

# Thirsk Community Primary School



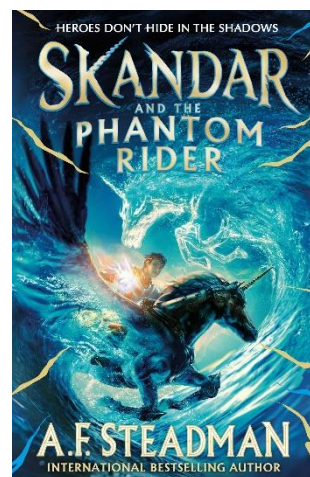
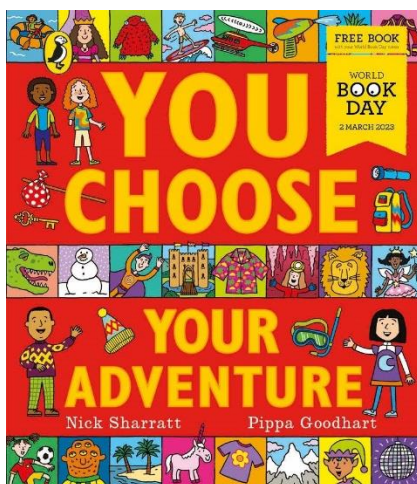
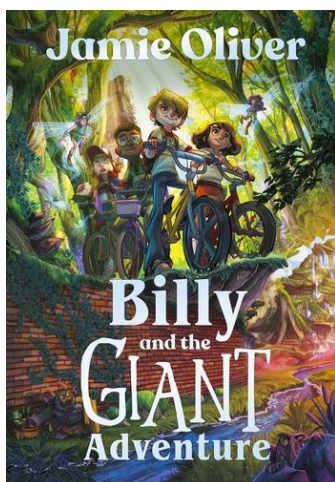
## Reading Newsletter



JANUARY 2023

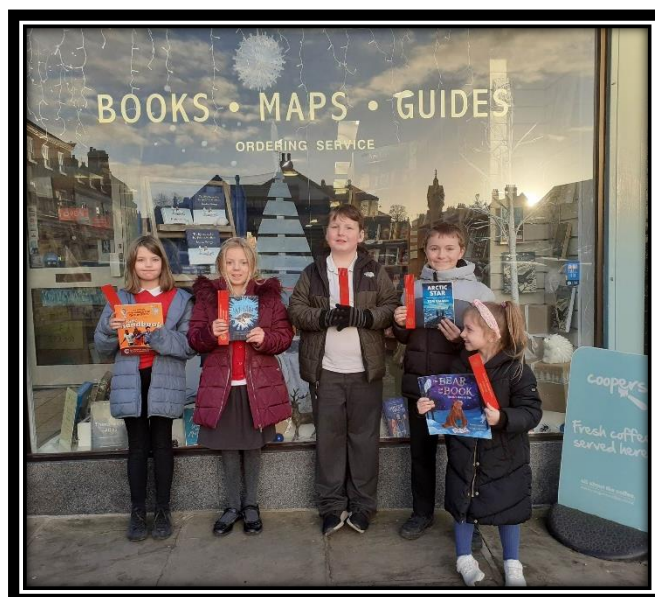
Happy New Year – Happy New Books!!

Book releases in 2023 ...

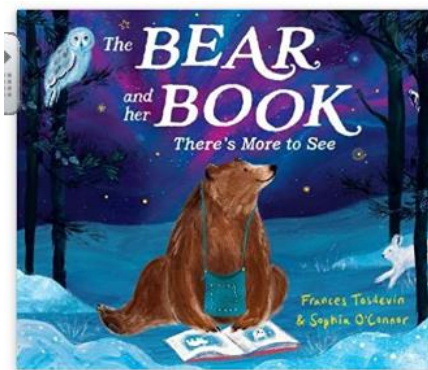
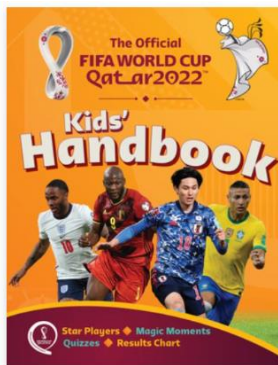
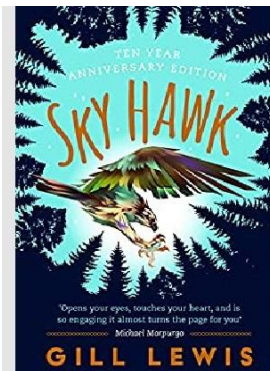
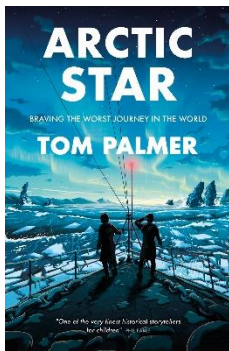


### Reading Raffle Winners

As you will be aware, we are an Everyone Everyday school for reading. Adults at school monitor reading records, and when a pupil has read five times a week – they receive two tickets to enter in the Reading Raffle. If they read four times a week- they receive one ticket. Each week a winner is picked at our whole school Reading Assembly. The prize is to go book shopping with Mrs Wall at the White Rose Bookshop in Thirsk. Last terms winners were Andrew, Coco, Charlie and Natasha. Here they are pictured outside the book shop!



The books our reading raffle winners chose...



