

# Mt Roskill Intermediate School Library

Newsletter #7, October 2020



## Hi MRI Students!

Welcome to the final term of topsy-turvy 2020! You've made it this far, and we hope you've managed to get some good reading done, and are starting to make some reading goals for the summer ahead.

You students, here at Mt Roskill Intermediate, are fortunate to have a dedicated Library and the support for reading from the MRI Board of Trustees and your Teachers. You have an opportunity to try a wide variety of stories, extend your learning in the direction you want to take it, and take control of your own future through the reading you do.

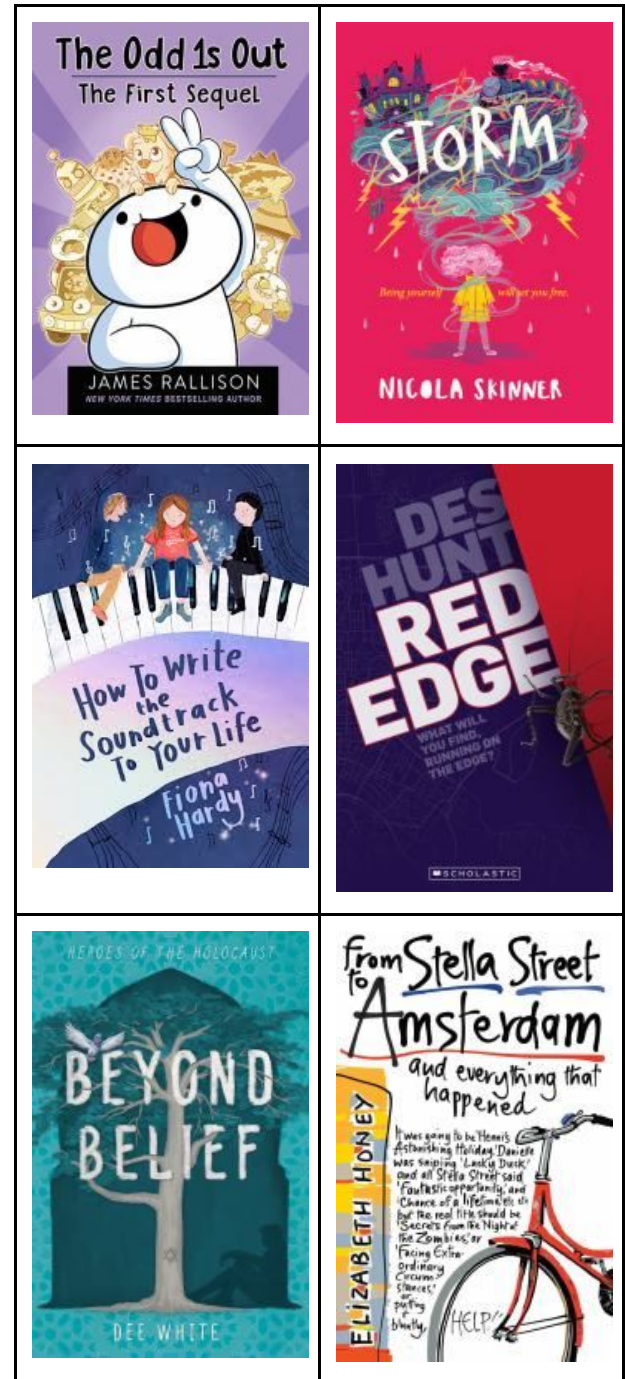
Research shows that school libraries have a positive impact on student literacy and learning futures. Unfortunately not all schools have a library! Reading for fun, for information, for their futures, is not an option for some students!

The School Library Association of New Zealand (SLANZA) believes every child should be able to access a school library and enjoy the lifelong love of reading that a school library promotes. The campaign is entitled "School Libraries Transform." They are asking for whanau, caregivers, and friends to support them. SLANZA is petitioning the NZ Government to provide libraries in every school. You can sign the petition. And in our Library you can share some of the ways the Library and reading have worked for you.



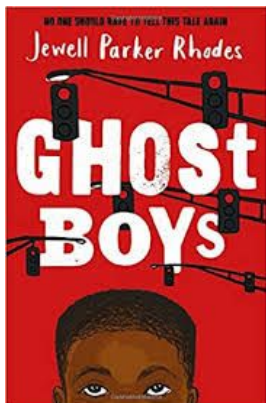
Happy Reading!  
Whaea Rachel  
[library@mri.school.nz](mailto:library@mri.school.nz)

## NEW BOOKS



## What is your Favourite Book and Why?

Remember we ran a competition for the Book Fair that didn't happen? Here are the finalists entries... Do they persuade you to give these books a go?



