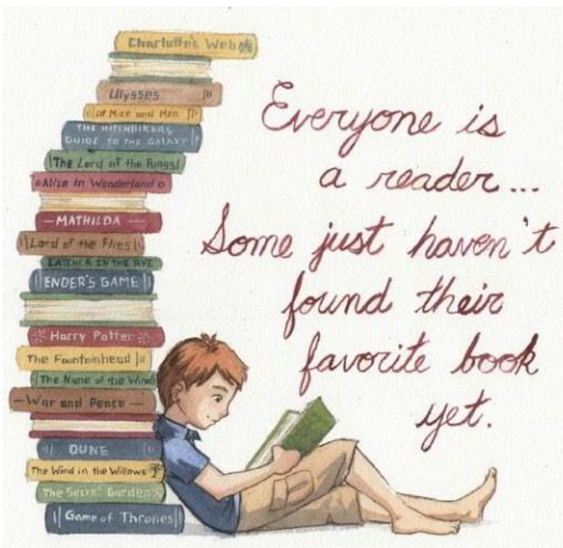
# *Langham Village School Reading Spine*

**Bridging the gap between instruction and pleasure to create thinkers, believers and lifelong readers.**

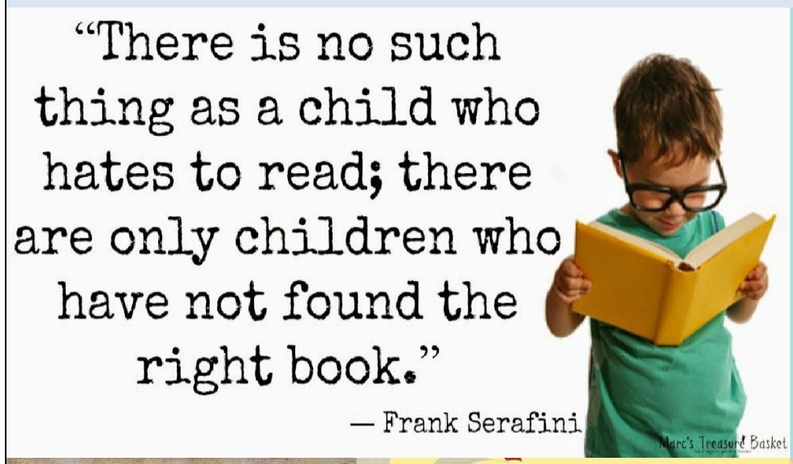


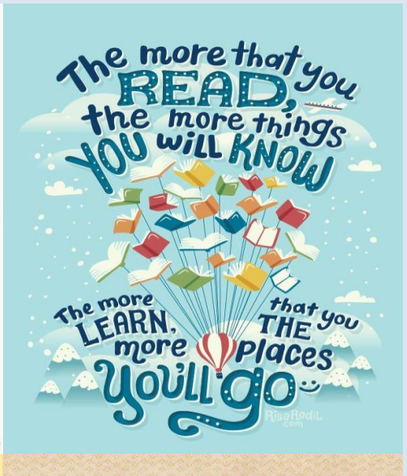


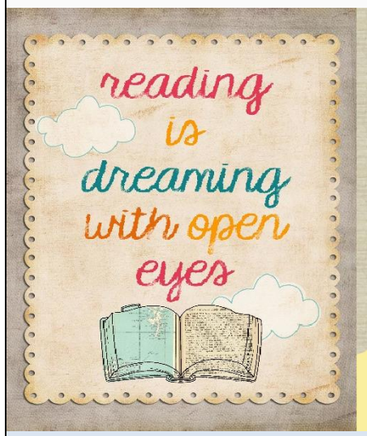


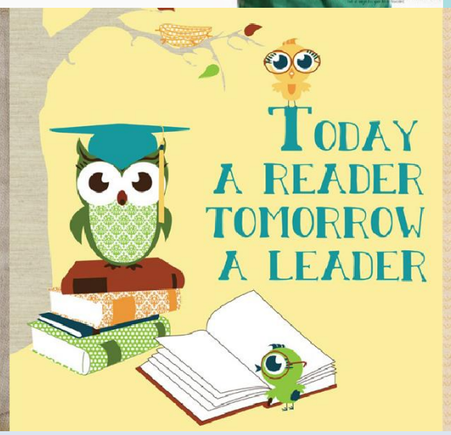



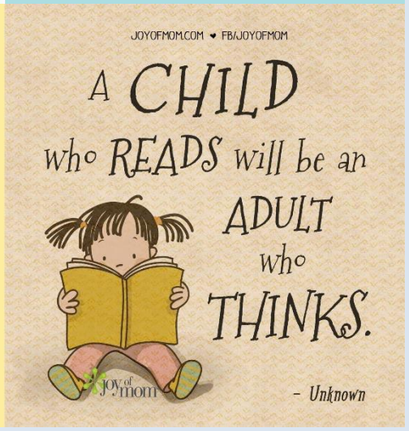
Our reading spine is a collection of recommended books which are considered to be 'must-reads' for everyone. The books in this collection consist of class core texts, recommended independent reads and class shared texts. Each book has been carefully chosen to stretch vocabulary, expose children to different structures and timeframes, encourage critical and analytical thinking and promote a love of reading. Following this reading spine provides equality of opportunity for all children; ensuring all Langham Village School pupils will leave school having had exposure to wide ranging, linguistically varied and intellectually stimulating collection of texts.




Exposure to a range of text types of various genres will gradually build children's stamina and familiarity with challenging texts. It develops the skills they will need to dissect more complex texts at secondary school and enhances logic and problem solving abilities that can be applied in any scenario.

## *How have our texts been selected?*

### *Core texts rationale:*

Instilling a love of reading to ensure that all children, even the most reluctant reader, have read and studied in depth, at least 6 quality texts each year. Where possible, these texts will link with the school's overarching themes that run through each term; allowing children to make links and show clear progression through each Year group. Where quality texts do not directly link with a theme or a topic covered in foundation subjects, there will be a clear rationale for their selection, with an aim for drawing on links for current or previous themes, or links with other areas of the curriculum for that term. All class core texts will be used as a stimulus for writing lessons to ensure deep understanding of the text with contextual value to their writing.

