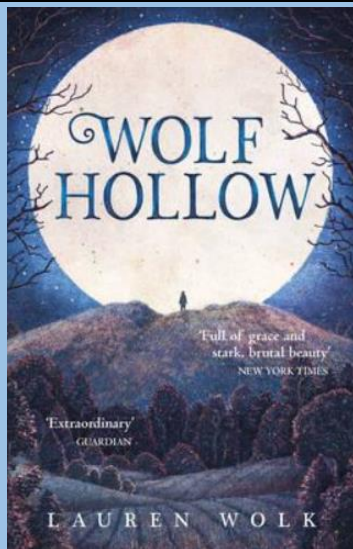




STAFF READING RECOMMENDATIONS December 2019



Birch Class Y6 – Miss Egan: Wolf Hollow by Lauren Wolk

'The year I turned twelve, I learned how to lie.'

Set in rural Pennsylvania, USA, post-war, this is a tale of standing up for what is right, no matter what the personal cost may be, and *not* judging people on first impressions.

Both the family, and school life of Annabelle are changed forever with the arrival of a new pupil. This child's actions have far-reaching, tragic consequences that nobody could have predicted.....

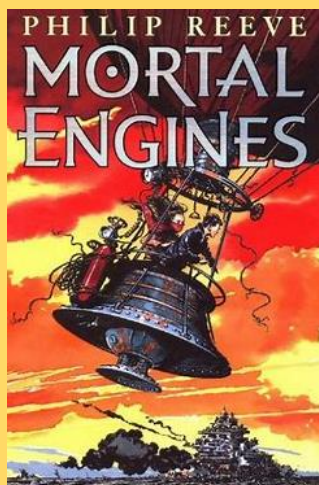
Wolf Hollow is suitable for Years 5, 6 and above, and would make a fantastic bedtime story. This is one of the best children's books that I have read in a long time and I can't recommend it enough!

Birch Class Y6 – Miss Egan: Mortal Engines by Philip Reeve

This story is a real page-turner set in a cities have become colossal machines and villages: we in 2019 are referred to

This science-fiction novel certainly has a suitable for more mature readers at the

Philip Reeve has written four books with
There is plenty to get your teeth into
aren't always what they seem; exciting
the choice between right and wrong and

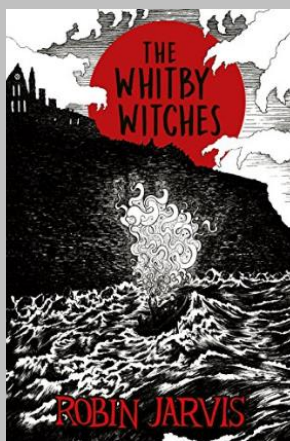


strange, futuristic world where the world's travelling around consuming smaller towns as the 'Ancients'!

dark side with plenty of twists and turns and is upper end of school.

Mortal Engines as the opening to the quartet. here: weird and wonderful characters who action sequences and bigger questions about who we choose as our leaders..... Enjoy!

Mrs Allen: The Whitby Witches by Robin Jarvis



Year 5 and 6s, read The Whitby Witches if you dare!

Set in the dark alleyways and on the misty clifftops of Count Dracula's hometown, orphans Jennet and Ben don't expect their stay with elderly Miss Boston will last long, given their past experience of foster carers. Ben has "the Sight", he can see spirits who have passed over, sometimes in clamouring hordes all jostling for his attention; his stories are just too disturbing for others to want to be around him for long. But Miss Boston and her Ladies Circle have their own secrets, which are threatened when a glamorous and accomplished stranger joins their group. Ben and Jennet are drawn in to an atmospheric world where Aufwaders clamber amongst the rocks and caves at the sea's edge, Hands of Glory are treasured possessions and demonic Barguest hounds prowl the steps to the Abbey.

Not for the faint hearted, be warned, not all the characters make it out alive...

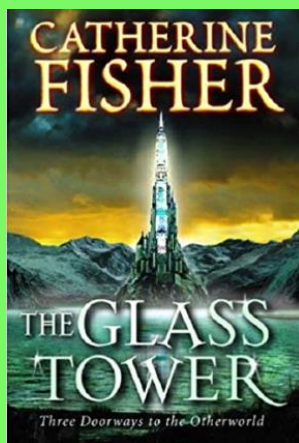
Sycamore Class Y6 – Mrs Coates: The Glass Tower by Catherine Fisher

A fantasy book with 3 fantastic stories – Tower, and The Candle Man, these are unimaginable but are equally strong in

In The Conjuror's Game, a young boy gets unintentionally unleashes them on the

Fintan's Tower, is about a secret world there is surrounded by evil forces. Jamie find him.