*Ghost Boys*  
by Jewell Parker Rhodes

Discussed by Anna,  
Rm 29

One of my favourite reads and all time favourite tale is *Ghost Boys*, a beautiful life changing story written by the numerous award winner Jewell Parker Rhodes.

This book shows a 12 year old boy named Jerome and his life. But there's a catch to it. He's dead. Jerome, the main character, is shot by a white police officer who mistakes his toy gun for a real threat.

This story is split up by each chapter which shows Jerome's life before and after his death. There has recently been some issues that were brought forward towards the world and media regarding black lives. Many black people have been affected by such words and people that they can't even have some simple rights.

This book is an absolute great read to all those young children who want to educate themselves and learn a bit more about the racial injustice that is happening around the world. This book definitely hits hard and sears your heart once you get to know more about Jerome and the other characters involved in his life.

This is a must read and if you haven't read this book yet, then what are you waiting for?? If you want to show your enthusiasm and gain a bigger picture of what life is for other children of a different race then I highly recommend reading this book.

*The Book of Perfectly Perilous Math*  
by Sean Connolly  
Discussed by Tony, Rm 10

Why *The Book of Perfectly Perilous Math* is the best book ever!

Do you ever want a book that will actually teach you something? Do you ever wish for a book that's interesting and educational at the same time? Do you ever want a book that will get you deeply involved in the story? Well, I have the perfect book for you! Introducing *The Book of Perfectly Perilous Math*!

As everybody knows, all of the so-called educational books you could find in your local bookstore are all hot garbage. Most of them only can teach you 1 plus 1, but obviously, some books are created more equally than others and *The Book of Perfectly Perilous Math* is one of the more "equal" ones. It teaches you hardcore stuff that you can actually use in real life and I assure you, Mr Newton read this book and discovered gravity. How educational!!!

You might say that this book is so boring it only teaches you stuff and it's similar to doing classwork! Well that's not actually the case, each math problem has its own little story and guess what, by doing math problems you can proceed with the story and finish the final boss with the legendary math blade of algebra. So this book will never be anything like the boring, dull and uninteresting classwork.

From all of the information I already give you, it sounds like a pretty hard book right? That's not the case at all, it's perfectly balanced and suitable for anybody as long you can read. When the math problems are too hard then you can read some of the hints, if you are an expert at math then go ahead and finish all of the math problems!

There you have it, an awesome book that's perfect for people who wanted to improve their math skills while going through awesome adventures. I just don't understand who else doesn't want to read this book. Believe me, you 100 percent can't stop reading after you start reading.

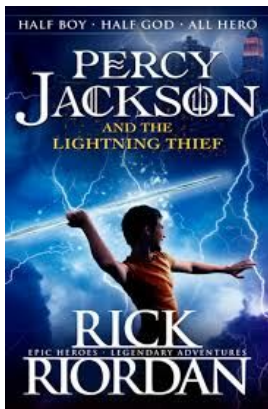
## Favourite books continued...

### Percy Jackson and the Olympians

By Rick Riordan

Discussed by Mohit, Rm 14

There are so many spectacular books in the world! Harry Potter, The Golden Compass, Mrs Peregrine's Peculiar Children, and many others. What book would a reader prefer the most, and want to keep reading it again and again? A book that you would be in agony for, just to read the sequel?



If you are looking for something like this, then I have the perfect series for you! This is the most desirable series a reader would ask for, and this series is compared to Harry Potter. It's a favourite of mine and soon will be yours! Percy Jackson and the Olympians, by the magnificent Rick Riordan.

This series is based on Greek mythology and has sold more than 20 million copies worldwide now and more than 9.5 years! In my opinion, I strongly believe that Percy Jackson and the Olympians is the best book series. I mean it and I am sure you will agree too, after you agree to read this series.

Would you like a book that is just really motivational and inspiring, and AMAZING AT THE SAME TIME?