### *Additional texts (Shared stories and independent reads) rationale:*

These additional texts are based on research by Doug Lemov about *'The Five Plagues of the Developing Reader'*, which are the stumbling blocks children can face if they are not exposed to a rich variety of texts. The texts in our spine fall into these 5 categories:

Archaic Language – *books which were (usually) written in the past and use vocabulary or sentence structures which we are unlikely to be exposed to in our everyday spoken language. Children need strategies to decode unfamiliar words and to build up their own bank of known archaic language.*

Non-Linear Time Sequences – books which are not written chronologically. They may include flashbacks, time travel, multiple plots happening at different times or the start of the book being the end result. These books enable children to restructure the events chronologically in their mind as they read.

Narratively Complex – these texts are often told by a narrator who isn't aware of everything which happens in a story or may have more than one narrator. These texts may also have plots which seem separate but then intertwine to pull the different plotlines together.

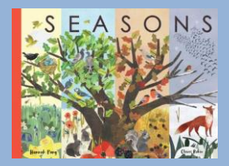
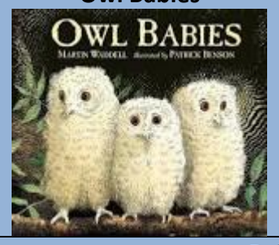
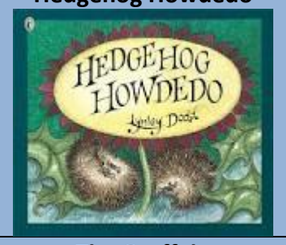
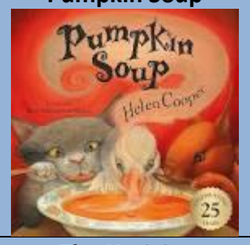
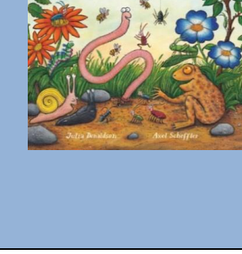
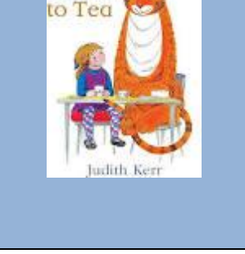
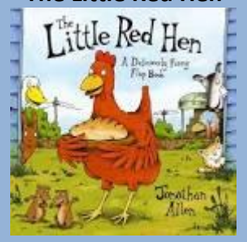
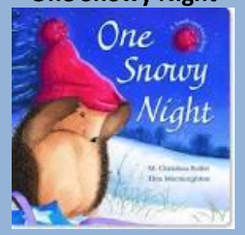
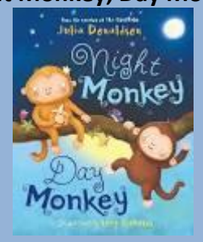
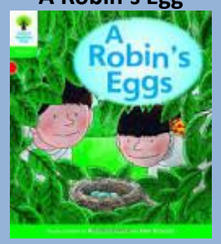
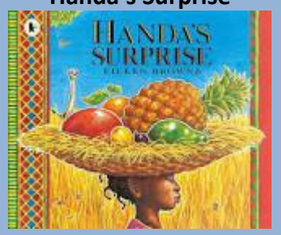
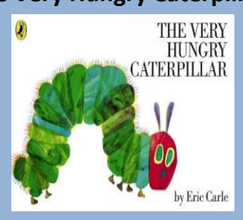
Figurative/Symbolic Text – books which use allegories, metaphors and symbols to represent an idea. For example, Jiminy Cricket represents a conscience in 'Pinocchio' and the snowman in the book 'The Snowman' is an allegory of death and grief.