Lastly, the Candle Man is based in Wales dark powers of water. The main character, Conor, meets a strange fiddler out on the levels and he is intrigued and soon persuaded to help the man, Meurig, steal back a candle which, if allowed to burn away, will end Meurig's life.



this is a must! The Conjuror's Game, Fintan's stories mixed with the magical and their ability to make you believe in them.

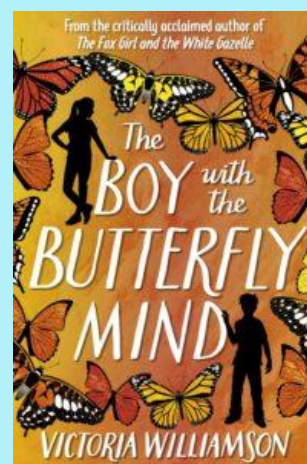
mixed up in dark forces and very nearly world.

inside a book and the prisoner that waits and his sister Jen are drawn into a quest to

and the Somerset levels and focuses on the

Mrs Carlisle : The Boy With the Butterfly Mind by Victoria Williamson

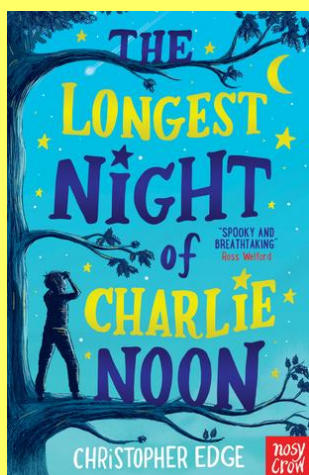
This is a brilliant book and I read it in one sitting, I would thoroughly recommend it to Y5 and Y6 children. The book is very contemporary and chapters alternate between first person accounts by the two main characters Jamie and Elin. The story covers school issues, social issues, blended families and ADHD. Jamie is 11 years old, forgetful and impulsive due to his ADHD. Erin is a perfectionist determined to reconcile her parents after divorce. The story covers how the two families come together and the journey along the way.



Larch Class Y5 - Mrs Mir: The longest Night of Charlie Noon by Christopher Edge

'Once upon a time, three kids got lost in the woods... Sounds like a fairy story, doesn't it? But what exactly is time?'

Having moved from London to the countryside, Charlie Noon becomes best friends with Dizzy Heron, who loves bird pictures of birds but when he finds some convince Charlie that it might be a secret investigate the mystery but soon realise enemy, plays a prank on them that Charlie now fears that Old Crony, the children, will trap them. However, night falls without warning trapped in a nightmare with strange shadows. They must work together to woods. Secrets, spies or maybe even a As time plays tricks, can Charlie solve will the night never end?

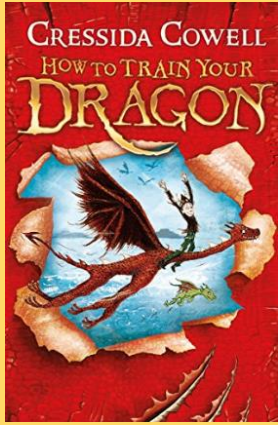


countryside, Charlie Noon becomes best friends watching. Dizzy is always in the woods drawing sticks arranged in a pattern, he manages to code. Both boys decide to go into the woods to that they are not alone. Johnny Baines, their leaves all three of them stranded in the woods. monster who is said to live there and eat

and all three boys end up lost in the woods, dangers and impossible puzzles lurking in the solve the mystery and find a way out of the monster... What lies in the heart of the wood? this mystery and find a way out of the woods or

There are some fantastic twists and turns and plenty of guessing games and riddles that will keep the reader caught up in the mystery until the very end.

Maple Class Y5 – Mrs Thompson: How to Train Your Dragon by Cressida Cowell

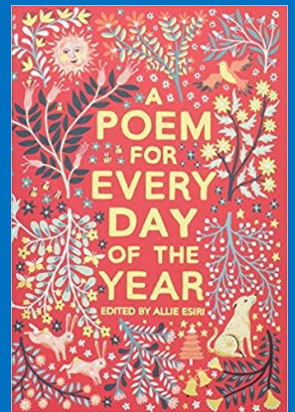


Set in Viking times, How to Train Your Dragon follows the story of Hiccup, the chief's son from the Hairy Hooligan Clan. Being a small, thoughtful boy, Hiccup dreads the idea of having to catch and train a dragon, however, as the chief's son he must prove himself worthy. In order to avoid being torn limb from limb by a dragon, he needs to come up with new, different methods to save himself whilst training his dragon. The well-known film, based on this book is very different to the story told by Cressida Cowell so watching the film won't spoil this story.

