

# SLS High-Lights

November 2015

## Read to succeed!

The SLS team organise an East of England regional heat of the International Kids' Lit Quiz every year. In 2014 local Norfolk team Litcham beat all East of England schools, then beat all the UK schools at the national heat in Oxford to become reigning UK champions.



They raised funds to visit the USA in July 2015 for the International final and three of the team will soon be inspiring other young people to read as part of the library service's [Reading Hack](#) project! They gave a brilliant presentation to let all their supporters know about how much they got out of their experience, and you can find out how they got on in their [wonderfully inspiring report](#). The 2015 East of England heat organised by Norfolk SLS is being hosted by The Thetford Academy on Thursday 12th November 2015 and two of the reigning UK champs from Litcham will be competing again - good luck to everyone!



## Do we need gender balance in reading lists?

Take a look at a very interesting article by a specialist English teacher in a girls' comprehensive school, who questions the set texts for years 7 to 13.

Camilla de la Bedoyere looked at the books to be studied at her school and made worrying discoveries. All but two of the novels were by men, all of the poems, and all the books except two had male protagonists; one had no women at all! Those that did feature women tended to place them in stereotypical roles (mothers, wives, teachers), and many portrayed women as victims of violence – which is perhaps the most disturbing aspect of all. To find out more and to read the article, go to the Reading Zone (School Zone) blog at: <http://www.readingzone.com/index.php?zone=sz&page=fullblog&id=2498>

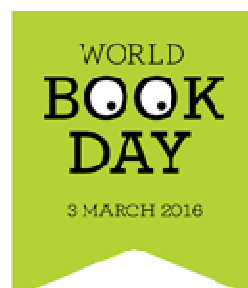
What is your school reading??

## World Book Day award 2016

The 2016 World Book Day award was launched last month, a competition sponsored by author James Patterson which gives schools the opportunity to win £10,000 worth of books for their library. There are also second and third place prizes of £5000 and £3000 up for grabs!

To enter, primary or secondary schools must respond creatively to the question *"where does your reading take you?"* Competition entries must be received by 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015, with the winner being announced on World Book Day itself, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016. Winners will be selected by James Patterson himself with help from children's laureate Chris Riddell.

For more information about the competition, including details of how to enter, visit: <http://worldbookday.com/wobod/>



## INSET– Autumn 2015 and Spring 2016

Full course details are available on our SLS website and you can also book a place on any session via SLA Online. To see more, visit [www.norfolk.gov.uk/sls](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/sls) or [s4s.norfolk.gov.uk/](http://s4s.norfolk.gov.uk/)

<p><b>Using eBooks to promote Reading for Pleasure at KS 3, 4 and 5</b></p> <p>Thursday 19th November 12.45pm– 3.45pm, <b>The Space, Roundtree Way, Norwich, NR7 8SQ</b></p>	<p>A half day course for Literacy leaders and School Librarians in secondary schools. Make sure your school library continues to support literacy and promote reading for pleasure, complementing and incorporating the use of eBooks in your school.</p> <p><b>Includes free access to Norfolk SLS eBook platform for a whole term!</b></p> <p><b>Cost: 1 SLS Token</b></p>
<p><b>Creating a supportive environment for vulnerable groups in your school library</b></p> <p>Tuesday 26th January 2016 9.30am– 12.30pm <b>SLS training room, County Hall, Norwich, NR1 2UA</b></p>	<p>A half-day course for secondary school librarians and assistant librarians looking at how to provide an effective and supportive environment for vulnerable groups within your library, including support for SEN, G&amp;T and EAL pupils</p> <p><b>Cost: 1 SLS Token</b></p>
<p><b>Language is Power: Norfolk School Library Service Conference 2016</b></p> <p>Tuesday 10th March 2016 9.15am– 3.30pm <b>The Space, Roundtree Way, Norwich, NR7 8SQ</b></p>	<p>This conference explores the importance of language across the curriculum, as well as Reading for Pleasure. The day will feature talks and workshops delivered by author Tanya Landman, poet Paul Cookson, Senior Lecturer in English Education Martin Illingworth and teacher and performer Dr Patrick Ryan.</p> <p>A must for KS2, 3 and 4 teachers, literacy coordinators, TAs, librarians, advisers and home educators.</p> <p><b>Cost: 2 SLS Tokens (lunch provided)</b></p>

## Peters special offer

Peters Books & Furniture are offering 25% discount on most books, and 5% discount on furniture if you visit their showroom before 18<sup>th</sup> December 2015. What are you waiting for? Of course, Peters is a few miles down the road in Birmingham, but you will have a fabulous day out – and your school library is worth it! For extra details, see [this flyer](#).

