

Reading Spine – Reception

Julia Donaldson

Julia Donaldson books rhyme, which means they encourage the children to participate during the story and helps develop their vocabulary and love of reading.



Friendship, love, adventure and togetherness are at the heart of this joyful story and it links with racism/diversity.

Oliver Jeffers

Oliver Jeffers books explore a range of themes like friendship, independence, imagination and support with PSED.



Once there were Giants – Martin Waddell

Helps during Understanding the World by supporting the understanding of the different stages we go through when growing up. Once there was a baby in the house - and to that baby, Mum and Dad and Jill and John and Uncle Tom were giants. But little by little, that baby grew up - until she became a giant too! Martin Waddell says of the book, "Small children live in a world designed for big people. I wrote this story to help them understand it, and the idea of growing older."



Alone by Scott Stuart

Read for anti-bullying week – discussed friendship.



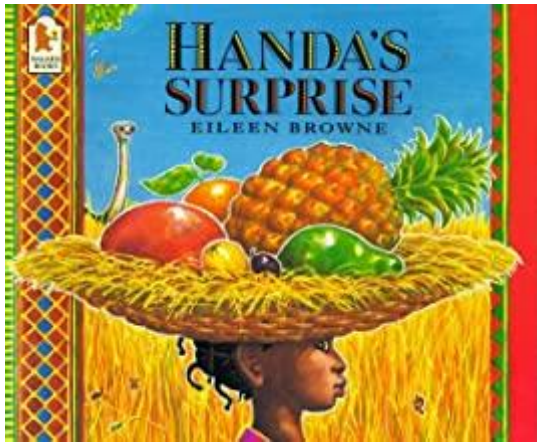
Being alone can be tough, especially in the darkness of space. From Tiktok sensation Scott Stuart, Alone is an endearing story about how sometimes our worst moments can lead to the best things in life.

Earth is an affectionate planet who is looking for a friend. She's delighted when she spots Sun, but Sun is quick to reject her offer of friendship. 'I can't be friends with a planet like you, for I am a star and you are too new.' As Earth searches the solar system, she's met with a similar response from the other planets – Mercury only likes friends who are dry, Mars only makes friends with those who are red, and Jupiter only has time for big friends.

When something fiery, red and menacing comes hurtling towards her, she fears the worst... but could it be a sign that something wonderful is about to happen?

Handa's surprise by Eileen Browne

Linked to Black History – children also make their own baskets (supports fine motor skills)



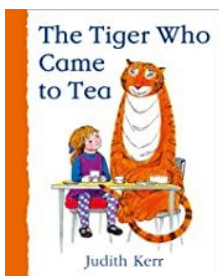
In this picture book classic, a delightful surprise colourfully unfolds when a little girl called Handa puts seven delicious fruits in a basket to take to her friend.

A modern classic named one of the best culturally diverse picture books in the UK, this is the story of Handa, who's part of the Luo tribe in south-west Kenya. Handa decides to take seven pieces of delicious fruit to her friend, Akeyo, who lives in the neighbouring village. But as Handa wonders, I wonder what fruit Akeyo will like best?, a series of sneaky animals steal something from Handa's basket, which she's carrying on her head... When Handa reaches Akeyo, will she have anything left to offer her friend?

Richly-illustrated, brimming with luscious fruit and cheeky wild animals, this mouth-watering story is for the youngest of readers. In the best pantomime spirit, children will long to tell Handa what's happening right behind her!

Classic stories

The Tiger Who Came To Tea by Judith Kerr



The Tiger Who Came to Tea - The classic picture book story of Sophie and her extraordinary teatime guest has been loved by millions of children since it was first published more than fifty years ago. Now an award-winning animation!

Great for developing creativity – What animal came to your house for tea? What did you serve?

We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury



Links to Forest School.