Chestnut Class Y4 - Miss Sykes: Poem for Every Day of the Year by Allie Esiri

With Christmas coming up I thought I'd share this lovely little poetry book containing a poem for each day of the year. Although there are many similar ones out there, I really like the range within this book. Poems reflect the changing seasons and link in key dates. There's humour for April Fools and festivity for Christmas.

T.S.Eliot, John Betjeman, Lewis Carroll, William Shakespeare and Christina Rossetti sit alongside Seamus Heaney, Ted Hughes, Carol Ann Duffy, and Kate Tempest are all waiting inside this fantastic daily read.



Hazel Class Y4 – Mrs Waddington: The Land of Roar by Jenny McLachlan



When Arthur and Rose were young, they were heroes in the Land of Roar, an imaginary world that they found by climbing through a folding bed in their grandad's attic. Roar was filled with things they loved, including dragons, mermaids and wizards. It also had things that scared them, including a very creepy scarecrow!

Now they are eleven, Roar is just a memory. But when they help Grandad clean out the attic, Arthur is horrified as Grandad is hauled into the folding bed and vanishes. Is he playing a joke? Or is Roar real??

I would give this book



Oak Class Y3 – Mrs Kirwan: The Snowman by Michael Morpurgo

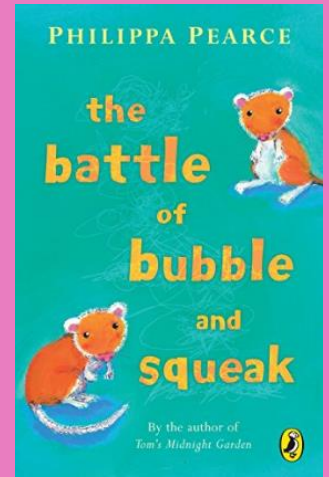
This book is inspired by the original story Morpurgo has reimagined this wonderful book. It is full of beautiful illustrations by life. This book is the perfect Christmas family. It retells the story of a young boy December morning to see snow, James and makes some friends along the way.



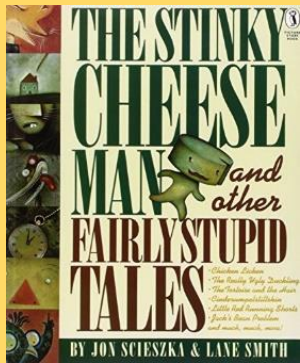
by Raymond Briggs'. Michael Christmas classic and written this Robin Shaw that bring the story to read that can be enjoyed by the whole James who wakes up early on a then embarks on a wintery adventure

Rowan Class Y3 – Mr Bright: The Battle of Bubble and Squeak by Philippa Pearce

If you love stories about small animals and especially parents who, whatever you try and do, just don't warm to pets in any shape or form then you'll really enjoy this story by Philippa Pearce. It's perfectly pitched for Year 3 aged children in my opinion. As the title suggest it's not all love and peace throughout the novel - indeed a family is split in their feelings towards the gerbils. The two are dearly loved by Sid, Peggy and Amy but sadly their mother (Mrs Sparrow or Mrs S) does not share the same feelings towards them (clearly seen in the fact she gives them away!!). However, a key moment in the story is when Bubble nearly perishes at the hands (or paws!) of a ginger cat and is administered first aid by Mrs S. Thankfully from this moment on Mrs Sparrow unquestionably looks at the two cute creatures from a different angle and realises that life with them might not be as bad as she had previously thought! In summary, an active story, intensely felt, discerningly put and irresistibly pictured.



Poplar Class Y2 – Miss Harrison: The Stinky Cheese Man and other Fairly stupid tales John Scieszka (author) & Lane Smith (illustrator)



Don't be fooled by the lack of colours and dark drawings on the front cover of this book. Open it up and have a read and it will definitely make you feel more colourful than the cover suggests!

