

The Great Team Omnibus

Rob Childs

Random House Children's Books

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About the Book

C'MON YOU GREATS! C'MON YOU GREATS!

Great Catesby Village School have their first ever football team - the Greats.

In GREAT SAVE! every goal the team score in the tournament is sponsored - and will help save their school from being closed down!

Tom used to be a top scorer, but he can't seem to find the net in GREAT SHOT!

The Greats team are determined to create a new record and show their rivals exactly what they can do in GREAT HIT!

In GREAT GOAL! the team are desperate to be number one in the charts with their fundraising song - and to be number one on the pitch too!

Four fantastic football books in one bumper omnibus!



THE
GREAT TEAM
 **OMNIBUS**



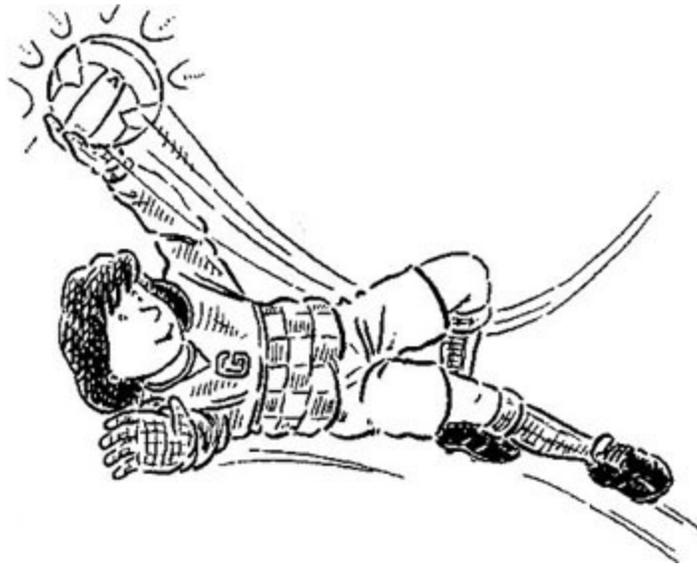
Four Books in One
Rob Childs

Illustrated by Michael Reid

www.kidsatrandomhouse.co.uk

FOR MY GREAT MUM!

GREAT SAVE!