This book series is, because the main character Percy Jackson, has a disability, and despite that, he shows that disabilities can represent strengths. He has been jumping from school to school with his challenging dyslexia and ADHD but when he learns about Camp Half-Blood, which is the summer camp

for the children of the Greek gods, he learns that the other demigods also have the same disabilities like him. The ADHD is meant to serve them well in battle as they have to think quickly and be extremely mobile, and the dyslexia is there because their brains are hardwired to read Greek rather than English. His weaknesses are his strengths. This is one of the reasons why I think that Percy Jackson is the best book series.

I would strongly suggest that you read at least one book and I am sure that you will die to read all the books in this series. Have you ever been fascinated by Greek mythology? Isn't it amazing, because while you are reading such an action-packed book, you'll also learn about some interesting Greek facts! There are many epic characters with so many abilities and powers. For example, do you know what happens to Medusa's victims, or who Procrustes even was? In this series, you will learn some Greek facts and enjoy them. This is another reason why it is popular and has become the best series! Are you still not convinced?

Percy Jackson and the Olympians is so hilarious! Especially the main character, Percy. Percy is very funny with his sarcasm and self-deprecating humour which makes the series simply just fun to read. Many people who have read this book say that they feel relatable to Percy. If you want to see if you feel relatable to this character then you better read the series. This is a funny, action-packed, mythological, and amazing book series! This series has everything you could ask for! I think this series is the best and anyone of any age could enjoy this series.

There is no doubt that this series is not only amazing but also the best. All the stories are very interesting, inspirational, entertaining, and humorous! We get to know many fascinating facts about Greek mythology. It keeps the readers so engaged throughout the story that they don't want to stop until the book is finished. I would highly recommend that you buy Percy Jackson and the Olympians book series. Believe me, it will be one of the best collections on your bookshelves and also your most, all-time favourite book series to read and reread!



## Hallowe'en...

Trick-or-treating is a traditional Halloween custom for children and adults in some countries. Children in costumes travel from house to house, asking for treats with the phrase "Trick or treat". The "treat" is usually lollies or chocolate. The "trick" refers to a joke or activity that the children perform if no treat is given. Trick-or-treating usually occurs on the evening of October 31. Some homeowners signal that they are willing to hand out treats by putting up Halloween decorations outside their doors; others simply leave treats available on their porches for the children to take freely.

This year, like so many things, you will need to check if your street is still doing trick-or-treating as some neighbourhoods may feel it isn't the thing to do with Covid-19 being a risk to health. Instead you might have a halloween party at home, or plan a day of activities to torture your family with, such as these tricks:

### **Howl at the moon**

When the doorbell rings, or someone knocks, start howling loudly at the moon and scratch the front door.



### **Leave a spooky message**

Leave a spooky message for a friend or relative by writing on their mirror. To do this, breathe on the glass, write something like "I'm watching you" or "I didn't die" with your finger and leave it to dry. The next time your victim takes a shower they'll be greeted with this spine-tingling scripture. Mwah ha ha.

### **Transform into a werewolf**

On the morning of October 31st, tell your family you're not feeling quite right. Throughout the day, slowly transform yourself into a werewolf. Start by putting talc on your face before drawing subtle dark rings under your eyes. Scratch, walk on all fours and act incredibly odd before howling on the front lawn. Discreetly pop in a pair of fangs and you'll really give your relatives a fright, particularly if your acting skills are up to scratch.

### **Send a letter**

Send a spooky card or letter on Halloween and address it from Dracula or Frankenstein's Monster or Freddy. This is sure to freak the recipient right out and keep them wondering who sent such a thing for years to come.

**The Library will have some Halloween craft activities  
at lunch time during Week 3..**

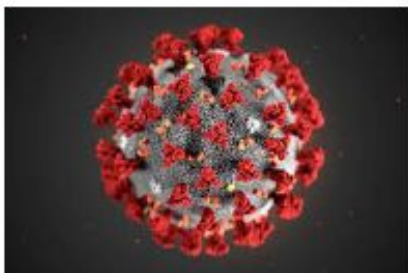
# *How are you? What have you been doing?*

Do you have thoughts on 2020? Surviving Covid-19?  
Good stuff that has happened?

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Write about your thoughts - *Draw your ideas*

Turn 2020 into a poem



*Write, draw, inspire, create. Deliver your work to Whaea Rachel or Mrs Gibson by Friday, 30th October 2020. Your contribution may win a spot book prize and/or go in the School Magazine 2020.*

*To be considered for the Magazine, make sure your work is fully edited, and use pen and colour if applicable.*