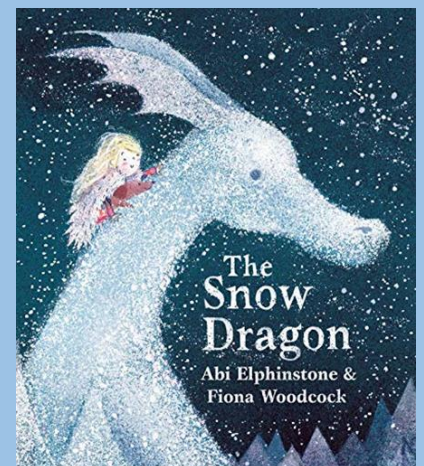
This strangely funny book is a twist on well-known fairy tales and has been cleverly written to entertain adults and children. Although the Stinky Cheese Man appears in this story, he is only a small proportion of what you read and see when you open up the book. The words and drawings are great fun to look at whilst reading and the topsy-turvy nature of this book is sure to be a winner for the whole family! All I'll say is this: don't expect to find the contents page at the beginning of the book...

The star of the book is Jack from Jack and the beanstalk but in this book he isn't only dealing with a giant, he has to tackle many other characters too!

Willow Class Y2 – Mr Brakefield: The Snow Dragon by Abi Elphinstone and Fiona Woodcock

"You can be late for many things in life, but you should never keep and adventure waiting..."

In a cold, joyless orphanage lives a girl called Phoebe whose only wish is to be loved. Christmas is approaching but no tinsel or fairy lights brighten the gloomy walls of Griselda's Home for Strays. Christmas is banned. In fact anything that brings happiness is forbidden. But despite her desperate situation, magic drifts into Phoebe's world with the swirling snow, leading her to an incredible adventure with a mysterious dragon. The dragon helps Phoebe see the world in a different way and gives her hope that things will soon improve. But will she finally find a family that loves her? Or will Griselda keep her in her clutches? Join the adventure this Christmas to find out.



The Tiger Who Came to Tea



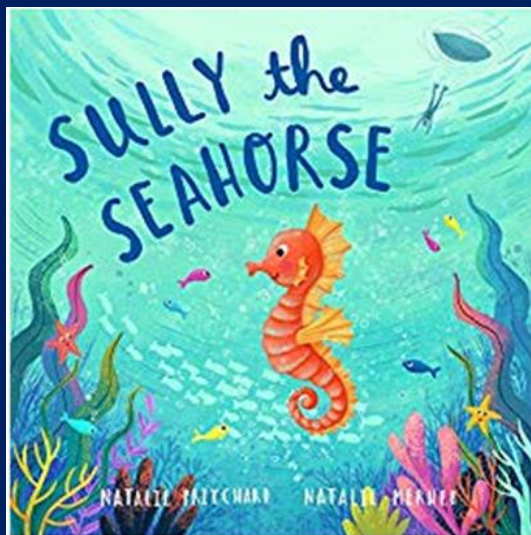
Judith Kerr

Elm Class Y1 – Mr Buckley: The Tiger who Came to Tea by Judith Kerr

This is the story of Sophie who finds herself having a very unusual guest for tea. This simple tale comes with wonderful pictures and is a book that children can read over and over again. It may also get them thinking who their ideal teatime guest would be and why?

Beech Class Y1 – Mrs Hunt: Sully the Seahorse by Natalie Pritchard

Sully has a problem. He in the 'Sea School Stars' his ability and is worried down he is desperate to win uplifting rhyming story about faces and how he overcomes he discovers something special all have different talents. This children will relate to and I how important it is to believe you can be!

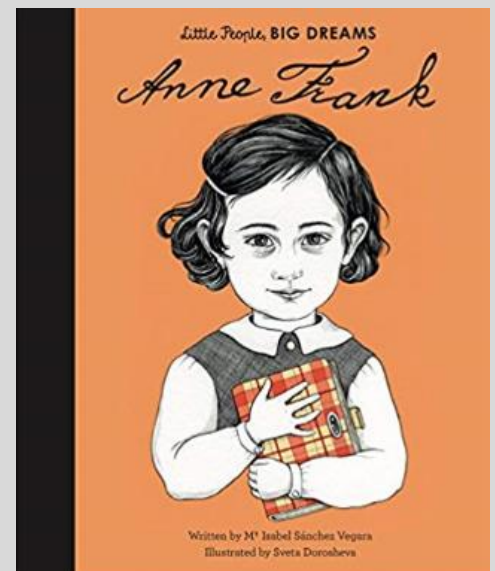


doesn't want to take part annual race. He doubts about being last yet deep something. This is an the challenges that Sully them. Most importantly, about himself and that we is a story that many loved how it reinforces in yourself and be the best

Beech Class Y1 – Mrs Merriman: Little People, Big Dreams Anne Frank written by Isabel Sanchez Vegara and illustrated by Sveta Dorosheva.

