Rebel Round Up!

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ANIMAL EDITION!

Greetings from Rebel HQ

Dear Rebel Readers,

This week, it's a double author celebration! We celebrate Lui Sit who is the fantastic author of her sequel to *Land of the Wildcat* as she brings you *The Wildcat and the Gathering Storm* full of magical mystery and adventure! AND...Bethany Walker with her second diary style novel: *Medusa Gorgon's Deadly Side Eye* which brings lots of laughs and follows the Greek myth of Medusa.

This issue will celebrate books with animals in their stories. What is your favourite animal? Do you have any pets?

We hope you enjoy these recommendations and please let us know if you read any! We want to know your favourites.

Happy reading, Rebels!



Author Spotlight: **Lui Sit**









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Wildcats and New Beginnings!



In *The Wildcat & the Gathering Storm*, the follow-up to *Land of the Last Wildcat*, Puffin Lau has finished primary school and is on holidays. After the break, she and best friend Lance will be going to different high schools, a change Puffin is dreading. Meanwhile, baby kuri Noma is growing fast. She will soon be released on Linger Island to live as a wildcat should, something else Puffin dreads. She can't bear to think of a life without Noma or Lance by her side every day. Out of the blue, a strange message from Puffin's mum, who is working away at a remote arctic peninsula, sends Puffin, Lance and Noma headlong into a wild adventure on Bluster Peninsula where they encounter the phenomenon known as the Blusterwind. To protect her loved ones, Puffin has to use all her wits and courage. In doing so, she discovers that change, whilst sometimes scary, is an exciting part of life.

When I was writing *The Wildcat & the Gathering Storm*, my life was changing too. I was transitioning into being a debut author which is a steep learning curve. It's one thing to write a book, it's quite another thing to become a public person promoting that book, whilst writing another one in the background. I channeled my uncertainty and worry from this time into Puffin's journey in *The Wildcat & the Gathering Storm*. As Puffin grew to accept change in the story, I also learned to accommodate the changes being an author requires. I hope readers take away that change in life is inevitable and important, and that fear often is part of the process. The key is to hold on and emerge through the other side. To find out how Puffin emerges through the many challenges that she faces on Bluster Peninsula, read the book!

The Wildcat & the Gathering Storm is published by Macmillan Children's Books and is avaliable now!

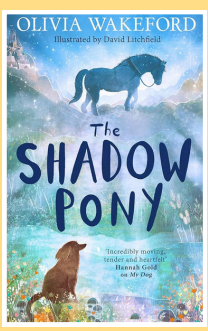


Book Recommendations

Mammoth Rider
by S.J. Poyton



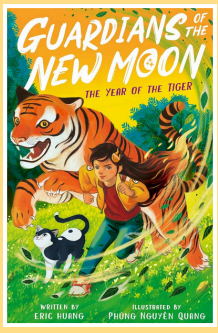
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The Shadow Pony
by Olivia Wakeford

Guardians of the New Moon
by Eric Huang



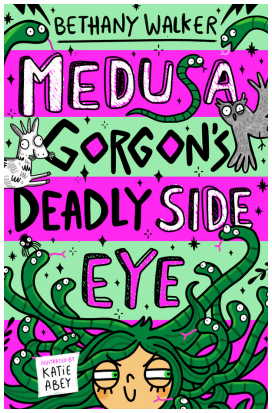
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Issue Content:

- **TWO** author interviews!
- Book recommendations!
- Wordsearch!
- Drawing Activity!
- Rebel Reading Festival ticket info!

Author Spotlight: **Bethany Walker**





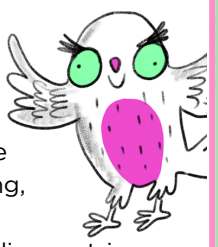


The superpower of writing – and finding your voice!

