STAGE 15

The Ghosts of Bracken Hill

Reading Comprehension

1 Mum
2 Thomas
3 William
4 William
5 Thomas
6 Thomas
7 William
8 Thomas
9 Thomas

Paradise High

Reading Comprehension

1 It starts outside Lizzy’s school, in Greybridge.
2 He visits the school, then leaves his magic pen behind.
3 She writes her own episode of Paradise High using the magic pen.
4a She discovers she can write.
4b She wants to be wild and break free; she doesn’t want a quiet life.
5 because the characters aren’t following her plot.
6 She is not going to hang around or be friends with Karen, and she will not allow herself to be pushed around by Karen.

The Powder Monkey

Reading Comprehension

1 stern
2 kind
3 He tells him he’ll make trouble with the captain.
4 by accident
5 Jack
6 He rescues him.
**Soccer Showdowns**

**Reading Comprehension**

1. Mr Smith
2. Josh Parker
3. Michael Medway
4. Dinesh
5. Will
6. Chopper
7. Pele
8. Hanif
9. Liam
10. Josh Parker
11. Liam
12. Pele Baz
13. Michael Medway
14. Will

**A Spell of Trouble**

**Reading Comprehension**

1. because she listens to his problems; she offers him chocolate biscuits
2. because his room is very tidy
3. She doesn’t want anyone to know that she is a witch.
4. he wants to look in the mirror, to check if what he guessed is true – that he has become Mr Lumsden.
5. She transports him to her house.
6. He should have found out how to stop/undo the spell.
7. because she blamed him for her transformation (into a rhino)
The Worst Team in the World

Reading Comprehension

1a Coxley Colt; especially their goal keeper
1b Mr Turnbull (Scuba’s dad)
2a They refused to let him be their captain or join their team.
2b The record for the longest run of defeats/the most matches lost.
3a He had heard Kevin had been interviewed by the local paper.
3b He thought it would say they were a good team.
3c It said they were hopeless.
4 She thinks they’re not very good, but with a lot of hard work, they could become winners.

STAGE 16

Swivel-Head

Reading Comprehension

1 Give me six.
2 Miller’s thumbs
3 He hasn’t made any cool friends and has ended up with only one new friend – the uncoolest member of the class!
4 It is the dome on top of the windmill
5 He was the first miller to work the windmill. The first miller carves his name somewhere in the mill.
6 his miller’s thumbs
7 Death came sudden
Melleron’s Monsters

Reading Comprehension

1a a new paragraph
1b he is interrupted
2 Nan
3 Rose the dragon
4 Rose
5 three
6 he stops talking
7 Jackar
8 He puts the words in italics

Melleron’s Magic

Reading Comprehension

1 coarse
2 like a healed wound
3 thicket
4 an outcrop of flinty rock
5 ravine (corridor)
6 like a mouth
7 magically gleaming spheres
8 he looked like a thorn tree.

In the Shadow of the Striker

Reading Comprehension

1 Be quiet or you’ll wake Mum!
2 in case her parents have a row
3 He drives Joe’s car after the crash.
4 It happens at the end of the game and it is a mis-hit.
5 because Joe’s interested in him
6 He’s quite good at playing soccer.
7 His mum has come to watch him play.
8 It took him to places that were very different to his home.
Sister Ella

Reading Comprehension

1. She behaves well in the church, but is rude when they return home and says horrible things about her mother.
2. He cleans the grates to show her appreciation.
3. He isn’t invited to the ball, and Ella ignores all the hard work he has done to make the horse and wagon especially clean and smart for her.
4. He doesn’t take Ella’s side in the argument, but leaves her behind when he takes the others to the ball.
5. He wants to give it to Ella himself.
6. He wants to stop loving her.

Carnival

Reading Comprehension

1. Max dies.
2. On the day of the funeral.
3. Before they went on holiday.
4. David.
5. She sees her picture on TV.
6. After tea.
7. By the tow-path.