Whatever next by Jill Murphy

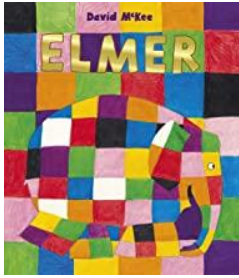


The moon and back before bath time? Whatever next! A beautiful story of innocence and imagination, full of the characteristic warmth and humour.

Baby Bear wants to go on one more adventure before bed – a quick trip to the moon. Mrs Bear isn't pleased, and anyway, she says, Baby Bear doesn't have a rocket. Luckily, there's one under the stairs . . . – how could you get to the moon?

Reading Spine – Year 1

Elmer – David McKee



Deservedly a modern classic, with over ten million copies of his books sold worldwide, Elmer's subtle message that it is OK to be different, resonates with children across the world. Elmer the colourful patchwork elephant has been a nursery favourite since this first book was published in 1989.

Sulwe – Lupita Nyong'o



Linked to Black History - From Academy Award-winning actress Lupita Nyong'o comes a powerful, moving picture book about colourism, self-esteem and learning that true beauty comes from within.

Sulwe's skin is the colour of midnight. She's darker than everyone in her family, and everyone at school. All she wants is to be beautiful and bright, like her mother and sister. Then a magical journey through the night sky opens her eyes and changes everything. In this stunning debut picture book, Lupita Nyong'o creates a whimsical and heart-warming story to inspire children to see their own unique beauty.

Maisie Mouse First Time Books.



Children get the choice of two books per day – these are from a range of different authors and genres.

Ed Vere collection

This collection of books all have hidden messages and meanings behind each story.



Grumpy Frog: Grumpy Frog is not grumpy. He loves green, and he loves to hop, and he loves winning. But what happens when Grumpy Frog doesn't win, or encounters - horror of horrors - a Pink Rabbit? Join Grumpy Frog as he learns about compromise and tolerance, friendship and the power of saying sorry.

How to be a Lion: You don't have to ROAR to be heard...Meet Leonard - a lion like no other. Leonard's best friend is Marianne, a duck. But lions chomp ducks, don't they? What will the pair do when their way of life is threatened?

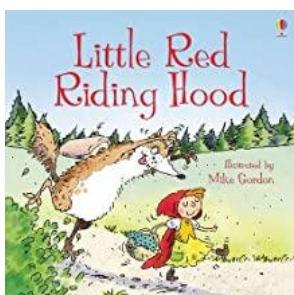
The Getaway: Fingers McGraw is the sneakiest cheese thief in town. He's on the run with the law on his tail and he needs you to help him make his getaway! Keep a look out for the big eyes, large feet and long nose of officer Elephant as you follow Fingers' trail through downtown

Banana: Getting what you want can be tricky, especially if you don't ask in quite the right way. Follow one little monkey's journey through many emotions as he tries every trick in the book to get hold of his friend's banana, until he finally hits on the magic word - please!

Mr Big: Mr Big is strong, Mr Big is tough, Mr Big is . . . well . . . BIG! He has just one small problem - because of the way he looks he just can't get people to stick around. How can he show them that although he may look a little scary, he is just a great big softy inside?

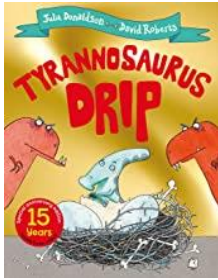
Bedtime for Monsters: What if a monster were looking for a bedtime snack? And what if that snack just happened to be you? GULP! He's getting closer and closer . . . and his tummy is rumbling REALLY loudly. You'd be very scared!

Classic Fairy Tales



Tyrannosaurus Drip – Julia Donaldson and David Roberts

Read for Anti-bullying Week.

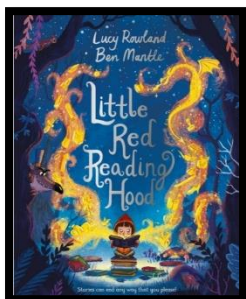


Celebrate fifteen years of embracing differences.