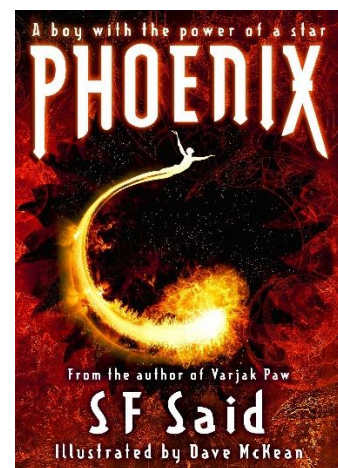
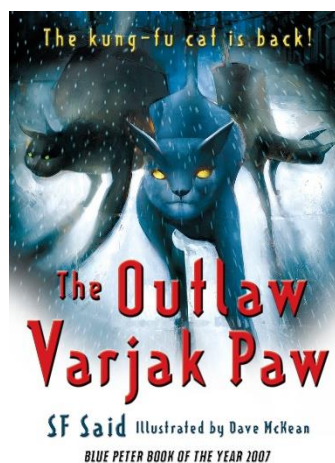
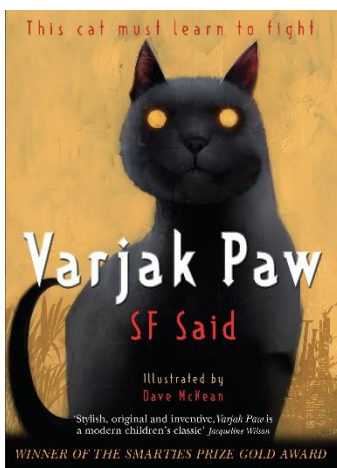
These will be in our school library soon!

## AUTHOR OF THE TERM

## S. F Said

S. F. Said is a British Muslim author of Middle Eastern heritage, he was born in Beirut but moved and lived in many Middle Eastern places. He describes his origins as "Iraqi, Egyptian, Kurdish, and Circassian." He came to London for his education and went to the University of Cambridge. After graduating from there he worked as a press attaché and speech writer for the Crown Prince of Jordan's office in London!

His first novel was *Varjak Paw* (2003), this won 2003 Nestlé Smarties Book Prize. The sequel, *The Outlaw Varjak Paw* (2005), won the 2007 Blue Peter Book of the Year. *Phoenix* (2013) is a longer novel written for older children. It was shortlisted for the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize and was selected to represent the U.K. on the IBBY Honour List for 2016.



Mrs Mansfield, our librarian, has reviewed *Varjak Paw*. Here is what she had to say.

*I love this book as it is a story about finding your true strengths and learning to trust your instincts and think for yourself.*

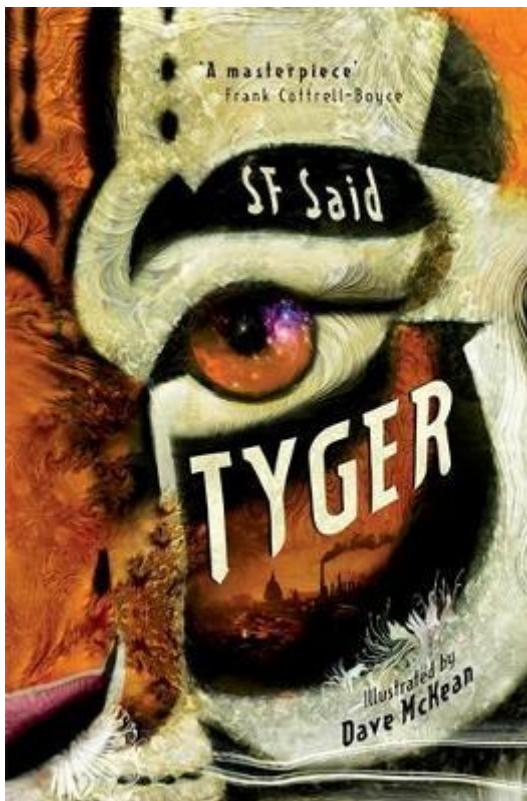
*Varjak Paw is a Mesopotamian Blue cat who has never been outside before, but Varjak is forced out into the city when a strange and sinister man and his two menacing cats take over his family's home.*

*He decides to leave his family and head out alone into the city to try to find out how to save his family. In the city he meets city cats and makes friends with a dog who become his trusted friends and begins to have strange dreams where he meets his ancestor Jalal who teaches *The Way*, the 7 skills of the cat.*

*With his friends and his new skills Varjak manages to overcome the challenges of survival, and to save his family and the cats of the city from the mysterious Vanishings!!!!*

*Varjak's adventures in the city continue in the second book 'The Outlaw Varjak Paw' where he meets Sally Bones a mysterious evil white cat who is the leader of the city's deadliest gang. Varjak has to dig deep to use *The Way* to try to defeat her and free the city for all cats.*

It is S.F Said's latest release *Tyger* that everyone around the world is talking about. This has been nominated for 7 awards already, and has already won The Guardians Best Children's Book of 2022. This is the Said novel Mrs Wall will be sharing at Reading Assembly.



#### Praise for *Tyger* from other authors

*'You wait years and years for a masterpiece and then one comes along' - Frank Cottrell-Boyce*

*'Next level excellent. This book is a gem' - Malorie Blackman*

*'A simple thrilling tale of a boy and a girl and a Tyger. A triumph!' - Jacqueline Wilson*

*'An out-and-out masterpiece' - Piers Torday*

*'Breathtaking, heartbreakingly and achingly beautiful. Perfection' - Sophie Anderson*

*'A masterpiece of a story: beautiful, brilliant, perfect!' - Peter Bunzl*

# Most Borrowed Books From Our School Library in 2022 – Have You Read Them Yet?