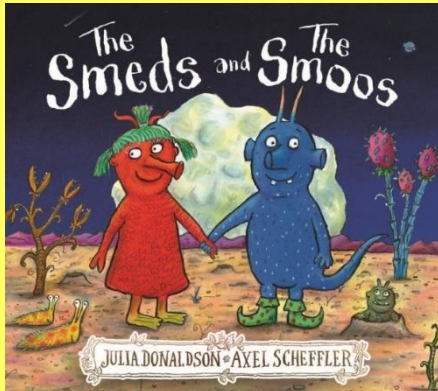
You can't go wrong with any one of the books from the series Little People, Big Dreams. They're all easy reads and a great introduction to biography. Beautifully illustrated, these books bring famous personalities to life.

Telling the tale of a brave tale of a child hoping for peace during the dark times of World War II, I think everyone can relate to Anne Frank. This story gives a personal account of history and gives a glimpse into the world of one of history's most famous young women.



Pear Class- Reception - Miss Pearson The Smeds and the Smoos by Julia Donaldson

By a lobular lake on a far-off planet, a young red Smed called Janet lives with the other Smeds. Not far away, on a humplety hill, Bill, a young blue Smoo is getting bored of jumping around. Meeting by accident in the Wurpular Wood, Janet and Bill delight in each other's company until their grandparents find out and drag them away. Continuing to meet in secret, Bill and Janet eventually decide to marry, but their families are so appalled at the idea that the only solution seems to be to steal Janet's grandfather's rocket and elope into space. Can the Smeds and the Smoos find the young lovers, or will they be lost forever?



A perfect story for those in Reception or Nursery, with so many links to our learning in school.

From fantastic rhyme patterns that all connect back to smed or smoo, to the introduction of 'alien words' in phonics. This space-themed book will invite awe and wonder into any story time.

A fantastic stimulus for questions and reflection, allowing children to discuss the main events of the story and to celebrate diversity. Told in catching rhyming text that reads aloud superbly.

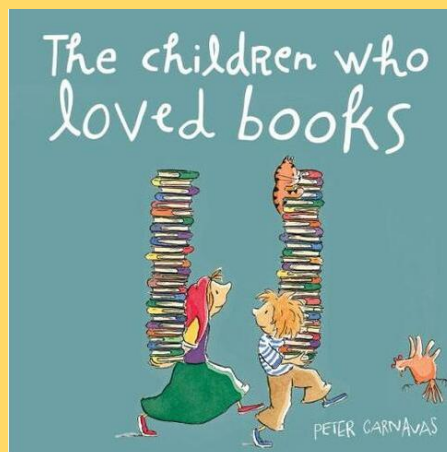
How many rhyming couplets can you find?

Cherry Class Reception – Mrs Coughtrey: 'The Children Who Loved Books' by Peter Carnavas

What would you really like for some really great new books!

Angus and Lucy didn't have very house! But they did have them on the best adventures, them to snuggle up as a family guess what they had? Yes, lots Discover what happens to the taken away!

A wonderful picture book with a together is one of the most wonderful gifts we can ever give. Enjoy!



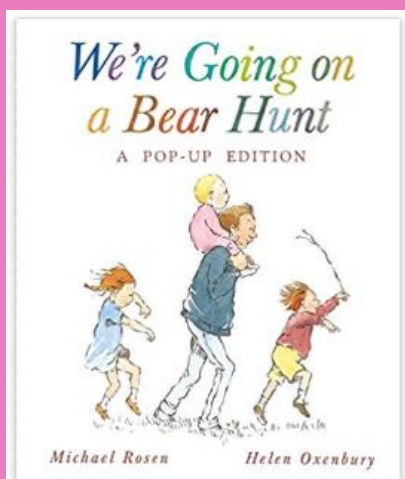
Christmas? I hope you would say Why don't you try this one?

much; no TV, no car, not even a something wonderful that could take teach them new things and help and enjoy 'together time'. Can you and lots of BOOKS!

family when all of their books are

strong message- sharing books

Apple Class Nursery - Mrs Slater: We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury



It's hard to believe that there was once a time when families everywhere didn't tug on their wellies, don their bobble hats, scarves and coats and strike out intrepidly across the countryside on their very own bear hunts encountering (of course) plenty of long swishy-swashy grass, splish splosh rivers and thick oozy mud - squelch squelch!