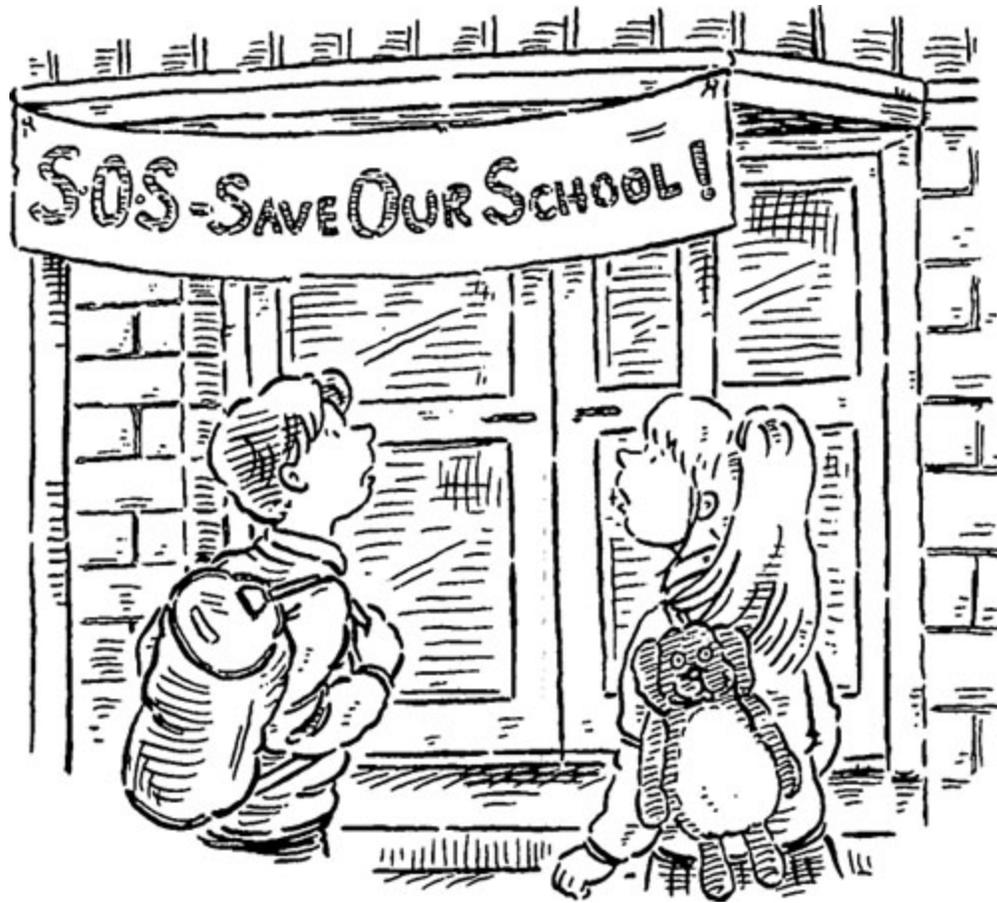
Chapter One



AS THE CHILDREN arrived at the village school, they gazed proudly at the long, colourful banner hanging above the main door.

"It looks brilliant!" cried Hannah.

"It should do," said Tom. "We spent ages painting it."



Rebecca sighed. "I'll be very sad if our little school really has to close."

"No more school ..." Tom said dreamily. "I could stay in bed all day!"

"They won't let you do that," Rebecca said, pulling a face.

"We'd have to go to that big horrible school in town instead."

"By bus!" Hannah said in disgust. "Yuk!"



Michael came into the playground to ring the bell.
CLANG! CLANG! DING! DONG!



“OK, OK, Michael, we’ve heard it,” Tom grinned. “I reckon you’ve woken up the whole of Great Catesby by now.”



The small group of seven- and eight-year-olds sat on the carpet around their teacher.

“We’re going to have a new boy in our class today,” Mrs Roberts told them. “He wasn’t very happy at his old school, so let’s make sure that he will like it here with us.”

Michael put his hand up. “He won’t be here for long if the place is gonna close soon!” he said cheekily.

The teacher frowned at him. “We’ll all be doing our best to stop that from happening.”

“But how can we stop it?” Hannah blurted out.

“It won’t be easy,” Mrs Roberts admitted. “But we mustn’t give up hope of finding a way to save our lovely school.”



Rebecca couldn’t help bursting into song. It was the latest hit single by her favourite pop star, the Red Fox.

*“Never give up, never give up,
Stop your crying, you gotta keep on trying,
Something will turn up - will always turn up . . .”*

The others joined in the chorus.

“Something will turn up - will always turn up . . .”



Something did at that very moment. With the children in full voice, the classroom door was pushed open and Miss Jackson, the headteacher, walked in.



The song faded away as, one by one, they stared at the little boy with ginger hair standing next to her. He had a football tucked under his arm.

“I wish you would all sing as well as that in assembly,” Miss Jackson said with a smile and then introduced their new classmate. “This is Jonty. Say hello, everyone.”



The boy gave them a wide, toothy grin and the ice was broken.

“Hello, Jonty!” they chorused.

“Hi!” he beamed, and suddenly bounced the ball on the floor. “Anybody here like to play football?”





They all laughed. "Welcome, Jonty," Mrs Roberts greeted him warmly. "It seems like you've come to the right place. This lot of mine are totally soccer-mad."

Chapter Two

JONTY'S ARRIVAL AT Great Catesby was well timed. Mrs Roberts was planning to enter a class team in a five-a-side football tournament especially for their age-group.

