



## Library Consultation

### Have your say on the future of our libraries

We are developing a new library strategy.



Like all local authorities, the Council is facing significant funding pressures. The Council has had a 42% reduction in overall funding since 2010. The Council is under a duty to set a balanced budget. The Council must make savings of £39.4 million in 2024/25, and there is a forecasted budget gap of £118.7 million for the 5 years through to 2028/29. It is inevitable that savings will need to be made now and in years to come across Council services in order to set a balanced budget.

The Council is under a duty to provide a comprehensive and efficient library service. In light of these funding pressures, we need to consider whether our library service can be delivered in a more efficient way, while ensuring that it continues to meet people's needs and is comprehensive.

We want to hear from you about whether you use our library service, your experience of our libraries. We will use your feedback and ideas to help us develop a draft proposal for a new library strategy for Enfield. We will then publish and consult on this draft strategy in summer 2024. We will carefully consider any responses to that consultation and anticipate being able to finalise a new library strategy and implement any changes in early 2025.

Those who live, work and study in the borough, representatives of schools, colleges, health organisations, local business, voluntary and community sector organisations, the Metropolitan Police and the London Fire Brigade can participate in the consultation. Please give us your views by completing our [questionnaire](#) (website). Alternatively, if you have difficulties completing this, you can instead fill in the [easy read version of the questionnaire](#) (website). As an alternative, you can email us at [libraries.engagement@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:libraries.engagement@enfield.gov.uk).

**Library Events Webpage**



Are you keen to keep up-to-date with the latest Library news, but cannot bare to wait a whole month between newsletters? Do you remember hearing something about a LEGO Club at Bowes Road Library, but cannot remember when it took place? Would you like to check if Edmonton Green Library is still doing Tea & Chatter? Then you are in luck! We have launched our [Libraries Events Page](#), our one-stop-shop for all Library events. You can search for events by Library, target age, and day of the week. We have something for everyone, so you can find the event that's just right for you!

[Search events webpage](#)

**Half Term Activities**



Monday 12th to Friday 16th February is Half Term, which means, among other things, my commute will be a little quieter. It also happens to be Lunar New Year Friday 10th February, with the Spring Festival lasting until the 20th. To celebrate this, we are putting on a series of special Half Term Events centered around the Lunar New Year and the Year of the Dragon! On top of that, we will be providing free lunch at select events, courtesy of the Household Support Fund. Call to book your place: spots are limited and going fast!

- Enfield Town (0203 833 1879):
  - Mon 12/2 10am-12pm - **Lunar New Year Arts & Crafts** - Free Meal
  - Wed 14/2 10am-12pm - **Valentines Arts & Crafts**
- Palmers Green (0208 379 2727):
  - Mon 12/2 2pm-3pm - **Paint a Dragon Story & Crafts** - Free Meal
  - Fri 16/2 2pm-3pm - **Calligraphy Workshop** - Free Meal
- Edmonton Green (0203 833 0882):
  - Thu 15/2 10am-12pm - **Lunar New Year Arts & Crafts** - Free Meal
- Ordnance Unity Centre (0203 987 9754):
  - Mon 12/2 2pm-3:30pm - **Make a Cowboy/girl Hat**

- Thu 15/2 11am-12:30pm- **Make Your Own Horse** - Free Meal

## Turkish Language Toddler Time



We are very excited to announce the beginning of **Ridge Avenue's Turkish Language Toddler Time, Tuesdays at 2pm**, where we will be reading stories and singing songs in Turkish for children aged 2-5. Enfield is an incredibly diverse borough, and we are proud to be engaging with our community and building bilingualism!

We are of course always looking to expand our community language offerings! If you speak a language other than English and would like to volunteer your time at the Library, please get in touch by emailing [libraryservices@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:libraryservices@enfield.gov.uk), or by calling one of our branches, or by applying [online as a Children's Activity Volunteer](#). All languages are welcome! Help us make the Library a more diverse and welcoming space.