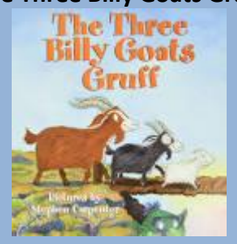
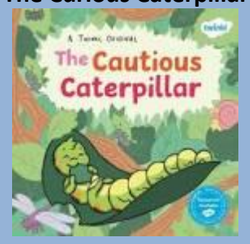
Resistant Texts – books, and often poems, which deliberately try and create confusion. These texts should be viewed as a challenge or a brainteaser to try and work out the meaning. An example of this is 'The Jabberwocky' which uses nonsense words which meaning can be applied to.

In addition to these 5 plagues of the developing reader, we have also included a further category to promote diversity:

Diversity – books which celebrate authors and protagonists that promote ethnical diversity.

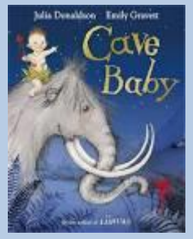
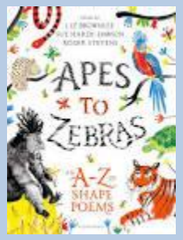
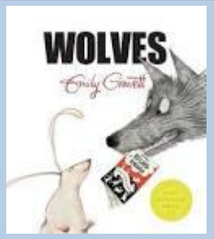
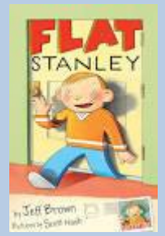
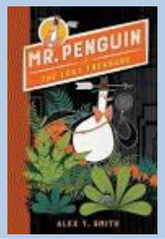
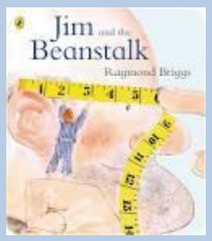
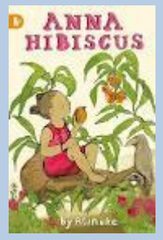
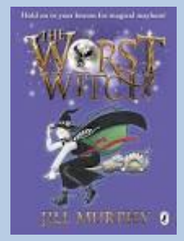
These additional texts will be read throughout the year as either class shared stories or children's independent reads. Our shared stories will be read by the teacher to promote *Reading for Pleasure,* ensuring all children hear stories, particularly for those children who have no reading role models at home. The class shared story is not to pick apart or analyse, but to share quality time where pupils enjoy being read to. *"All classrooms, with pupils of any age, benefit from being read to. It exposes students to texts above their ability, models fluency and helps instil a love of reading…" (Doug Lemov)*

