

Bracknell Forest Libraries Children's Book of the year 2020

Shortlist

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You have time
until 10 January
2020



It's been another fantastic year full of books. Here are some of our favourite children's books from this year. We hope that you will be inspired to borrow at least one of these titles.

Vote for your favourite book via [Facebook](#).

***Little Goose's Autumn* by Elli Woollard**

As summer fades to autumn, a lively young goose feels a change in the air and senses she has something important to do - but what? The beavers are chopping wood, the squirrels are storing nuts in the ground and the bears are busy building a den. The plucky little goose tries to join in, but without great success. She realizes her wings weren't built for chopping wood, or burying food, or building a den, but they were built for something magnificent - they were built for flight.

***Little Leaders Bold Women in Black History* by Vashti Harrison**

Featuring 40 trailblazing black women in the world's history, this book educates and inspires as it relates true stories of women who broke boundaries and exceeded all expectations. Debut author/illustrator Vashti Harrison pairs captivating text with stunning illustrations as she tells the stories of both iconic and lesser-known female figures of black history - from nurse Mary Seacole, to politician Diane Abbott, mathematician Katherine Johnson and singer Shirley Bassey.

Pirates don't go to School by Alan MacDonald

When Jake wants to go to school his family are horrified. School is all rotten rules and terrible ten-legged teachers. Pirates don't go to school! Or do they?

Bad Nana by Sophy Henn

Hi! I'm Jeanie - still 7 3/4 years old, and back for another adventure with my brilliant grandma Bad Nana. There's a local winter talent show, and the whole town is SO excited. Especially as the Spectacular Bobby Trulove is in charge. He's an old friend of Bad Nana's and he's quite, erm, dramatic! The day before the show, a freak weather storm hits, and leaves the town snowed in. Can Bad Nana save the show?

Mr Tiger, Betsy and the Sea Dragon by Sally Gardner

Crumble cakes! A red rogue wind is blowing, and a wicked pirate captain and his crew are marauding the seven seas near the island left off the map of the world. A rare egg has gone missing and a very unhappy sea dragon wants it back. A pirate ship, the Kettle Black, is anchored in a secret cove off the island left off the map of the world. Betsy and her mum, Myrtle the mermaid, must dive deep beneath the waves, while Alfonso Glory and Mr Tiger fly high above the clouds in a hot air balloon. It's time for Mr Tiger, Betsy, and the Gongalongs to set off on their second adventure.

The Good Bear by Sarah Lean

It's the Christmas holidays and Thea are looking forward to spending them with her father. She can tell him all about her plans to become a writer, and maybe he'll buy her the typewriter she's been dreaming of. But when Thea arrives in Norway, everything feels wrong. Her father is as distant as ever and now she has to share him with his new family: his girlfriend Inge and her children. Then Thea makes a surprise discovery. Deep in the snowy woods by the house, is a bear. He's scared and hungry and he desperately needs Thea's help. When the town hears about a bear living in the woods, Bear's life is in even greater danger. Thea needs to show everyone that he's not dangerous - he's a good bear - if she's to save him.

The Storm Keeper's Island by Catherine Doyle

Fionn Boyle and his older sister Tara have been sent to stay with their grandfather on the remote island of Arranmore for the summer. Though Fionn has never met his grandfather before - an eccentric old man who lives in a tiny cottage filled to the brim with candles - he knows he comes from a long line of brave lifeboat men, who wear the sea behind their eyes. Fionn fears the sea. He has no interest in adventure or shipwrecks or the restless wind that rustles through the island, as though in search of something. But an old magic is stirring deep inside the layers of Arranmore, and it is calling out to Fio

My brother is a superhero, and I could have been one too, except that I needed to go for a wee. My name is Luke Parker, I'm 11 years old and I live in a mild-mannered part of London with my mum, dad and big brother, Zack. He wasn't always a superhero, but with a name like Zack you've got to wonder if my parents had a hunch that one day, he'd end up wearing a mask and cape and saving orphans from burning buildings. I mean, come on! It's what you get in a comic when a superhero punches a supervillain. Pow! Blam! Zack!

***The Last Spell Breather* by Julie Pike**

Spell Breathing does not come naturally to Rayne - she loathes the hours of practice, the stacks of scrolls, and the snapping mud devils that cover her mother's precious spell book. But it is spell breathing that keeps her village safe from the dreaded monster curse that plagues their world. It is ancient powerful magic, but as Rayne learns to her horror it is also fragile. In one clumsy move, the magic that keeps them safe is broken, her village is plunged into danger, and an incredible adventure begins.

***Just Jack* by Kate Scott**- available as a CD

Jack knows lots about starting a new school. Since Dad left, he and his mum have moved to a new house five times. He also knows all about fitting in. The trick is to act exactly like everyone else and make sure no one ever notices him. But it's hard work and Jack doesn't have any good friends. That is, until Tyler comes along. Tyler might be the key to getting Jack to realise the very best thing he can be is Just Jack.

***My Brother is a Superhero* by David Solomons**- available on BorrowBox

My brother is a superhero, and I could have been one too, except that I needed to go for a wee. My name is Luke Parker, I'm 11 years old and I live in a mild-mannered part of London with my mum, dad and big brother, Zack. He wasn't always a superhero, but with a name like Zack you've got to wonder if my parents had a hunch that one day, he'd end up wearing a mask and cape and saving orphans from burning buildings. I mean, come on! It's what you get in a comic when a superhero punches a supervillain. Pow! Blam! Zack!

Missing Christmas craft sessions at your local library? Why not buy a craft pack for your children to do at home?



We have prepared a range of different packs, where your children will find everything to make stockings and other festive decorations. All you need at home is scissors, glue and pens or crayons. You can buy a craft pack from any of our open libraries. Contact your local library directly for more information about availability and prices.

To avoid disappointment, place your order in advance by calling or emailing your library.

Bracknell Forest Libraries

The following libraries are now open with reduced hours:

- Ascot Heath Library - open Monday and Thursday, 10am to 4pm, Tuesday and Friday, 2pm to 4:30pm and Saturday, 10am to 12:30pm
- Binfield Library - open Monday, Tuesday and Friday, 2pm to 4:30pm, Thursday and Saturday, 10am to 4pm
- Bracknell Library - open daily from 10am to 4pm, except Wednesday and Sunday
- Crowthorne Library - open daily from 10am to 4pm, except Sunday
- Great Hollands Library - open Wednesday and Friday from 10am to 4pm and Saturday 10am to 12:30pm
- Sandhurst Library - open daily from 10am to 4pm, except Wednesday and Sunday
- Whitegrove Library - open daily from 10am to 4pm, except Sunday

Birch Hill Library will open from Thursday 10 December. Opening times will be:

- Monday - 2pm to 4:30pm
- Tuesday - 10am to 4pm
- Thursday - 10am to 4pm
- Friday - 2pm to 4:30pm
- Saturday - 10am to 12:30pm

Harmans Water Library will open from Monday 14 December. Opening times will be:

- Monday - 10am to 4pm
- Tuesday - 10am to 12:30pm
- Thursday - 2pm to 4:30pm
- Saturday - 10am to 12:30pm

Opening hours are reduced to allow staff to carry out essential tasks in public areas with no-one else present. Numbers entering the buildings will be limited to make sure of safety.

Please see our website for information on Christmas opening hours.