Everyone knows that tyrannosauruses are supposed to be big and scary, so when a placid duckbill dinosaur's egg ends up in the wrong nest, confusion is sure to ensue! When the baby dinosaur hatches out, he's so out of place that his grisly big sisters call him Tyrannosaurus Drip. Poor little Drip: all he wants is a quiet life munching on water weed . . .

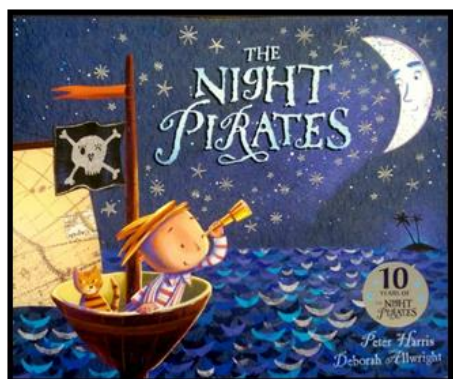
From the stellar partnership of Julia Donaldson and David Roberts, this fantastic rhyming adventure story has plenty of humour and is perfect for young dinosaur fans everywhere!

Reading Spine – Year 2



Little Red Reading Hood loves reading books and making up stories of her own. When she meets a cunning wolf while on her way to the library, he convinces her to stray from the path and read for a little while. But hasn't she read this in a story before? Perhaps it's time she came up with a new ending . . .

We use this fun twist on a traditional tale to form the basis of some of our English lessons. The story provides opportunities for children to expand upon their knowledge of the narrative formulae as well as poetic and descriptive language such as alliteration, pathetic fallacy and personification. This book is great for lower key stage children as it plays on their knowledge of a traditional tale whilst challenging them to imagine the possibilities of different endings for many other familiar tales.

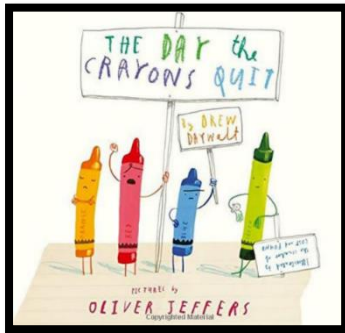


One night, young Tom is awoken by noises outside his house. He peeps out of the window and what should he see but PIRATES. And stranger still – they're GIRL PIRATES stealing the front of his house! Tom joins their adventure across the high seas to an island where some rather lazy and silly grown-up pirates are guarding their treasure. Not very successfully! Tom and the girl-pirates make a surprise attack and are soon off on the seas once more with the treasure!

Part of our history topic all about pirates. We have used this book for cross-curricular lessons. In PSHE emphasising the idea of accepting differences and inclusivity. We encourage the idea that girls also have the freedom and choice to be pirates or anything they choose to be, even if it is usually associated with boys.

