



Hello everyone in Y3Sc

Thank you for your fabulous letters and all your brilliant questions. I'll try my best to answer them for you!

Hello Hannah, you asked whether Flicker is a boy or a girl. Well that's a very good question because actually I don't think Tomas knows for sure. He assumes Flicker is a boy, but he doesn't really know. And Kat assumes Crystal is a girl. But she might be wrong too. What do you think? Do you think they could be wrong?

Dear Gwesyn and Oscar. How did I get the idea for the book? I have always loved dragons but the idea for this story really started when my sons were little. One day we were stuck in traffic and we decided what we needed was a dragon to lift us out of the traffic jam and fly us to the beach where we were going. Then when my youngest son got a bit older he started asking lots of questions. Why did our dragon disappear sometimes? Where did he go? Where did he come from?

And so with those questions the story started growing.

I was walking past the allotments one day and I thought to myself 'What if our dragon grew on a tree?' It would have to be a very special tree. And then a thought popped into my head - 'Isn't there a dragon fruit?'





Just like Tomas I went home and typed it into the computer and saw the most wonderful-looking tree ever - it had moon-white flowers that only bloomed for one night and vivid tendrils. And I knew then that it deserved to be in a story.

Questions like 'What if' are a brilliant way to grow stories. I often go on what I like to call a 'Wonder Wander'. All you need is yourself and your imagination. As you walk see what you notice and then get curious and ask some questions.

What if that rusty key on the ground wasn't just a piece of rubbish, what if it opened a door to a magical world?

What if park benches could talk and they all moaned whenever you sat on them?

What if when it rained we all shrank?

I have lots of ideas for more books - though they are a bit shy and not quite ready to be out in the world just yet. But I think the thing they all have in common is the idea of something magical happening in the every day world. I like that idea, that if we look closely there is magic to be found right here in our own back garden.

Hello Seb & Fraser, you asked how many dragons are there? And does he grow more? Well, the dragon fruit tree can have 5 or 6 crops of fruit a year so that's a lot of dragons growing in Grandad's garden! Tomas, Kat, Kai and

Ted all grow dragons. And someone sneaky does too, I'll let you find out who.





Then of course there is Lolli who desperately wants a dragon... And in the fourth book we meet a new girl called Aura who declares herself to be 'Queen of the Dragons'. There's a lot more trouble to come!

Hi Sivan and Ben, you asked if there is an evil dragon. Some dragons can be a lot more trouble than others, but I don't think dragons are evil. In the second book there is some super-sized trouble from one dragon but he's still more friendly than fierce. He just makes rather a lot of mess!

Hi Kemi, you said that you wanted Tomas to tell his mum and dad about the dragons. I think he'd like to as well really. It's quite hard keeping dragons a secret and it's a lot more fun sharing the magic. If you keep reading the story through the rest of the series you might find things change!

Hi Jemima and Sophie, what inspired me to write books? Well, I have always loved reading and making up stories. Even before I wrote them down I was always playing games and making stories up in my head. Taking a blank page and filling it with words that conjure all these ideas and pictures in someone's mind feels a bit like magic to me.

Hi Ben Does Flicker get a girlfriend? Not yet but who knows there may be a lot more story to tell.





Hi Sam, you asked if I grow dragons. I'm still looking for my dragonfruit tree. But I always have my eyes open because I do believe magic is out there if we only look for it.

Hi Max, I'm so glad you enjoyed all three books and I love Tinkle and her singing too. You asked if there could be an electricity dragon in my next book. Well, keep your eyes open for the fourth book because it appears great minds do think alike! (Though there isn't a dragon called Shock I hope you'll like the dragon Tomas grows)

Hi Lydia

I love Lolli and really wanted her to have a dragon too. She tries to grow one but uses a mango instead of a dragon fruit! You'll have to take a look at Book 3 'The Boy Who Flew With Dragons' to see if she got her wish in the end.

Hi Grace, Bella and Hannah,

You all wanted to know if Flicker makes friends. He does indeed! In the third book there is a dragon called Tinkle who he is very fond of and looks after, rather like Tomas looks after Lolli. And in the fourth book Tomas grows a new dragon who takes an instant like to Flicker.

Hi Bruno

You asked how old Flicker is. He's only a few weeks old during the first book and then a few months by the third book. Which is why he's still small. He does get bigger the older he gets.