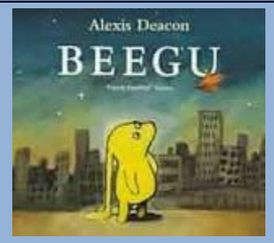
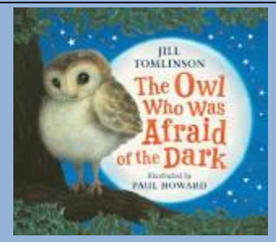
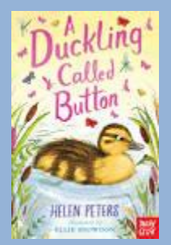
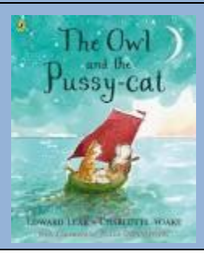
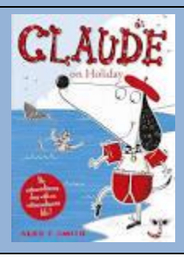
| Reception (Coral Class) Core Texts | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Autumn 1** | **Seasons**<br> | **Owl Babies**<br> | **Leaf Man**<br> | **Stickman**<br> | **Hedgehog Howdedo**<br> | **Pumpkin Soup**<br> |
| **Autumn 2** | **Nature in a Nutshell**<br> | **Being a Vet**<br> | | **How to catch a Star**<br> | **The Gruffalo**<br> | **The Nativity**<br> |
| **Spring 1** | **Jack Frost**<br> | **The Little Red Hen**<br> | **One Snowy Night**<br> | **Lost and Found**<br> | **Ernest Shackleton**<br> | **Night Monkey, Day Monkey**<br> |
| **Spring 2** | **The Treasure hunt**<br> | **A Robin's Egg**<br> | | **When will it be spring?**<br> | **Handa's Surprise**<br> | |
| **Summer 1** | **Jack and the Beanstalk**<br> | **The Very Hungry Caterpillar**<br> | **The Tiny Seed**<br> | **Superworm**<br> | **Oi Frog**<br> | **The Tiger who came to Tea**<br> |

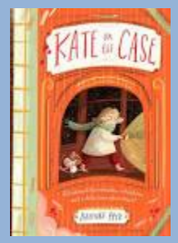
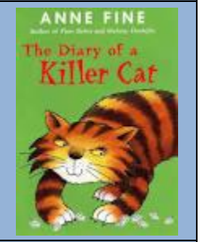
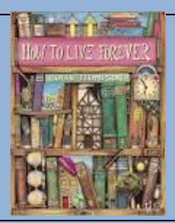
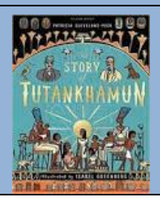
| Summer 2 | The Three Little Pigs | The Three Billy Goats Gruff | Little red Riding Hood | The Curious Caterpillar | Jake's First Day | Our Favorite book (children to choose) |
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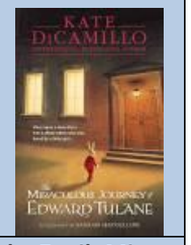
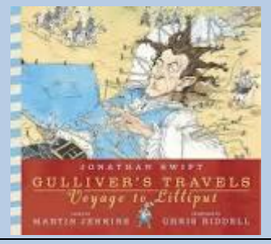
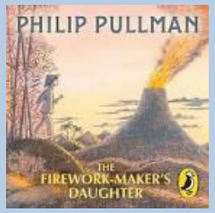
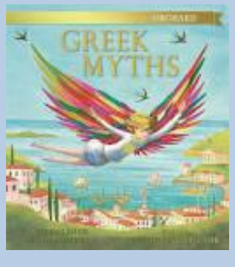
## Reception (Coral Class) Additional texts

- Extra Yarn - Mac Barnett
- The Tiger who came to Tea- Judith Kerr
- Super Duper You! - Sophy Henn
- Love Monster - Rachel Bright
- Avocado Baby - John Burnigham
- The World Around Me - Charlotte Guillain
- The Pout-Pout Fish - Deborah Diesen
- Giraffes Can't Dance - Giles Andreae
- Lila and the Secret of Rain – David Conway
- Oh the things you can think – Dr Seuss
- Green eggs and Ham – Dr Seuss
- Aliens Love Underpants - Claire Freedman
- Matisse's Magical Trail – Tim Hopgood
- Just Like Me – Vanessa Newton
- Pink is for Boys – Pearlman Robb
- Bad Seed – John Jorry
- We Are Here – Oliver Jeffers
- Proudest Blue – S. K. Ali
- The Most Magnificent Thing - Ashley Spires
- The Story Tree: Tales to Read Aloud Book - Hugh Lupton
- Night Monkey, Day Monkey – Julia Donaldson
- Spinderella – Julia Donaldson
- Elmer the Patchwork Elephant - David McKee