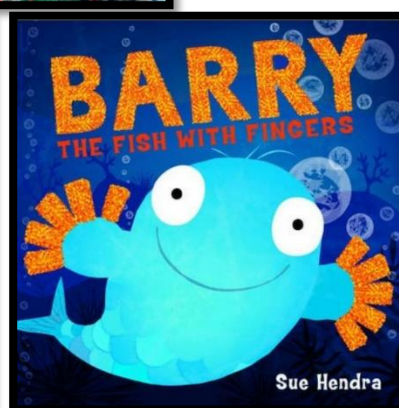
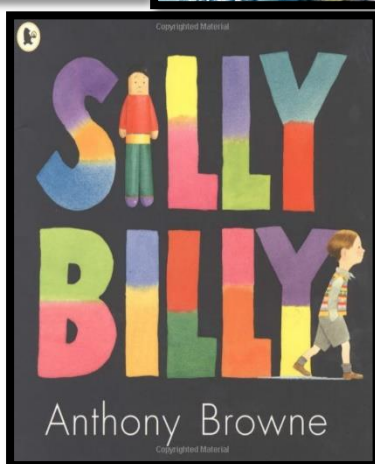
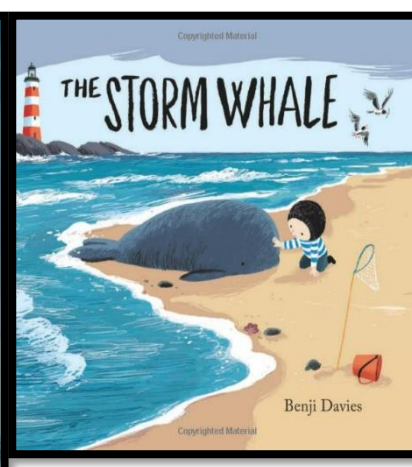
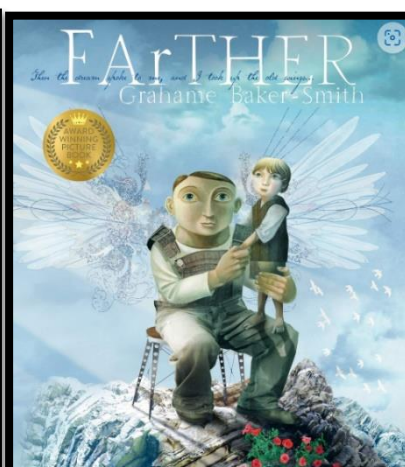
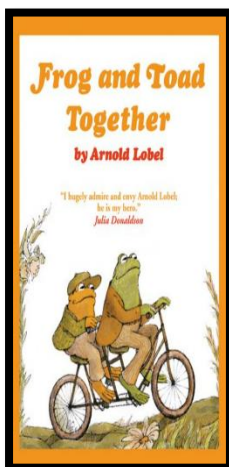
Cross-curricular

PSHE - differences and equality. History-Pirates



Poor Duncan just wants to colour in. But when he opens his box of crayons, he only finds letters, all saying the same thing: We quit! Beige is tired of playing second fiddle to Brown, Blue needs a break from colouring in all that water, while Pink just wants to be used. Green has no complaints, but Orange and Yellow are no longer speaking to each other. A dramatic telling of the woes that befall children who don't take proper care of their resources. We use this story to inspire creative non fiction writing in the form of persuasive apologetic letters. Cross-curricular PSHE-respecting others.

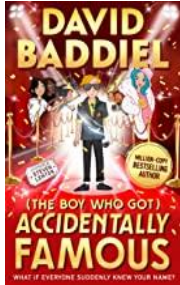
A selection of stories we use for independent reading. Could you explain How the characters feel? Why the author was effective/ineffective in their writing. How about what the significant dialogue is? Or maybe how you can relate to the characters? In year 2 children are learning the skills necessary to answer these questions and examine stories in fine depth.



Reading Spine – Year 3

Class books for shared/modelled reading

(The Boy Who Got) Accidentally Famous.



From million-copy bestselling author David Baddiel comes a laugh-out-loud story for readers of 8 and up that takes you on a roller-coaster ride of fame and friendship...

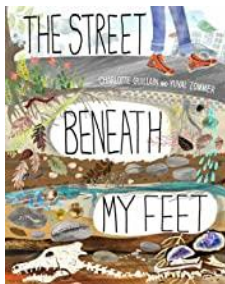
Nothing extraordinary has ever happened to Billy Smith. In fact, every single thing about him is ordinary, including his name. But when a documentary crew turns up at Billy's school to film the new TV series *School Daze*, everything changes.

The True Story of the Three Little Pigs by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith



A hilariously inventive retelling of the popular story.

