* by Brian Selznick – a stunning book about clockwork, mystery and friendship told with words and pictures. Our Lexicon Children's Book Club loved it.

Age 11+



The Arrival by Shaun Tan

Another outstanding illustrated book for older readers of age 11+, this one is a wordless picture book told in comic book style which chronicles the story of an immigrant to a strange country. It was another big hit at the Lexicon Children's Book Club recently.

Books of the Month



Chosen by our Writer in Residence

Sarah Webb



Hi, I'm Sarah Webb, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Writer in Residence. Every month I'll be recommending some of my favourite children's books. I love books about friendship and here are some of my favourites.

Picture Book Age 3+



The Lonely Beast by Chris Judge

Beast is lonely and goes on an epic journey to find some friends. Judge's bright, vibrant illustrations are a joy to share with children.

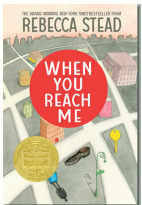
Early Reader Age 6+



Rabbit's Bad Habits by Julian Gough and Jim Field

Rabbit and Bear couldn't be more different but they are the best of friends. A delightfully funny book with brilliant illustrations.

Age 9+



When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead

This is an outstanding time travel and friendship tale set in America in the 1970s. Miranda's best friend, Sal is not speaking to her and is being bullied. She desperately wants to help him but he's shutting her out. A strange man on the street may hold the key to the mystery. A really clever, immersive book which has won many awards.

Teen



The Thing About Jellyfish by Ali Benjamin

This is the kind of book you just want to hug it's so good. When Suzy's best friend Franny drowns, she's floored by anger, grief and guilt. Franny was a strong swimmer and Suzy is determined to prove that a lethal jellyfish was to blame for her death but her marine research sets her off on an unexpected voyage of self-discovery. An engrossing, honest book about friendship, loss and love, I'd highly recommend it to any reader who enjoyed Wonder by R.J. Palacio.