[Become a Volunteer](#)

## Library Talks



For some reason, one of our staff members has a degree in East Asian culture and language. To celebrate the Lunar New Year, they are giving a talk about the history of Chinese Characters, also called 'Hanzi,' and how they have changed and evolved over time at **Palmers Green Library Monday 19th February, 6pm-7pm**. If you have ever been curious about Chinese Characters, we encourage you to show up. This talk is suitable for all ages. Call 0208 379 2727 to book a seat.

## LGBT+ History Month



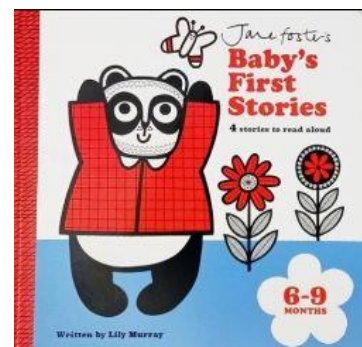
February is LGBT+ History Month, when we celebrate the history of the LGBT+ community which was often hidden and destroyed until the repeal of Section 28. This year's theme is Medicine, highlighting the important role LGBT+ people have contributed to healthcare and medicine both historically and today. To celebrate this, we've arranged a special talk from the LGBT Network Enfield at **Palmers Green, Monday 26th February 12:30pm-2:30pm**. This talk is targeted at adults and young adults. Call 0208 379 2727 to book a seat, and get in touch with another side of history and community!

## New In... for Children

### [Jane Foster's Baby's First Stories](#)

#### Board book

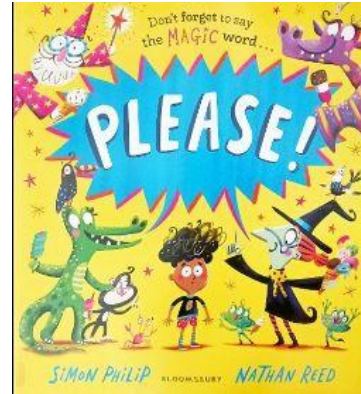
Stories to read to your toddler, featuring a cute elephant, panda, whale and bunny. They deal with daily routines, from getting dressed, mealtimes, bathtime and bedtime.



[Don't Forget To Say The Magic Word...PLEASE!](#)  
[by Simon Philip & Nathan Reed](#)

**Picture Book**

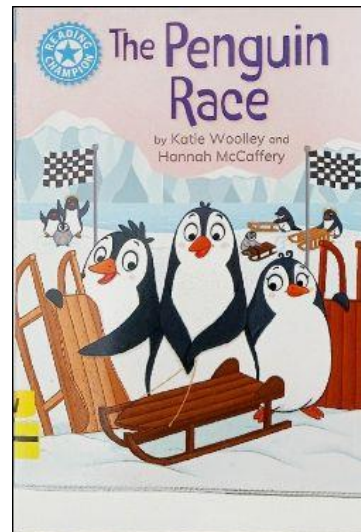
A laugh-out-loud story about Bill, who forgets to say 'please' with when asking for something, leading to wild and funny consequences.



[The Penguin Race by Katie Woolley & Hannah McCaffery](#)

**Children's fiction 7+**

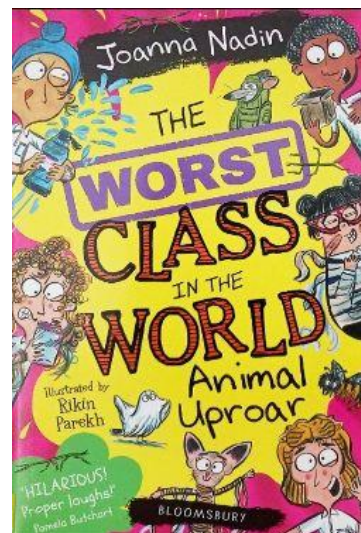
Percy the penguin is having a race with the other penguins. He wants to win but his friends need help. Will he decide to stop and help or will he carry on racing in the hope that he can win?



[The Worst Class In The World - Animal Uproar](#)  
[by Joanna Nadin](#)

**Children's fiction 9+**

A hilarious tale about two best friends which the headteacher has labelled the WORST CLASS IN THE WORLD.