The Street Beneath My Feet (Look Closer) by Charlotte Guillian and Yuval Zommer

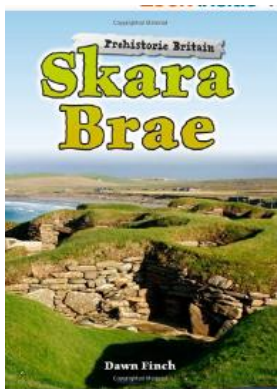


The underground scenes include tunnels and pipes, creatures' burrows, layers of rock and the planet's molten core, and run seamlessly into the next. Mixing urban and rural settings, covering subjects such as geology, archaeology and natural history, *The Street Beneath My Feet* offers children the opportunity to explore their world through a detailed learning experience.



by Satoshi Kitamura (Author)

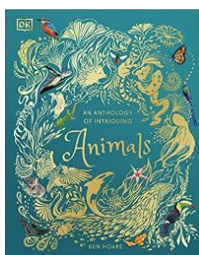
One day a little boy is walking along when he trips, stumbles and falls ... into the Stone Age! He meets a girl his own age and her tribe, and learns all about their way of life. He watches them make tools, clothes and weapons. He sees how they hunt, fish, cook, celebrate – and even how they paint on the walls of caves. But when a furious cave bear attacks, he wakes up back in his own time where everyone tells him it was only a dream. But was it? Travel 20,000 years into the past and discover what life as a caveman was like in this prehistoric picture book by a prodigiously talented artist.



by Dawn Finch (Author)

Cross- curricular- History

This fascinating book is all about Skara Brae, a prehistoric Stone Age site in the Orkney Islands, Scotland. There is very little published material on the site currently available. Containing beautiful photographs and written with simple, clear explanation, this book is a fascinating insight into life in the Stone Age period.



Skeletons and Muscles by Ben Hoare- **Science**

The animal kingdom is so much bigger than young minds can fathom and there is always more to learn. An Anthology of Intriguing Animals is a stunning animal encyclopedia for young readers to explore, with reference pages packed with fascinating information, little learners will be captivated as they discover the facts, stories and myths behind their favourite animals. Whether it's where the slow-motion sloth lives, how the plodding pangolin protects itself from predators, or which animal the Ancient Egyptians thought rolled the Sun across the sky, children can learn all sorts of fun animal facts from the storybook descriptions.

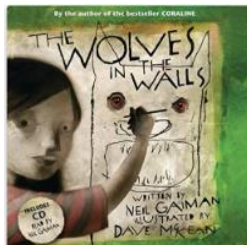


The Incredible Book Eating Boy by Oliver Jeffers PSHE/Science

Henry loves books... but not like you and I. He loves to EAT books! This exciting story follows the trials and tribulations of a boy with a voracious appetite for books.

Henry discovers his unusual taste by mistake one day, and is soon swept up in his new-found passion – gorging on every delicious book in sight! And better still, he realises that the more books he eats, the smarter he gets. Henry dreams of becoming the Incredible Book Eating Boy; the smartest boy in the world!

But a book-eating diet isn't the healthiest of habits, as Henry soon finds out...



Wolves in the Walls by Neil Gaiman- PSHE

When Lucy hears noises from behind the wall she tries to warn her parents that there are wolves banging about. But her parents don't listen.

When the wolves finally take over the house and Lucy and her family are evicted to live in the garden, her parents realise perhaps they should have listened. But Lucy is no shrinking violet and pretty soon she has the wolves out and the family back in the house.

So what was that noise Lucy heard coming from behind the wall ...?

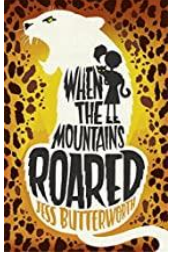
How A Robot Dog Works- Science/DT

I asked the little boy who couldn't see- Poetry - PSHE

Reading Spine – Year 4

When The Mountains Roared by Jess Butterworth

Cross-curricular links with our Religion and World View lessons as well as our school theme of 'trust'.



A vivid, warm and atmospheric adventure set in the mountains of India, about a girl who is determined to protect the wild leopards of the mountain from poachers, perfect for fans of Katherine Rundell.

I thought we'd live here forever ... but then, I thought Mum would be here forever too.