## Rotary Young Writers Competition

The Rotary Club of Norwich, in conjunction with the Writers' Centre Norwich, are seeking local submissions for entry into the national competition they are hosting, in which students aged 7 – 17 will be asked to unleash their imaginations on a short fiction or non-fiction piece addressing the theme of 'Our World Is Beautiful.'

Entry into the competition is free and work must be no longer than 500 words. Submissions must be received by **Friday 11th December 2015** and for more information or to submit an entry, please contact directly Sophie Scott-Brown at the Writers' Centre: [sophie.scottbrown@writerscentrenorwich.org.uk](mailto:sophie.scottbrown@writerscentrenorwich.org.uk)

## Carel press resources

Carel press sell a plethora of useful posters and resources for English and Drama including the use of apostrophes, Shakespeare play script sets and much more, suitable for KS3 and 4. To see what's available, visit [their website here](#) for more details.

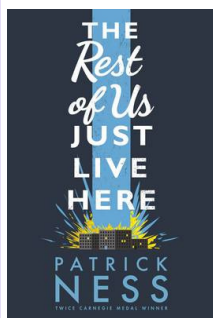
## Carnegie/Kate Greenaway Award 2016

The nominations list is out so take a look at what librarians think have been good reads this year, at [www.ckg.org.uk](http://www.ckg.org.uk)

The CILIP librarian award team will now read and discuss all those and come up with a longlist published on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February. The all important shortlist will then come out on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March, and the – tah-dah! – announcement awards morning on either 17<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> June. We will be hosting a shadowing event so look out for details soon!

If you haven't already got your shadowing group launched do so now, and get reading – there are so many great books out there, in whatever format, new and old! You can register your reading group at: <http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/shadowingsite/index.php>

## Book reviews

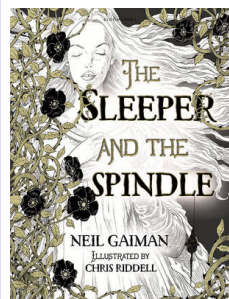


### ***The Rest of Us Just Live Here* by Patrick Ness**

(Walker Books, £12.99 hardback, ISBN 9781406331165)

Typically original and beautifully written, this is an intriguing read. So intriguing I'm not sure I totally understood it, but this may be because I haven't read enough zombie and teen angst novels... It is spiked with black humour, which creates a lighter tone than is usual for Ness, but there are also plenty of issues of concern to young people: relationships, gender, mental health, further education and so on.

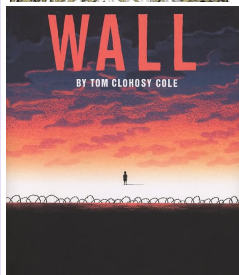
And don't forget the **picture books for older readers**. Recently we've loved:



### ***The Sleeper and the Spindle* by Neil Gaiman, illustrated by Chris Riddell**

(Bloomsbury, £12.99 hardback, ISBN 9781408859643)

Amazing illustrations weave through this tale of characters we think we know from fairy tales, but with new, strange and interesting twists and turns. Even the dust cover – this is one you need to have as a physical Real Book! – is gorgeous and mysterious.



### ***Wall* by Tom Clohosy Cole**

(Templar Publishing, £12.99 hardback, ISBN 9781783700776)

This has minimal text, but the pictures tell a dark and frightening story of the Cold War and the Berlin Wall. However, the family split by the wall, do escape thanks to a compassionate soldier and are reunited.

For more book news and reviews, visit our blog: [The Book Trolley](#)

**Norfolk School Library Service: 01603 222265**

[school.library.service@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:school.library.service@norfolk.gov.uk)

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