One of the things I love most about writing is that I get to use my voice. This may seem like a strange thing to say, when I spend my writing time sitting silently at a keyboard. My love of writing began in childhood. I was very shy and hated speaking out in class. Being picked to read aloud was the stuff of nightmares. Writing, by contrast, felt like a superpower. It gave me the time and space to be able to communicate my thoughts in exactly the way I wanted – without the pressure of time or the fear of saying something wrong or stumbling over my words. I used to love writing letters to friends (transferring to email when such a thing was invented – imagine!) My aim was always to make my friends laugh.

Now, as a writer of funny books for children, my aim is still very much to make my readers laugh. When I first started trying to be an author, editors would compliment my 'voice' (which I found odd and confusing). Friends who read my stories would tell me that reading my words was like having me in their ear, reading my story to them. It took me a while to realise these editors and friends were talking about the same thing. Somehow, through my shyness and love of words, I had managed to develop a writing voice that is unique to me. This is something I now treasure.

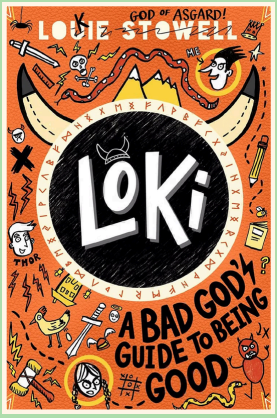
But how do you develop a writing 'voice', and why is it important? You only need look at the popularity of diary-style books to see the value of a strong voice. This style of writing is the most direct route into someone's mind (even if that someone is made up). Children love the characters in these books because they love their voices. So much is taught in school to make children into effective, imaginative writers - spelling and punctuation, vocabulary, plot, character, setting, and so on - but voice cannot really be taught. It is something that develops when children are given time to play with words. Writing diary entries – or letters to friends – is a brilliant way for children to start listening to the voice in their heads and expressing themselves in a way that is uniquely theirs. And perhaps they'll find they have a writing voice they treasure too!



More Diary themed: book recommendations!

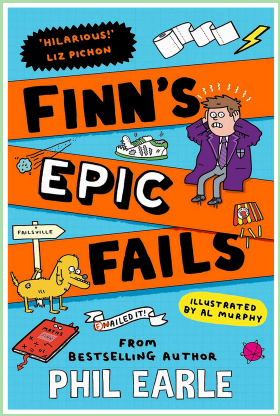
The Medusa series! (obviously!)

Loki series
by Louie Stowell



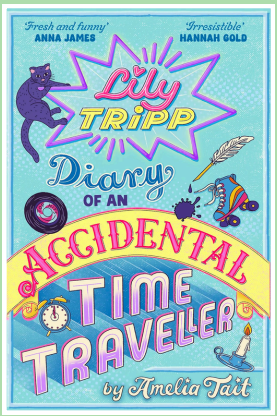
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Finn's Epic Fails
by Phil Earle



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Lily Tripp: Diary of an Accidental Time Traveller
by Amelia Tait



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Author Events

Join our **live, in person, Author Events in October!**
Scan the QR code for tickets!

Tickets still available! >>>

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Books we are excited about... (new releases)

Grimwood: The Fast and the Furriest *by Nadia Shireen*

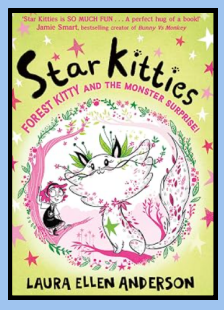


The Treebonk World Cup has arrived in Grimwood, and teams from all over the world are competing for glory! Fox cub Nancy is determined to lead her scrappy squirrels to victory, but there's just one problem... the Grimwood team is a complete disaster! When a stadium is wrecked and a team mysteriously disappears, Nancy, Ted and their friends must race to save the tournament before everything falls apart. Expect laugh-out-loud chaos, ridiculous adventures and plenty of furry fun in this action-packed new Grimwood story!

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< **Availiable now!**

Star Kitties: Forest Kitty and the Monster Surprise! *by Laura Ellen Anderson*



Something mysterious is causing chaos in the magical Mew Forest! Starflowers are being squashed, plants are disappearing, and a strange creature seems to be hiding in the shadows. Can Tabitha and Flora the Forest Kitty solve the mystery before it's too late? As they set a clever trap to catch the monster, they discover a surprise that is much cuter than they ever imagined! Full of magic, friendship, adventure and adorable cats, this purr-fect story will keep young readers turning the pages.

