



Sporting Stars Portable Magic Dispenser

October 2023 / # 2

Author Spotlight



Jewell Parker Rhodes has always loved reading and writing stories. Born and raised in Manchester, a largely African-American neighborhood on the North Side of Pittsburgh, she was a voracious reader as a child. She began college as a dance major, but when she discovered there were novels by African Americans, she knew she wanted to be an author. She wrote six novels for adults, two writing guides, and a memoir, but writing for children remained her dream.

Now she is the author of seven books for children including the New York Times bestsellers *Ghost Boys* and *Black Brother, Black Brother*. Her other books include *Paradise on Fire*, *Towers Falling*, and the Louisiana Girls Trilogy: *Ninth Ward*, *Sugar*, and *Bayou Magic*. She has also published six adult novels, two writing guides, and a memoir.

When she's not writing, she's visiting schools to talk about her books with the kids who read them, or teaching writing at Arizona State University, where she is the Piper Endowed Chair and Founding Artistic Director of the Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing.

Rhodes's work promotes all people within a community to work together with collaborative, respectful, and empathetic manner, thus demonstrating how young readers start to self-reflect, seek information, and take action.

Welcome!

Library

The library in school is officially open and there is a wide range of both fiction and non fiction books available for students to borrow. All students were also given a 'goodie bag' with their BookBuzz book, a library book, a book mark and a reading log which will be checked weekly. Information was sent via letter dated 11.10.2023. Please check the website for additional information about supporting young people with reading: [Literacy – Sporting Stars Academy](#)



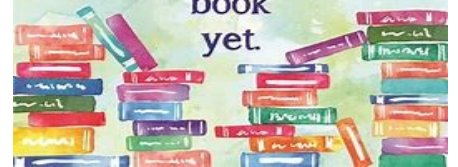
Top Website

Book Trust—BookBuzz

As you have all now taken your Book-Buzz books home –why not have a look at the author blogs and competitions on the booktrust website. [Bookbuzz author blogs](#) | [BookTrust](#)



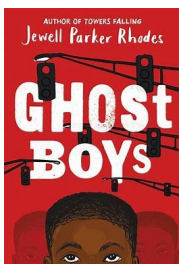
Everyone is a reader...
Some just haven't found their favorite book yet.



Book Spotlight

Ghost Boys

Twelve-year-old Jerome is shot by a police officer who mistakes his toy gun for a real threat. As a ghost, he observes the devastation that's been unleashed on his family and community in the wake of what they see as an unjust and brutal killing.



Soon Jerome meets another ghost: Emmett Till, a boy from a very different time but similar circumstances. Emmett helps Jerome process what has happened, on a journey towards recognizing how historical racism may have led to the events that ended his life. Jerome also meets Sarah, the daughter of the police officer, who grapples with her father's actions.

Once again Jewell Parker Rhodes deftly weaves historical and socio-political layers into a gripping and poignant story about how children and families face the complexities of today's world, and how one boy grows to understand American blackness in the aftermath of

National Poetry Day

To celebrate National Poetry Day students read a range of poems about this year's theme 'Refuge'. Students were then invited to write their own poem about this theme. Many wrote poems about where they felt safe and who they felt safe with. We had heartwarming discussions and some beautiful poems were written.



Recreate a book cover



Choose your favourite book cover and try to recreate it. To enter this competition take a picture of your creation and bring it into school,

Shane, Emma and Rob will choose the best one! Closing date Friday 27th October. There will be prizes for the best picture in each year group.



TikTok Recommends...