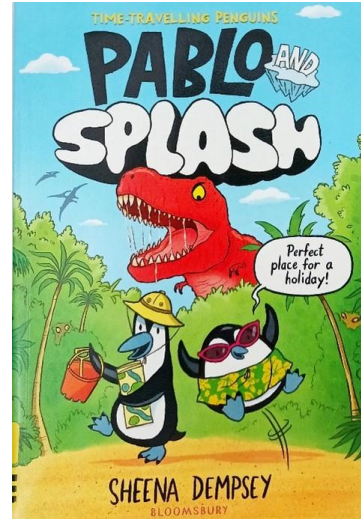




[Pablo and Splash by Sheena Dempsey](#)

**Children's fiction 9+**

Pablo and Splash, the time travelling penguins, go on an adventure back to the time of the dinosaurs in this brilliantly funny full-colour graphic novel.



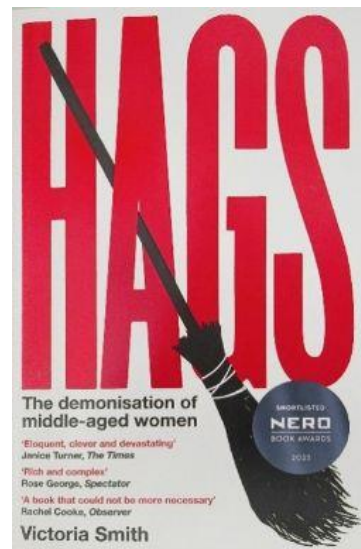
## New In... for YA and Adults

[HAGS by Victoria Smith](#)

**Non-fiction**

Ever wondered why women of a certain age are treated with disdain? HAGS traces the vilification of older women through history and deals with their very relevant contemporary demonisation. Each chapter deals with a different theme, ranging from beauty, care work, violence to political organisation and sex.

Smith analyses the mindsets that led to witch hunts and which inform a type of misogyny today. She also has some interesting potential solutions up her sleeve!

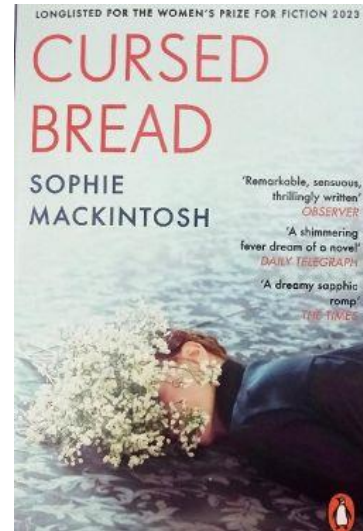


## [Cursed Bread by Sophie Mackintosh](#)

### **General Fiction**

Reason slowly unravels in a town. The baker's wife is at the heart of the mass hysteria.

An intriguing novel based on a true unsolved mystery.



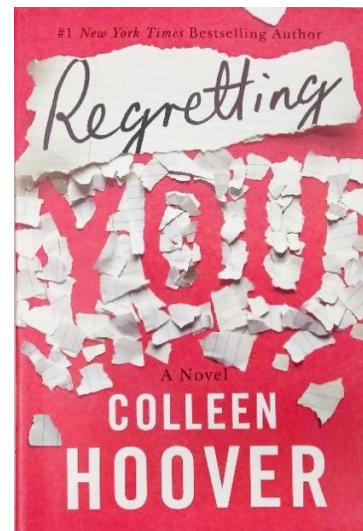
## [Regretting You by Colleen Hoover](#)

### **Romance**

Family, first love, grief, and betrayal – they're all here.

Mother and daughter face increasing conflict with each other. The father, the peacemaker, is involved in a tragic accident.

Mother and daughter are pulled so far apart they might never be able to reconcile.



## [Payback In Death by J D Robb](#)

### Crime

Lt. Eve Dallas is back to investigate the death of a retired colleague. It appears, on the surface, to be suicide but things are not that simple...