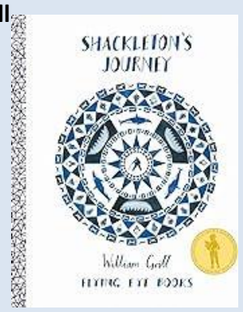
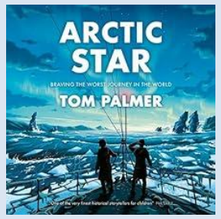
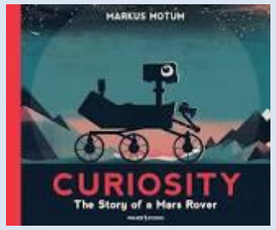
| AMBER CORE TEXTS (YEAR A) | | | WHOLE CLASS TEXTS FOR STORY TIMES |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Autumn 1** | **Julia Donaldson texts**<br> | **Cave Baby**<br>**Julia Donaldson**<br> | **Sophie's Snail**<br>**Dick King-Smith**<br> |
| **Autumn 2** | **Apes to Zebras: An A-Z of shape poems**<br>**Roger Stevens, Liz Brownlee & Sue Hardy-Dawson**<br> | **The Journey home**<br>**Frann Preston Gannon**<br> | **The Christmasauraus**<br>**Tom Fletcher**<br> |
| **Spring 1** | **Wolves**<br>**Emily Gravett**<br> | **The Ultimate Survival Guide to Monsters Under the Bed**<br>**Mitch Frost**<br> | **Flat Stanley**<br>**Jeff brown**<br> |
| **Spring 2** | **The Dragon Machine**<br>**Helen Ward**<br> | | **Mr. Penguin and the Lost Treasure**<br>**Alex T Smith**<br> |
| **Summer 1** |  **Jim & The Beanstalk**<br>**Raymond Briggs** | | **Anna Hibiscus**<br>**Atinuke**<br> |
| **Summer 2** | **Rosie Revere, Engineer**<br>**Andrea Beaty**<br> | **The Naughty Bus**<br>**Jan & Jerry Oke**<br> | **The Worst Witch**<br>**Jill Murphy**<br> |

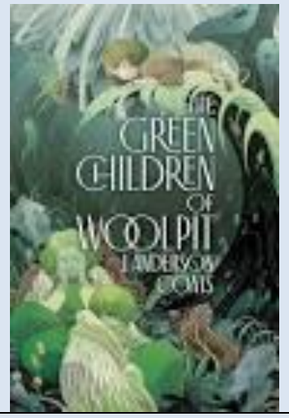
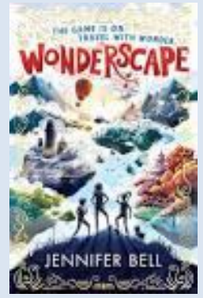
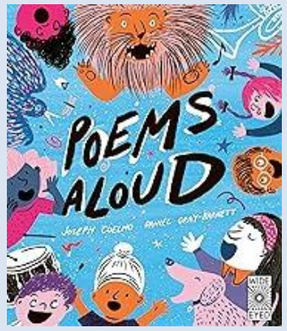
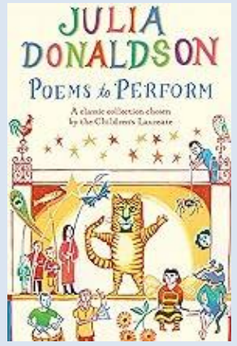
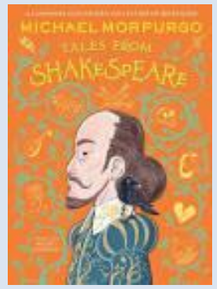
| Amber Core Texts (Year B) | | | WHOLE CLASS TEXTS FOR STORY TIMES |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Autumn 1** | **Izzy Gizmo**<br>**Pip Jones**<br> | **Beegu**<br>**Alexis Deacon**<br> | **Kevin vs the Unicorn**<br>**Philip Reeve** |
| **Autumn 2** | **I Am the Seed That Grew the Tree**<br>**Fiona Waters**<br> | **The Bear & the Piano**<br>**David Litchfield**<br> | **The owl who was afraid of the Dark**<br>**Jill Tomlinson**<br> |
| **Spring 1** |  | **The Magic Bed**<br>**John Burningham** | **Mango and Bambang**<br>**Polly Faber**<br> |
| **Spring 2** | **The Great fire of London**<br>**Emma Adams & James Weston Lewis**<br> | **A Walk in London**<br>**Salvatore Rubbino**<br> | **Rabbit and Bear**<br>**Julian Gough and Jim Field**<br> |
| **Summer 1** | **The Odd Egg**<br>**Emily Gravett**<br> | | **A Duckling called Button**<br>**Helen Peters**<br> |
| **Summer 2** | **The Owl & The Pussy-cat**<br>**Edward Lear & Charlotte Voake**<br> | | **Claude on Holiday**<br>**Alex T Smith**<br> |

