



# FHS Reads March 26

Welcome to the newest edition of our newsletter!

In this issue we feature new fiction books, books by award winning author Frances Hardinge and the best fantasy books! Please let us know if you would like to borrow any of the featured books.

## Featured Genre - Fantasy



### Aru Shah and the End of Time

Twelve-year-old Aru Shah has a tendency to stretch the truth in order to fit in at school. Whilst her classmates are jetting off to exotic locales, she'll be at home, in the Museum of Ancient Indian Art and Culture where her mother works. Is it any wonder that Aru makes up stories about being royalty, traveling to Paris, and having a chauffeur? When Aru's schoolmates dare her to prove that the museum's Lamp of Bharata is cursed, she doesn't think there's any harm in lighting it.

Little does Aru know that lighting the lamp has dire consequences. She unwittingly frees the Sleeper, an ancient demon whose duty it is to awaken the God of Destruction. Her classmates and beloved mother are frozen in time, and, accompanied by a wise-cracking pigeon and her long-lost half-sister, it's up to Aru to save them.

### The Novice

Fletcher was nothing more than a humble blacksmith's apprentice, when a chance encounter leads to the discovery that he has the ability to summon demons from another world.

Chased from his village for a crime he did not commit, he must travel with his demon to the Vocans Academy, where the gifted are trained in the art of summoning.

The academy will put Fletcher through a gauntlet of gruelling lessons, training him as a battlemage to fight in the Hominum Empire's war against the savage orcs.

Rubbing shoulders with the children of the most powerful nobles in the land, Fletcher must tread carefully as he is caught in the middle of powerful forces, with nothing but his demon Ignatius to help him. .



## New books for you to borrow



### Sweet and Sour by Monique Turner

When fame tastes sweet, how far can you go before it turns sour? With AI influencer robots taking the internet by storm, Mikah and his friends team up to make their own content.

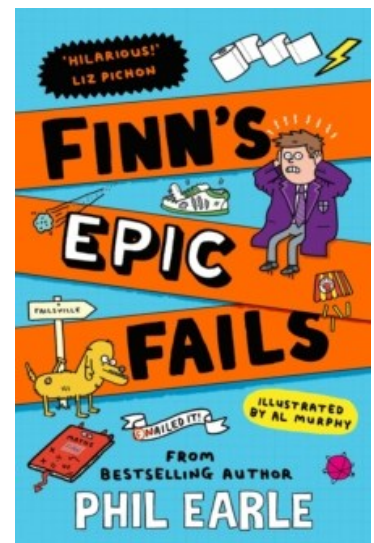
No robots, no AI, just human beings in all their fallible glory. Mikah's mukbang channel where he stuffs his face with food soars to great heights, but what will happen when his body can no longer fly? Funny, dramatic and with a deliciously dark ending, Sweet and Sour is perfect for those who love a Black Mirror twist. Take the Korean culture trend of mukbang, add followers and fame - and get a twist you'll never see coming. Drawing on the author's experience of working with influencers, the story explores internet culture and

### Finn's Epic Fails by Phil Earle

Finn just wants to survive Year 7, but his life is destined to be a series of epic fails.

It's only Tuesday and his scheming, unicorn-obsessed little sister has already stuck a horn to his head (with superglue) and his properly evil older brother has wedged him 278 times. And don't even ask what happened at swimming, in front of the WHOLE CLASS.

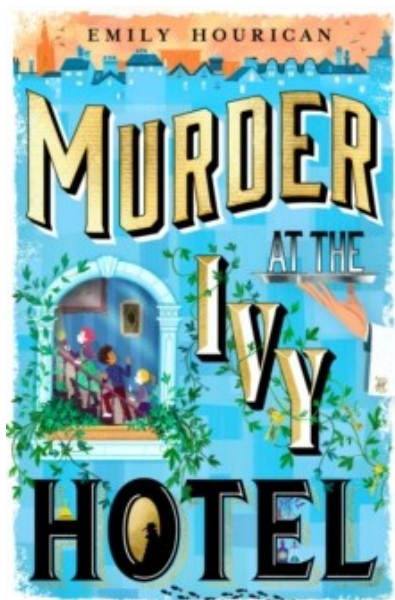
At least he has best friends Laszlo (a hopeless romantic) and Google (ask her anything) by his side as he attempts to turn failure into victory in his very own book that is definitely not a diary. '



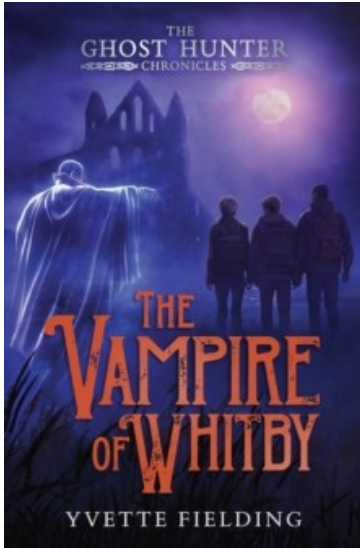
### Murder at the Ivy Hotel by Emma Hourican

Twelve-year-old Meredith and ten-year-old Macy feel like the luckiest girls around. The Ivy Hotel in Dublin is old, beautiful and beloved, with a tight-knit staff that feel like family, and they get to call it home. Meredith and Macy's mum is the General Manager, and their modest apartment is tucked away in a corner, but it has lots of perks.