When Ruby's dad uproots her from Australia to set up a hotel in the mountains of India, Ruby is devastated. Not only are they living in a run-down building in the middle of the wilderness surrounded by scorpions, bears and leopards, but Ruby is sure that India will never truly feel like home - not without her mum there.

Ever since her mum died, Ruby has been afraid. Of cars. Of the dark. Of going to sleep and never waking up.

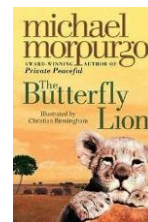
But then the last remaining leopards of the mountain are threatened and everything changes. Ruby vows to do all she can to protect them - if she can only overcome her fears...

The Butterfly Lion – Michael Morpurgo

AR Fiction

BL: 4.6 - AR Pts: 2.0

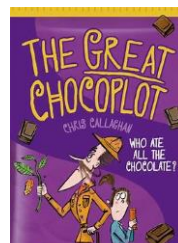
Bertie rescues an orphaned lion cub and then is separated from the white cub when he is sent off to boarding school in England.



The Great Chocoplot – Chris Callaghan

BL: 5.5 - AR Pts: 6.0

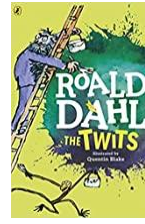
Jelly and her gran are gobsmacked when they find out that it is the end of chocolate for good. But then a trail of clues leads back to a posh chocolate shop in town owned by the distinctly bitter Garibaldi Chocolati. Is this a chocoplot to be cracked?



The Twits – Roald Dahl

BL: 4.4

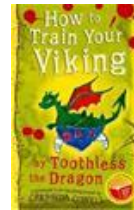
Meet Mr and Mrs Twit the world's most horrible couple, who just love to play nasty tricks on each other.



How to Train Your Viking – Cressida Cowell

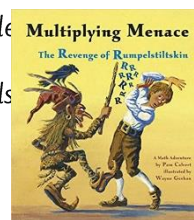
BL: 5.4

Toothless shares his tips on training your Viking while telling a story of his past with Hiccup.

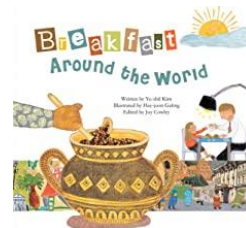


Cross-curricular – Maths

Readers will put their multiplication skills to use in this clever math adaptation starring the fairy-tale favourite, Rumpelstiltskin.

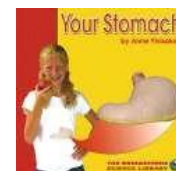


Children learn about fractions by travelling around the world and seeing what people eat for breakfast in different countries.



Cross-curricular – Science

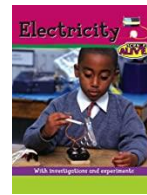
This book is an introduction to the stomach, including its makeup, function within the digestive system, stomach diseases and how to keep your stomach healthy.



This book teaches children ways of preserving and protecting the incredible biodiversity in our world. Children are introduced to a wide variety of environments, plants, and animals, with each spread focusing on a particular species, group, or type, the challenges facing it, and the things children can do to protect it.



This book explains essential facts about electricity, including static electricity, electric currents, circuits, batteries and also includes experiments.



This book explains essential facts about sound, including human voices, echoes, ultrasound, how musical instruments work and includes experiments.

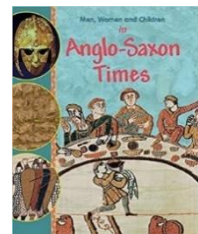


Cross-curricular – History/Geography

This book draws on evidence left behind by the Anglo-Saxons. It examines how they lived, studied, worked, worshipped and played.

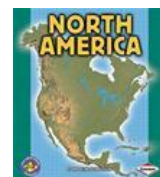
There are also short stories about real people who lived during this period of

History, such as Alfred the Great, Kenelm, a young prince and Eanswida, a girl who refused to marry.



Anglo – Saxons lived in 13 easy stages.

This book is an introduction to some of the landmarks and characteristics of the continent of North America.



