

MOAT BRAE

Newsletter

Issue 2

Winter Term 2021

WHAT'S ON AT MOAT BRAE

- 19 November
MOSTLY GHOSTLY
Characters and
Connections @MoatBrae
- 14–16 December
BLEAK WINTER
Victorian ghost
extravaganza

Check out Moat Brae's podcast **101 GEORGE STREET** which explores the world of children's literature, storytelling and creative learning, free from your favourite podcast app.

MOAT BRAE FOR SCHOOLS

We offer school visits every Thursday and Friday during term time. The cost for a full day visit, which includes a workshop, house tour, garden access and a dedicated base and lunch space, is £5 per child. There is no cost for accompanying adults. We can accommodate a maximum of 44 children. We offer set workshops/tours or we can tailor your visit for a specific topic. For more details, to book a visit or to get a free teaching pack, contact Wendy Jones, Creative Learning Officer for Schools:
wendy@peterpanmoatbrae.org

HELLO AGAIN!

I hope you enjoyed our last newsletter and found lots of useful links and ideas. I really must read *The Dog that Saved the World (Cup)* with my class! It was great to hear your recommendations for our Book to Share and I look forward to reading them all soon. Well done to Miss

Saraha & P3/4 at Castle Douglas Primary – your winning entry sounds hilarious! I am also looking forward to adding more non-fiction books to our library after finding inspiration in our Book Hook.

Wendy ☺

BOOK HOOK

National Nonfiction Month

November is National Nonfiction Month, a celebration created by the **Federation of Children's Book Groups**. This year's theme is Heroes and you'll find lots of reading suggestions and ideas on the FCBG website. Follow them on Twitter @FCBGNews for giveaways, news and #factoftheday! Join in by asking children to read a nonfiction book this month.

Short activity ideas Ask children to make up a quiz about their book for their classmates or design a fact file or poster with

interesting information they learned from reading their book.

Longer activity ideas Get the children to create a story or comic strip about what they have learned. Perhaps the animal they were studying becomes a character, or the country they read about is the setting for their story.

Other resources You can find nonfiction resources from Twinkl [here](#).

Have a look at [this way](#) of getting children to think about the nonfiction they've read from readwritethink.org.



Barbara Henderson

Barbara Henderson is fascinated by the history of Dumfries and Galloway. Two of her six books for children feature real events that happened in the region.

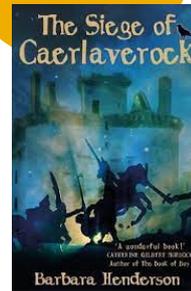
In *The Siege of Caerlaverock*, a young laundress and a page boy caught up in the siege of 1300 uncover a dangerous secret.

around a true story of 18th-century smuggling on the Solway coast, with a walk-on part for real-life exciseman Rabbie Burns.

Barbara's other books for children focus on history and the environment.

You can find more on Barbara's website: barbarahenderson.co.uk and you can hear an interview with her on the Moat Brae podcast, 101 George Street.

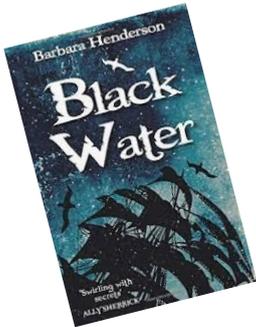
AUTHOR PROFILE



CHILDREN'S BOOK NEWS

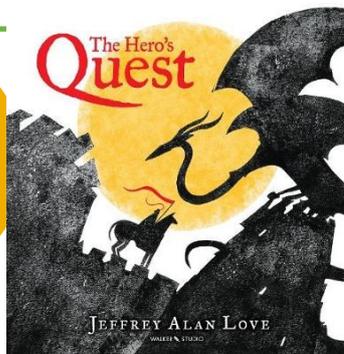
• Just in time for Christmas, J K Rowling's new book for younger readers *The Christmas Pig* is published by Hachette. Illustrated by Jim Field, it's a heart-warming tale of adventure in search of a lost toy.

• *Endgame*, the final book in Malorie Blackman's dystopian *Noughts & Crosses* series has been published by Penguin. In an in-depth interview with *The Guardian*, Malorie says, "My books might not be happily-ever-after, but I do try for hopefully ever after."



Black Water is a thrilling novel based

BOOK REVIEW



Follow the quest of the everyman hero through worlds of myth, magic and monsters. Jeffrey Alan Love's extraordinarily beautiful picture book encompasses everything you could want from a heroic story: dragons, kings, wolves, castles and

The Hero's Quest

written and illustrated by Jeffrey Alan Love
published by Walker Books

battles. The book would be a perfect jumping-off point for exploring stories of heroes with children and a prompt for them to create their own stories and images. This is one of those powerful picture books that manages to blend apparently simple words and pictures to become as rich and satisfying as a poem.

USEFUL ORGANISATIONS

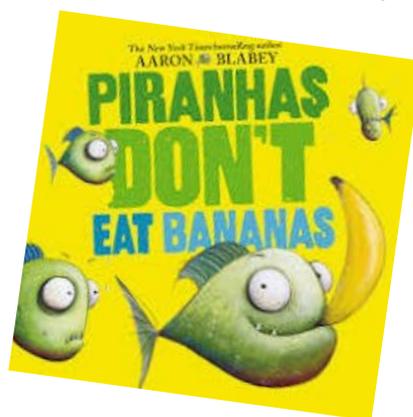
Power of Pictures is a project from the [Centre for Literacy in Primary Education](#) designed to help teachers choose and use picture books across primary schools and improve literacy by giving children the opportunity to draw as part of the writing process. Find out more about the project and get free resources from CLPE [here](#).

A BOOK TO SHARE

P3/4 at Castle Douglas Primary School love the picture book *Piranhas Don't Eat Bananas* by Aaron Blabey. The story is about Brian, who tries to get his fellow piranhas to try his fruit and vegetable platter, but they all prefer meat. The story had us all giggling. The children learned what piranhas

Piranhas Don't Eat Bananas

written and illustrated by Aaron Blabey
published by Scholastic



eat and don't eat. They enjoyed reading the rhyming words out loud. This story has been so popular it has been requested every day. I think I know why!

Shared by Miss Sarahs

Thank you, Miss Sarahs. You win the bundle of books from Issue 1.

Tell us about a book you've shared with your class in 150 words or less. All entries will be shared on our social media and one lucky entry will appear here and will win Barbara Henderson's *The Siege of Caerlaverock*, *The Chessmen Thief* and *Black Water*. Entries to wendy@peterpanmoatbrae.org marked A BOOK TO SHARE by 3 December 2021.