| Quartz Core Texts (Year A) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Autumn 1** | **Be A Friend by Selina Yorn**<br> | **Here We Are by Oliver Jeffers (CLPE unit)**<br> | **Whole Class story:**<br>**The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein**<br> |
| **Autumn 2** | **The First Drawing by Mordicai Gerstein (Literacy Tree unit)**<br> | **A Christmas Story by Brian Wildsmith**<br> | **Kate on the Case by Hannah Peck**<br> |
| **Spring 1** | **Esio Trot Roald Dahl**<br> | **The Girl with the Yellow Bag by Maia Walczak**<br> | **Whole Class story:**<br>**The Diary of a Killer Cat**<br>**Anne Fine**<br> |
| **Spring 2** | **Cloud Tea Monkeys by Mal Peet and Elspeth Graham (Literacy Tree unit)**<br> | **Beetle Boy Leonard**<br> | |
| **Summer 1** | **How to Live Forever**<br>**Colin Thompson**<br>**(Literacy Tree unit)**<br> | **Lost Spells & Lost Words by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris (Literacy Shed unit)**<br> | **A Drop of Golden Sun by Kate Saunders**<br> |
| **Summer 2** | **The Story of Tutankhamun**<br>**Patricia Cleveland-Peck (Literacy Tree unit)**<br> | **The Iron Man**<br>**by Ted Hughes**<br> | **The Bee is not Afraid of Me Fran Long & Isabel Galleymore**<br> |

| Quartz Core Texts (Year B) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Autumn 1** | **A Friend is Someone who likes You by Joan Walsh Anglund**<br> | | **The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate Di Camillio**<br> |
| **Autumn 2** | **Jonathan Swift's Gulliver's Travels retold by Martin Jenkins and Chris Riddell (Literacy Tree unit)**<br> | **Jesus' Christmas Party by Nicholas Allen**<br> | **Accidental Trouble Magnet by Zanib Mian**<br> |
| **Spring 1** | **The Black Hat by Maia Walczak (Literacy Shed)**<br> | **The Firework Maker's Daughter by Philip Pullman**<br> | **Whole Class Story: Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo**<br> |
| **Spring 2** | **Winter's Child by Angela McAllister (Literacy Tree unit)**<br> | | |
| **Summer 1** | **Greek Myths by Geraldine McCaughrean and Emma Chichester Clark (Literacy Tree unit)**<br> | | **Whole Class Story: The Boy that Harnessed The Wind by William Kamkwamba**<br> |
| **Summer 2** | **Malala's Magic Pencil by Malala Yousafzai**<br> | | **Leon and the Place Between by Angela McAllister and Grahame BakerSmith**<br> |

<table>
<tr><th colspan="4">Jet Core Texts (Year A)</th></tr>
<tr><td>Autumn 1</td><td colspan="2">The London Eye Mystery<br>Siobhan Dowd - The London Eye Mystery (Autism Awareness)<br></td><td rowspan="2">Whole Class Stories: Anglo-Saxon Boy, Tony Bradman<br></td></tr>
<tr><td>Autumn 2</td><td colspan="2">Beowulf, Michael Morpergo<br></td></tr>
<tr><td>Spring 1</td><td colspan="2">The Hidden Tree: Darwin’s Journey of Discovery<br></td><td rowspan="2">Darwin’s Dragon<br>Lindsay Galvin<br></td></tr>
<tr><td>Spring 2</td><td colspan="2">Katie Tsang and Kevin Tsang - Dragon Mountain (Cultural Diversity)<br></td></tr>
<tr><td>Summer 1</td><td colspan="2">Explorer Katherine Rundell<br></td><td rowspan="2">Whole Class Stories:<br>Maz Evans – Who Let the Gods Out?<br></td></tr>
<tr><td>Summer 2</td><td>Poetry in the form of an ode, soliloquy<br></td><td>Performance Poems and Poetry Slam<br></td></tr>
</table>

