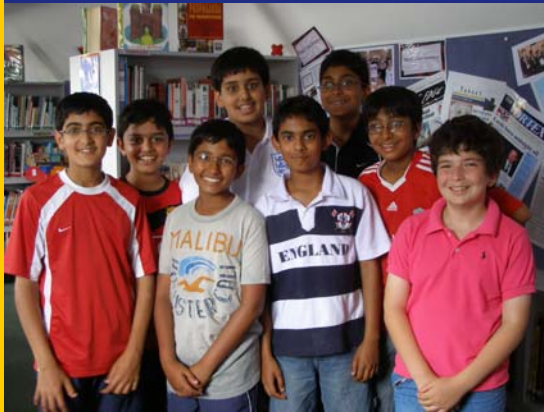


Welcome



Welcome to our **SPECIAL CENTENARY EDITION** of **COOL READS**, written and produced by the new Year 8 **COOL READS** editorial team: **Paaras Kantaria, Martin Mattoo, Dhian Sara, Kinnar Patel, Rishi Patel, Shamil Shah, Sachin Kucheria and Rafi Kelion.**

We aim to update you on news about the latest and best books, provide reports from bookweek, visiting authors and much, much more! During the next academic year, we will continue to publish more editions to keep you busy during your free time! This newsletter will keep the big boys, the juniors and even the teachers captivated by the literary world.

This edition provides a round up of events of the last six months. Be sure to read the **Your Favorites** section to start you off on a new series. We also feature the most popular book in the LRC for each year group. **Happy Reading!** **The Team**

Books' Got Talent

The 10 most funny book titles and authors as voted by Paaras Kantaria, Shamil Shah and Krishen Shah (Y8).

1. *'Excellent Books'* by Paige Turner
2. *'Crossing the Road'* by Luke Wright
3. *'A Guide for the Obese'* by Anita Walk
4. *'Suicide'* by Martin Kilmartin
5. *'How to Combat the 'Flu''* by Mike Robe
6. *'Embarrassing Day'* by Lucy Lastic
7. *'The Arabian Cookbook'* by Sultan Pepper
8. *'Constructing Buildings'* by Bill D. Walls
9. *'Sunday Service'* by Neil Downe
10. *'The Worst Holiday'* by Helen Back

NP Bargain Book Sale

Starting on Monday 28th June Northwood Prep's LRC hosted a week-long bargain book sale, selling a mixture of new and used library books and donations of nearly new books from Mrs Smith's own collection. There was a fast variety ranging from non-fiction to classic tales and modern adventure. Prices ranged from 10p to £2. The sale was on at break times and lunchtimes, as well as after school in the Gazebo.

All the librarians helped organise the system of colour coded price labelling. In total we raised an amazing **£279**. Most of the proceeds went to a children's cancer charity, nominated by recent leaver and former school librarian, Yaajan Govindia, who is currently being treated for a rare form of leukaemia. The rest of the money is being used to buy books for the Dovecott.

All unsold books were donated to a new school library in Ghana.
Paaras Kantaria and Kinnar Patel



Tej Thakkar is very happy with his selection of bargain books.

Your Favourites

Your favourite book titles from last year.

- Year 3:** Captain Underpants (Dav Pilkey)
Year 4: Mythical Monsters (Chris McNab)
Year 5: Eragon (Christopher Paolini)
Year 6: Artemis Fowl (Eoin Colfer)
Year 7: Percy Jackson (Rick Riordan)
Year 8: The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy (Douglas Adams)
WHOLE LIBRARY:
 Captain Underpants (Dav Pilkey)
Most issued books in Library :
 Guinness World Records 2003 (Guinness)
 Artemis Fowl (book 1) (Eoin Colfer)
By Martin Mattoo and Paaras Kantaria

Micro-Reports and Recommendations

The Count of Monte Cristo Alexandre Dumas

The Count of Monte Cristo was written over 150 years ago yet it is an exciting book with a lot of dramatic events unfolding. Young Edmond Dantes is about to marry his beloved Mercedes but his future is cruelly blighted when his jealous enemies provoke an unjust arrest. Dantes has a secret to find on the island of Monte Cristo and comes back to avenge himself. Meanwhile, trouble is mounting at his house and a few deaths have been pronounced. Can Edmond Dantes save more and take revenge? Read this classic boys adventure to find out!!
A must-read!