The girls love spying on fancy events, sneaky treats from the restaurant and knowing all the secret stairs and corridors that guests never see, where the staff move around invisibly, making sure everything runs like clockwork... This is going to come in handy. Because within the cosy walls of the Ivy Hotel, there is also danger, intrigue and threat. Just as the hotel's new owners arrive, ready to sniff out any excuse to make cuts and fire staff, the girls are faced with their biggest task yet: a murder to solve.



## New books for you to borrow



### The Vampire of Whitby by Yvette Fielding

When a young archaeologist disappears during a dig at Whitby Abbey, so begins a terrifying and sinister chain of events.

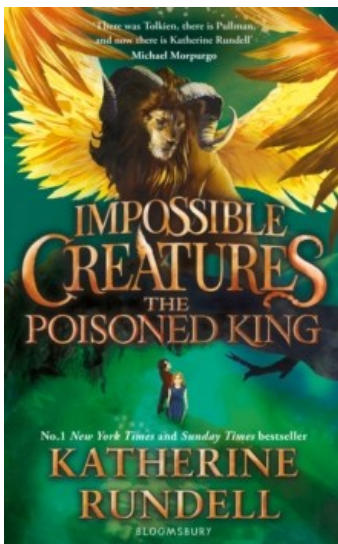
As an eerie fog settles over the town and more disappearances are reported, young ghost hunters Eve, Clovis and Tom find themselves involved in a terrifying case.

Could it be that the ghost of Vlad the Impaler has come to the seaside town? And can they stop the rise of his demonic vampire army?

### The Labyrinth of Lost and Found by Jordan Lees

Eleven-year-old Benjamiah Creek believes in science, logic and the power of reason.

He definitely does not believe in magic. But when he receives a mysterious gift in the post - a doll that can transform into a bird - he is led into the impossible (and most definitely magical) world of Wreathenwold, where dark secrets are lost amongst a vast labyrinth of streets. Benjamiah soon finds himself swept along in a dangerous quest - led by the fierce and brilliant Elizabella, who is determined to solve the disappearance of her missing brother. Will Benjamiah ever find his way home and discover his puzzling connection with this strange, enchanted world? 'The Whisperwicks is a brilliantly spun and wholly original story.

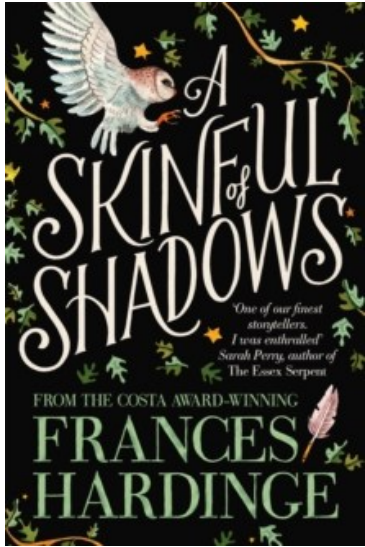


### The Poisoned King by Katherine Rundell

When Christopher Forrester is unexpectedly woken by a miniature dragon chewing on his face, his heart leaps for joy. For months he's dreamed of returning to the Archipelago – the secret islands where all the creatures of myth still live.

But he did not know it would involve a rescue mission on the back of a sphinx, or a plan to enter a dragon's lair. Nor did he imagine it would involve a girl with a flock of birds at her side, a new-hatched chick in her pocket and a ravenous hunger for justice...

## Frances Hardinge Books



### A Skinful of Shadows

When a creature dies, its spirit can go looking for somewhere to hide.

Some people have space inside them, perfect for hiding. Makepeace, a courageous girl with a mysterious past, defends herself nightly from the ghosts which try to possess her.

Then a dreadful event causes her to drop her guard for a moment. And now there's a ghost inside her. The spirit is wild, brutish and strong, but it may be her only defence in a time of dark suspicion and fear. As the English Civil War erupts, Makepeace must decide which is worse: possession – or death.

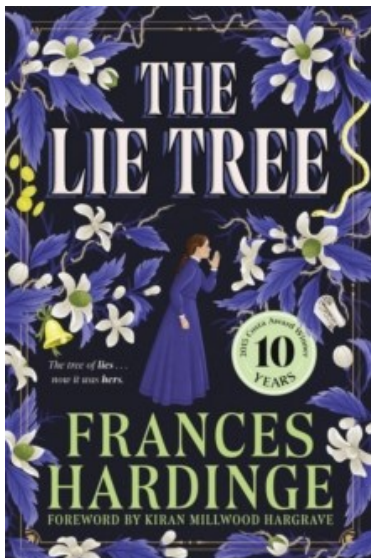


### Unraveller

In a world where anyone can create life-destroying curses, only one person has the power to unravel them.

Kellen does not fully understand his talent, but uses it to help those who have been cursed. But Kellen himself is cursed, and he is in danger of unravelling everything - and everyone - around him.

Hardinge expertly weaves together mythology and mystery in a richly detailed world besieged by curses.



### The Lie Tree

When Faith's father is found dead under mysterious circumstances, she stumbles upon a strange tree amongst his belongings.

Faith, a gifted liar, is amazed to discover that the tree thrives on untruths - and delivers secrets to those who consume its fruit. Convinced that the tree holds the key to her father's murder, Faith begins to use its powers to try and get to the bottom of the mystery.

But webs of lies are far easier made than untangled, and there are truths at the heart of this small island community that are better left buried.