<table>
<tr><th colspan="4">Jet Core Texts (Year B)</th></tr>
<tr><td>Autumn 1</td><td colspan="2">Shackleton's Journey – William Grill<br></td><td rowspan="2">Arctic Star<br>Tom Palmer<br></td></tr>
<tr><td>Autumn 2</td><td>Curiosity, story of a mars rover - Proposal to NASA<br></td><td>NASA log of Mars landing, news report (EARTH & SPACE)<br></td></tr>
<tr><td>Spring 1</td><td colspan="2">The Man who walked between<br></td><td rowspan="2">Whole Class Stories:<br>Katherine Rundell – The Good Thieves (North American setting)<br></td></tr>
<tr><td>Spring 2</td><td colspan="2">Robot girl Malorie Blackman<br></td></tr>
</table>

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Summer 1** | **The Green Children of Woolpit by J Anderson Coats/Black Shuck**<br> | **Interviews with famous scientists**<br>Famous Scientists for Kids – Abdelilah Amrani<br> | **Jennifer Bell – Wonderscape (Isaac Newton adventure)**<br> |
| **Summer 2** | | **Poetry**<br><br> | **Whole Class Stories: Michael Morpurgo – Tales from Shakespeare**<br> |

Throughout the year, the children will also have the opportunity to immerse themselves in a wide range of subject specific non-fiction books in order to appreciate information texts and deepen their understanding of their unit of study.

| Amber: Additional texts | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Archaic Language** | **Non Linear Time Sequences** | **Complexity of Narrator** | **Complexity of Plot** | **Resistant Texts** | **Diversity** |
| Year B | The Ugly Duckling – Hans Christian Anderson<br>Where the Wild Things Are – Maurice Sendak<br>Goodnight Moon – Margaret Wise Brown<br>The More it Snows – A A Milne (poem) | Voices in the Park – Anthony Browne<br>When the Rain Comes – Tom Pow<br>Granpa – John Burningham | Hey Little Ant – Hannah Hoose<br>The Teddy Bear – David McPhail<br>The Day the Crayons Quit – Drew Daywalt<br>Fantastic Mr Fox – Roald Dahl | Wanted: The Perfect Pet – Fiona Robertson<br>The Heart and the Bottle – Oliver Jeffers | Lost and Found – Oliver Jeffers<br>Wolves – Emily Gravett<br>Not Now Bernard – David McKee | Sulwe by Lupita Nyong'o & Vashti Harrison<br>Hair Love by Matthew Cherry & Vashti Harrison<br>Happy in our skin – Fran Manushkin |
| Year A | The Magic Faraway Tree – Enid Blyton<br>The Tale of Peter Rabbit – Beatrix Potter<br>Aesop's fables – Aesop<br>The Owl and the Pussycat – Edward Lear<br>The Frog Prince – Brothers Grimm<br>The Night before Christmas – Clement Clarke Moore | The Trouble With Trolls – Jan Brett<br>Black and White – David Macauley<br>One Candle – Eve Bunting<br>The Stinky Cheese Man – John Scieska<br>Three Brave Women – C.L.G Martin<br>The Summer my Father Was Ten – Pat Brisson | Chester – Melanie Watt<br>And the Dish Ran Away with the Spoon – Janet Stevens<br>The Wolf Story – What Really Happened to Little Red Riding Hood – Toby Forward<br>The True Story of the Three Little Pigs – John Scieska | Grandad's Island – Benji Davies<br>Dinosaurs and All That Rubbish – Michael Foreman<br>The Red Tree – Shaun Tan<br>The Chickens Build a Wall – Jean-Francois Dumont<br>Red Kite, Blue Kite – Ji-Li Jiang<br>The Building Boy – Ross Montgomery | The Book With No Pictures – B.J. Novak<br>Tadpole's Promise – Jeanne Willis<br>The Colour Monster – Anna Llenas<br>Ning Nang Nong – Spike Milligan<br>Mirror – Jeannie baker<br>Window – Jeannie Baker | We All Went On Safari - Laurie Krebs<br>Mommy's Khimar - Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow<br>So Much - Trish Cooke<br>Coming to England – Floella Benjamin<br>Antiracist baby – Ibram X. Kendi |