Sachin Kucheria

Diary of a Wimpy Kid Jeff Kinney

Diary of a Wimpy Kid is an hilarious book about a boy called Greg Heffley, who has two annoying brothers called Rodrick and Manny. This first book in a series of five is about how he tries to cope with life in middle school, without being beaten up by one of the school bullies. Greg does various things, such as 'starring' in a school play, wrestling the bullies, having a miserable Christmas and lots more. The book is very popular in the LRC, especially now it has been made into a feature film.



Dhian Sara

Biggles- Fighter Squadron By Captain W.E. Johns

This is the third title from the ever popular series set in the First World War and through to the Second World War. The book is about a pilot called James Bigglesworth who, with his friend Algy, climbs through the ranks of the Air Force.

He patrols the front line, shooting down Germans, and goes on secret missions, sometimes acting as a spy!

If you like exciting wartime action, with plenty of suspense, Biggles is for you.

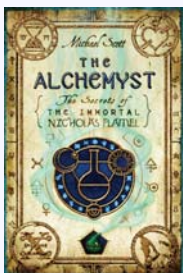


Rafi Kelion

***** 5 Star Book Reviews *****

**The Alchemyst:
Secrets of the Immortal
Nicholas Flamel**
By Michael Scott

This book is the first of a series of six in progress.



It is set in 21st Century San Francisco, California. The evil Dr John Dee steals the book of Abraham the Mage, which is an ancient text of magical wisdom (also known as the Codex). He has stolen it from the immortal Nicholas Flamel, an alchemist born in Paris in 1330, who recorded many of the secrets of magic in this book, including the secret of immortality.

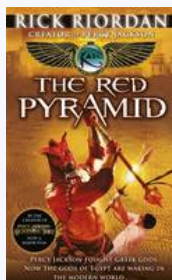
This is a skilful weaving of history and mythological creatures and explains mysterious events, such as the Fire of London, Atlantis, the Black Plague of Europe and myths of witches, the Norse God Odin, the Egyptian cat-god Bastet, the crow-goddess Morrigan, Golems, the Irish warrior Scathach, the Philosopher's Stone and the secret of Immortality. These are all combined to create a new legend, the first in a series of six.

I really enjoyed this novel and cannot wait to read the sequels, The Magician, The Sorceress, The Necromancer, The Warlock and The Enchantress.

Shamil Shah

**The Red Pyramid:
Kane Chronicles**
By Rick Riordan

This book tells of the journey of two siblings, Sadie and Carter Kane, who find themselves possessed by Egyptian Gods. They embark upon a journey around the world, which takes them from Cairo to Paris to New York. Not only are they possessed by the Gods but



their father, an archaeologist, accidentally unleashed Set, the god of chaos and a sworn enemy of Horus (the God who possesses Carter). With the help of their feline friend Bast, a goddess in disguise who has vowed to protect the children, Sadie and Carter attempt to stop Set from taking over the world, by hindering the building of his Red Pyramid.

Sadie and Carter also have a personal reason to stop Set because he has captured and imprisoned their father. The Egyptian temple of magic, called The House of Life, eliminates anyone possessed by Gods and is in pursuit of the children. The ending has a great twist but you will have to read the book to find out more!!!

I would definitely recommend this book to those out there, who likes fantasy, Percy Jackson, magic and ancient history.

Martin Mattoo

Out Now!!

Ever got hooked on a series, then find yourself forced to leave it and having to wait for the next book to come out? Well, in this section we'll try to inform you of recent releases. Here are a few to look out for in the LRC...

- ARTEMIS FOWL: **The Atlantis Complex**
- CHERUB: **Shadow Wave**
- THE ENEMY: **The Dead**
- SKULDUGGERY PLEASANT: **Mortal Coil**

Paaras Kantaria

Fun Word Facts

1. No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple.
2. 'Dreamt' is the only English word that ends in the letters 'mt'.
3. The sentence: 'The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog' uses every letter of the alphabet.
4. The words 'racecar', 'kayak' and 'level' are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left (palindromes).
5. There are only four words in the English language which end in 'dous': tremendous, horrendous, stupendous, and hazardous.
6. There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: 'abstemious' and 'facetious.'
7. TYPEWRITER is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard.
8. The dot over the letter 'i' is called a tittle.
9. Los Angeles's full name is "El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora la Reina de los Angeles de Porciuncula" and can be abbreviated to 3.63% of its size, "L.A.".
10. There is a seven letter word in the English language that contains ten words without rearranging any of its letters, "therein" -- the, there, he, in, rein, her, here, ere, therein, herein.
11. The only 15 letter word that can be spelled without repeating a letter is uncopyrightable.