A fictional account of the historical first meetings between Vikings and native people of North America.



Reading Spine - Year 5

Class books for shared/modelled reading

The White Horse of Zennor and other stories – Michael Morpurgo

This is a high order book. The book level is above most of the children's AR levels in September, so vocabulary and meaning can be checked throughout the shared reading experiences. The children are aware of this author from previous reading. There are five short stories with a twist at the end. This book choice enables us to monitor listening skills, memory and comprehension. The stories need to be read in the order in which you find them – all will become clear when you finish the book. The children can quiz on it as it is on Accelerated Reader – they tick read to.



[The White Horse of Zennor and Other Stories](#)

Morpurgo, Michael

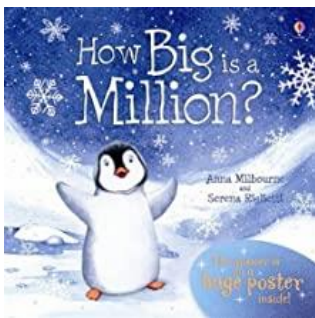
AR Fiction

BL: 5.9 - AR Pts: 5.0

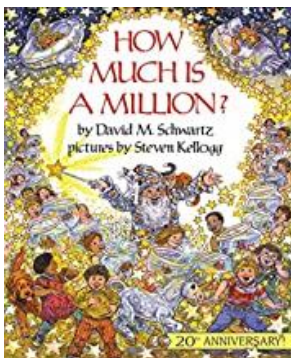
Zennor is a tiny churchtown in Cornwall. Since the beginning of time, strange and mysterious things have happened there. This collection of stories recounts five of the tales.

Cross-curricular links to maths

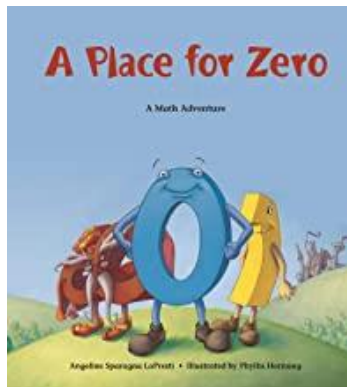
How big is a million by Anna Milbourne



How much is a Million – David M. Schwartz



A Place for Zero: A Math Adventure (Charlesbridge Math Adventures)



Cross- curricular links to history – World War 1

Where the Poppies Now Grow by Hilary Robinson and Martin Impey

Flo of the Somme by Hilary Robinson and Martin Impey

The Christmas Truce – The Place Where Peace was Found by Hilary Robinson and Martin Impey

Peace Lily by Hilary Robinson and Martin Impey



Street Child – Berlie Doherty

Cross-curricular links to history – The Victorian times

The unforgettable tale of an orphan in Victorian London based on the boy whose plight inspired Dr Barnardo to found his famous children's homes. When his mother dies, Jim Jarvis is left all alone in London. He is sent to the workhouse but quickly escapes, choosing a hard life on the streets of the city over the confines of the workhouse walls. Struggling to survive, Jim finally finds some friends... only to be snatched away and made to work for the remorselessly cruel Grimy Nick, constantly guarded by his vicious dog, Snipe.



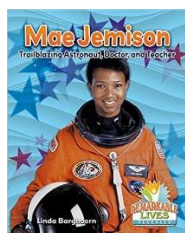
Street Child – Berlie Doherty

BL: 5.1

A novel based on the life of Jim Jarvis, a young orphan who escapes the workhouse in London in the 1860s and survives brutal treatment and desperate circumstances until he is taken by Dr Barnardo, founder of a school for the city's "ragged" children.

Cross-curricular links to Black History and science – Mae Jemison

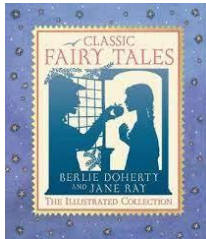
The first African American woman to travel in space, Mae Jemison has broken barriers in science and medicine to become one of the most admired women worldwide. This fascinating book describes how Jemison refused to let anyone stand in the way of her dreams. She became a doctor and worked in the Peace Corps until NASA invited her to join the astronaut program. Today, she is an important advocate for science in education - especially for girls and women. Jemison also continues to push scientific research to improve life in developing countries.