# Quartz and Jet: Additional texts

| | Archaic Language | Non Linear Time Sequences | Complexity of Narrator | Complexity of Plot | Resistant Texts | Diversity |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year 3 | The Queen's Nose – Dick King-Smith<br>Charlotte's Web – E.B. White<br>The Children of Green Knowe – Lucy M. Boston<br>Pippi Longstocking – Astrid Lindgren<br>A Bear Called Paddington – Michael Bond | The Midnight Fox – Betsy Byers<br>The Legend of Captain Crow's Teeth – Eoin Colfer | The Legend of Podkin One-Ear – Keiran Larwood<br>The Creakers – Tom Fletcher | Revolting Rhymes – Roald Dahl<br>The Tunnel – Anthony Browne<br>Stig of the Dump – Clive King<br>Love that Dog – Sharon Creech | The Mysteries of Harris Burdick – Cris Van Allsburg<br>Topsy Turvy World (poem) – William Brightly Rands<br>The Great Panjandrum Himself – Samuel Foote<br>Bananas in my Ear – Michael Rosen | Sam Wu Is NOT Afraid of Ghosts! – Katie & Kevin Tsang<br>Ellie & the Cat – Malorie Blackman<br>Mayhem Mission – Burhana Islam |
| Year 4 | Five Children and It – Edith Nesbitt<br>Just William – Richmal Compton<br>The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe – C.S. Lewis<br>Alice's Adverntures in Wonderland – Lewis Carroll<br>The Little Match Girl – Hans Christian Anderson | The Butterfly Lion – Michael Morpurgo<br>The Time Travelling Hamster – Ross Welford<br>Dominic Grows Sweetcorn – Mandy Ross | I am Rat – Phillip Pullman<br>Varjack Paw – S.F.Said<br>The Witches – Roald Dahl<br>Nim's Island – Wendy Orr | Artemis Fowl – Eoin Colfer<br>The Iron Woman – Ted Hughes<br>The Train to Impossible Places – P.G. Bell | Cloud Busting – Malorie Blackman<br>The Walrus and the Carpenter – Lewis Carroll<br>Where Zebras Go – Sue-Hardy Dawson | Little Badman – Henry White & Humza Arshad<br>Gregory Cool – Caroline Binch<br>Anisha: Accidental detective – Serena Patel |
| Year 5 | Tom's Midnight Garden – Phillipa Pearce<br>The Secret Garden – Frances Hodgeson Burnett<br>The Jungle Book – Rudyard Kipling | A Christmas Carol – Charles Dickens<br>The Eagle in the Snow – Michael Morpurgo<br>The London Eye Mystery - Siobhan Dowd<br>Clockwork – Phillip Pullman | A series of Unfortunate Events – Lemony Snickett<br>Cogheart – Peter Bunzl<br>Boy in the Tower - Polly Ho-Yen | Northern Lights – Phillip Pullman<br>Swallows and Amazons – Arthur Ransome<br>Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire– JK Rowling<br>Rooftoppers- Katherine Rundell | The Arrival – Shaun Tan<br>The Pobble Who had no Toes (poem) – Edward Lear<br>Sky in the Pie (poem) – Roger McGough | Journey to Jo'burg - Beverley Naidoo<br>Blackberry Blue and Other Fairy Tales - Jamila Gavin<br>A Victorian Story – E.L. Norry<br>The Infinite – Patience Agbabi<br>The Breadwinner – Deborah Ellis |
| Year 6 | The Hobbit – J.R.R. Tolkien<br>White Fang – Jack London<br>Journey to the Centre of the Earth – Jules Verne<br>Oliver Twist – Charles Dickens<br>Macbeth – *Abridged* | Holes – Louis Sachar<br>The Infinite Lives of Maisie Day – Christopher Edge | Warhorse – Michael Morpurgo<br>Once – Morris Gleitzman<br>A boy called Hope - Lara Williamson | The Lady of Shalott – Alfred, Lord Tennyson<br>In Flanders Fields (poem) – John McCrae<br>Floodland - Marcus Sedgewick<br>The House with Chicken Legs - Sophie Anderson<br>Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows – J.K. Rowling | The Tyger (poem) – William Blake<br>Jabberwocky (poem) – Lewis Carroll | The Girl Who Stole an Elephant – Nizrana Farook<br>High Rise Mystery – Sharna Jackson<br>Now or Never: A Dunkirk Story – Bali Rai<br>A Pocket Full of Stars – Aisha Bushby<br>Henry's Freedom Box – Ellen Levine |