Shamil Shah

H.I.V.E - Higher Institute of Villainous Education

By Mark Walden



Otto Malpense is a student who has been abducted by G.L.O.V.E to attend a school called H.I.V.E, a secret school hidden in the middle of a volcano. He and his friends: Wing, Laura, Shelby, Nigel and Franz, are immersed into a world full of action and explosives. They attempt to escape but their plans are foiled by the notorious headmaster, his unstoppable assassin and a mutated plant monster, accidentally created by Otto's friend Nigel.

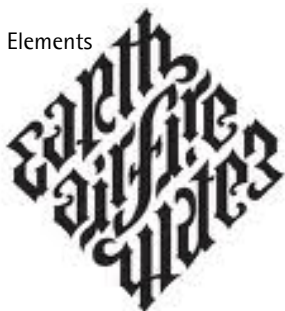
If you love action books and page turners, then this is the series for you.

Rishi Patel

Awesome Ambigrams

You may recognize the word 'ambigram' from Dan Brown's *Angels and Demons*. If you don't, then they are words which can be read the same upside down and right way up. See if you can find some and send them to the editor: paaraskantaria@northwoodprep.co.uk.

Elements



True?... Or False?



'illuminati' from Angels and Demons by Dan Brown (12+)

Kinnar Patel, Paaras Kantaria and Shamil Shah



Editors: Paaras Kantaria (8S) and Shamil Shah (8S)

Contributors: Rishi Patel and Dhian Sara (8S) | Kinnar Patel, Rafi Kelion, Sachin Kucheria and Martin Mattoo (8W).

A Tale of Two Terry's

On the 29th and the 30th June, Year 8 put on a very good production of Mr. Smith's play. It was based on the history of the school, but imagined the next centenary in 2110. A boy called Oscar (Jake Gelernter) has a time band, which allows him to travel in time. He is two weeks away from his Thought Test (Entrance Exams), when he decides to go back to a time when written exams were used because he is not very good at using his imagination but is good at learning facts. He meets a boy called Harry (James Fowler), who is also two weeks from his entrance exams but he is completely the opposite of Oscar and has a very good imagination but is not very good at learning facts.

They go on an adventure into the past and end up visiting the Tudor Manor of the More, as well as a fictional 1930s, where they end up in a book about Billy Bunter. Their travels together makes with them both realise that they can do their exams after all.

All the hard work was worth it.: 10/10.

Rafi Kelion and Dhian Sara



A Centenary Portrait



To kick off our Centenary, Northwood Prep unveiled its new 2010 Yearbook, named appropriately 'A Centenary Portrait' and is written by our very own school archivist, Mrs Smith. What better day to release it than on Celebration Day, which marked the official launch of Northwood Prep's celebration of this very special year in the school's history. This flashy book is full of mementos from the past, some dating back to 1910, and is an illustrated history of the school. The book also commemorates the pupils and staff who gave their lives for this country in the Great Wars. This book is a great way to remember our school and you should definitely buy a copy to keep and cherish forever.

Paaras Kantaria and Rishi Patel

Kate Greenaway Shadowing

At the end of the summer term a group of year 9 boys from Merchant Taylors' School visited Junior School to read them a selection of new picture books.

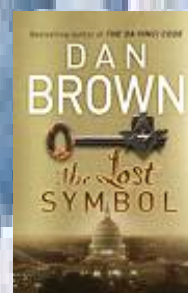
Each year the librarian at MTS gets boys to read all the books that have been selected for the Kate Greenaway Award. They bring them to Northwood Prep to see what the young audience think of them. It is always interesting to see if the children choose the same book as the adult judging panel. The boys favourite was: *There are Cats in this Book* by Viviane Shwarz.