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< **Pre-order**
Out Sept 24th

Girl with a Sabretooth Tiger *by Jasbinder Bilan*



Travel back to prehistoric Britain in this exciting new adventure from award-winning author Jasbinder Bilan. Eleven-year-old Swallow loves listening to stories around the campfire, but when her baby sister becomes seriously ill, she sets out on a brave quest to find a magical jadeite stone that could save her. Along the way, she faces wild landscapes, dangerous challenges and unexpected friendships, all while guided by the spirit of a mysterious sabretooth tiger. Full of courage, family, and adventure, this beautifully illustrated story is perfect for readers who enjoy magical journeys and strong, determined heroes.

Packed with courage, magic, friendship and adventure, this thrilling story will sweep readers into a world of wonder and make them cheer for Swallow every step of the way. Perfect for children who love exciting quests and unforgettable animal companions!

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< **Pre-order**
Out Oct 8th



Spotlight: Teacher Q&A



Name: Amy Moore

@moore_books

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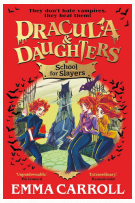
What was your favourite childhood book?

My favourite childhood book was *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S Lewis because I longed to find a wardrobe that would take me into the magical world of Narnia. I'd have loved to run my hands through Aslan's fur and take tea with Mr Tumnus.

If there was one book you could go back and read again for the first time, what would it be?

This is a tough question because there are so many amazing books. I think I'd have to choose a recent favourite: *My Name is Zayn* by Fidan Meikle. This book made me laugh, cry and completely shattered my heart.

What book are you currently reading?



I am reading *Dracula and Daughters School for Slayers* by Emma Carroll. It's the second in the series and a perfect autumnal read. I love vampires!

Which character from a book is most like you and why?

I think I'd have to pick *Hari Kumar* because I also have a 'fizzy brain' and when I get an urge or idea, I have to complete it...right away! I am always on the move and find it hard to sit still, unless I'm reading.

Which genres do you enjoy reading the most?

I do enjoy a range of genres. My favourite are fantasy and adventure stories. I really love historical fiction and books that make me cry, because I've connected with the character.



Can you share a reading Top Tip?

Reading should be fun! Go over the top with voices and accents (even in Year 6) so that when the chapter ends, there are cries for more!

Thank you Rebel!

Have you read this?

Squid Bits! *by Jess Bradley*



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Project Pony *by Camilla Chester*

Wordsearch: Medusa Edition

BETHANY WALKER

MEDUSA GORGON'S

p	a	n	l	d	i	a	r	y	m	g	s	r
e	i	m	s	n	a	m	r	p	e	s	h	c
r	l	m	e	d	u	s	a	a	p	n	a	y
s	h	l	w	d	g	g	r	n	e	a	d	s
e	a	s	e	i	d	e	e	s	r	k	e	k
u	s	e	n	a	g	y	k	a	c	c	w	e
s	e	h	w	a	c	r	g	h	y	a	e	m
l	i	a	n	y	k	r	e	a	d	a	l	r
m	e	d	y	s	c	e	d	d	i	y	l	c
a	t	h	e	n	a	r	s	e	a	d	e	a
a	k	g	r	e	e	k	y	s	u	s	a	r

Word Bank

- medusa
- greek
- percy
- meddy g
- athena
- perseus
- mr car
- snakes
- shadewell
- diary
- ian
- hades

Illustrator: *Katie Abey*

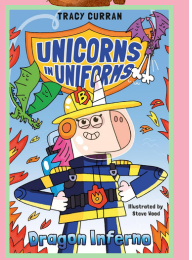
Have you read this?



Magster and the Light of the Ladybird
by Kit Butler

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Unicorns in Uniforms: Dragon Inferno
by Tracy Curran



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Activity time! Design **your own mythical creature** inspired Lui Sit's book!

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Get Involved

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