Shakespeare – focus varies each year

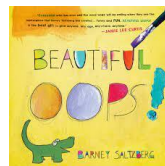


The Snowman: The Book of the Classic Film by Raymond Briggs

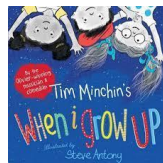


Classic Fairy Tales by Berlie Doherty (author of Street Child) & Jane Ray.

Cross-curricular Links to PSHE



The Beautiful Oops – Barney Saltzberg



When I Grow Up – Tim Minchin

Reading Spine – Year 6

Cross-curricular link to history - World War Two – Britain 1940

<p>Letters from the Lighthouse – Emma Carroll</p> 	<p>Children of the King – Sonya Hartnet</p> 	<p>Goodnight, Mr Tom – Michelle Magorian</p> 
<p>Carrie's War – Nina Bawden</p> 	<p>Diary of Anne Frank</p> 	<p>Friend or Foe– Michael Morpurgo</p> 
<p>Blitz – Robert Westall</p> 	<p>Tail End Charlie – Mick Manning</p> 	<p>Rose Blanche – Roberto Innocenti</p> 

Shared reading

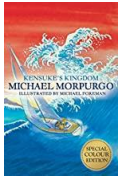


Shakespeare – focus varies each year

Spiderwick Chronicles and Arthur Spiderwick's Field Guide

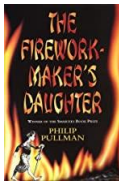


Kensuke's Kingdom – Michael Morpurgo



Kensuke's Kingdom is a gripping adventure from the author of War Horse. Michael Morpurgo has written more than one hundred books for children and won the Whitbread Award, the Smarties Award, the Circle of Gold Award, the Children's Book Award and has been short-listed for the Carnegie Medal four times.

The Firework Maker's Daughter – Philip Pullman



In search of this final Firework-Making secret, Lila heads off alone on a journey. It is a journey filled with dangers beyond anything she could have imagined, a journey on which she will learn so much more than the one secret she set out to find . . .

Wonder – R J Palacio



Auggie wants to be an ordinary ten-year-old. He does ordinary things - eating ice cream, playing on his Xbox. He feels ordinary - inside. But ordinary kids don't make other ordinary kids run away screaming in playgrounds. Ordinary kids aren't stared at wherever they go.

Cross-curricular



Children of the Benin Kingdom – Dinah Orji

The children of all year groups also have access to a variety of books linked to events in life

Bereavement

Badger's Parting Gifts - Susan Varley

Waterbugs & Dragonflies - Doris Stickney

Always & Forever - Debi Gliori & Alan Durant

Diversity books

The following are picture books which can be used with any age ... at teacher's discretion ...

Love makes a family - Sophie Beer

The Journey - Francesca Sanna

Pink is for boys - Robb Pearleman

Coming to England - Floella Benjamin

Smeds & the Smoos - Julia Donaldson

Being nice is always better - Pamela Sapio

Children who changed the World - Marcia William

Young, Gifted and Black - Jamia Wilson

A Fox called Herbert - Margaret Sturton

You Matter - Christian Robinson

Llama Glamarama - Simon James Green & Garry Parsons

Odd Dog Out - Rob Biddulph

Julian is a Mermaid - Jessica Love

M is for Melanin - Tiffany Rose

My Many Coloured Days - Dr Seuss

No Matter What - Debi Gliori

KS2

Happy Here - short stories

This Book isn't Racist - Tiffany Jewell

A Storm of Strawberries - Jo Cotterill

Dare to be You - Matthew Syed

The list of things that do not change - Rebecca Stead

All classes read extracts from The Holy Bible using age appropriate versions.