This year, **Freya Blackwood's *Harry & Hopper*** won the prestigious prize, beating other bestsellers such as **The Graveyard Book** (Chris Riddell) and **The Dunderheads** (David Roberts).

The **Kate Greenaway Medal** was established in the United Kingdom in 1955 in honour of the children's illustrator, Kate Greenaway. She was an English children's book illustrator and writer. Her first book, *Under The Window* (1879), a collection of simple, verses about children, was a best-seller. The medal is given annually to an outstanding work of illustration in children's literature. It is awarded by the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP).

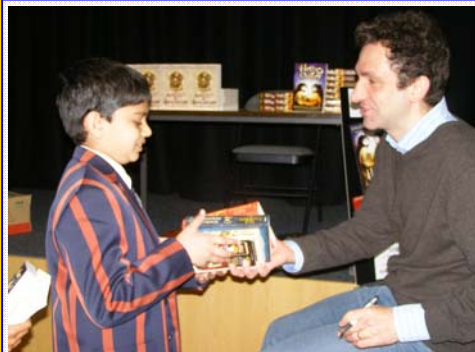


Cool Covers



Chosen by
Paaras Kantaria and Kinnar Patel

Awesome Authors – Jonathan Stroud



Martin Mattoo met one of his favourite authors, Jonathan Stroud, at one of our own literary events held in the school in May.

Jonathan Stroud was born in Bedford in 1970, England, and grew up in St Albans. He started writing from the age of 7. He was inspired by the works of Enid Blyton. He always had a burning desire to write a full-length work of fiction which he would have wanted to read when he was younger, and so, after graduating from York University, he embarked on a publishing and writing career in the game book and non-fiction department at Walker Books. He moved to Kingfisher Publications to edit children's non-fiction. His first novel was published when he was 28. For a time he juggled work with writing; but Jonathan is now a full-time writer. His favourite authors are Dashiell Hammett, Robert Louis Stevenson, Evelyn Waugh and PG Wodehouse. He still lives in St Albans with his wife and small daughter.

Jonathan has written many great books, but he is most well known for The Bartimaeus Trilogy. The *Amulet of Samarkand* was particularly

successful and won many prizes in 2004.

For more information: www.jonathanstroud.com

By Kinnar Patel



Author Matrix

Please have a look at the **Author Matrix**. It is a brilliant Powerpoint presentation containing over 150 different authors organized under 12 different genres. This is an excellent tool if you are unsure what to read next. It can be downloaded from the school website at the bottom of the homepage in the section: 'Latest News'. If you find any glitches or want to recommend any authors, contact Mr. Smith, Head of English: msmith@northwoodprep.co.uk



Paaras Kantaria

Riddles and Puzzles

1. What is black when clean and white when dirty?
2. A man turned off the light and went to bed. When he got up he heard that 200 people died in the night and he knew that it was his fault. How?
3. A woman shoots her husband then holds him underwater for over five minutes. Then they go for a nice dinner. How is this possible?
4. An Italian judge released a guilty man and convicted an innocent man. As a result the chocolate industry benefited greatly. Why?
5. What is the same size as you, yet weighs nothing?
6. A man is 6ft 3inches, has size 9 feet and works in a butcher's shop. What does he weigh?
7. You have six matches. How do you use these to make four equilateral triangles? (Hint—think Egyptian).

Send your answers to Mrs. Smith. House points available for the first 5 completely correct answers.

Shamil S, Paaras K. and Kinnar P.

Please continue giving in Nestlé's Box Tops For Books, to help the library get free books

NEW Junior Librarian



Log into the school intranet this half-term and explore all the books we have in the LRC and Junior School via the new look **Junior Librarian**. If you have any problems logging on please report it to Mrs Smith.



Heroes Wanted!!

If you would like to contribute a book review to **SCHOOL READS** in the next issue, please email Mrs. Smith through the new school e-mail system. We would like a variety of reviews, including classics and new titles. People from all years welcome.

If you would also like to send in your short stories and poems, please do.

Get your name in print here!!!

The Team

Final Word

*"Welcome to a new year...Before we begin our banquet of events, I would like to say a few words:
Nitwit! Blubber! Oddment! Tweak!"
(As said by Albus Percival Wulfric Brian Dumbledore)*



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SCHOOL READS

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