



## Best Children's Books of 2016 (Daily Telegraph)

- [\*Sputnik's Guide to Life on Earth\* by Frank Cottrell Boyce](#) - A touching tale that imagines the Soviet space dog Laika survived.
- [\*Raymie Nightingale\* by Kate Dicamillo](#) - A sad tale of a young girl who wants to win back her absent father
- [\*Hour of the Bees\* by Lindsay Eagar](#) - A magical fable about a grandfather, bees and a 100 year drought
- [\*Lois Lane: Fallout\* by Gwenda Bond](#) - A novel that recasts Lois Lane as an army brat
- [\*Jolly Foul Play\* by Robin Stevens](#) - A boarding school mystery set in the 1930's but with modern sensibility – female protagonist
- [\*Beetle Boy\* by MG Leonard](#) - A beautifully written tale about a boy and his insect sidekick
- [\*The Double Axe\* by Philip Womack](#) - A tale of heroism that breathes new life into the minotaur myth.
- *Wild Lily* by KM Peyton –
- [\*Anna and the Swallow Man\* by Gavriel Savit](#) - a wartime novel in which the heroine spends time with a fugitive
- [\*Romans on the rampage: JAILBREAK!\*](#) by Jeremy Strong – set in ancient Rome with a sprinkling of Latin amuse
- [\*Boy in the Tower\*](#) – Polly Ho-Yen - From the seventeenth floor of the tower block where he lives with his mother, Ade watches as the buildings fall around him. The Bluchers - a strange and terrible kind of plant - are taking over the city, and everyone is being forced to evacuate, but his mother is refusing to leave her room.

### Mrs Chitty recommends:

- [\*Stop the Train\*](#) – by Geraldine McCaughrean – beautifully written and historically informative about a community that try to build a town in Oklahoma US in 1898. The characters and surprising twists made it a real page turner.
- [\*Outlaw\*](#) – by Michael Morpurgo – a modern take on the heroic story of Robin Hood as a boy discovers a human skull buried beneath the roots of an ancient tree.
- [\*Goal\*](#) – by Alan Durrant – boys finds an ancient football in an attic whose genie Archibald Legg makes reference to legends of the footballing past such as Herbert Chapman and Ian Wright (EAGLES!!)