The Story Time Reading Spine

The idea is that the books in this spine are read aloud to children during story time each day. Some of these books are woven into our English and Class Reading Curriculum. The books have been selected with the following in mind:

- To provide children with opportunities to use their imagination to explore new ideas,
 visit new places and meet new characters.
- To improve children's well-being and empathy.
- To help them to understand their own identity, and give them an insight into the world and the views of others.
- To increase children's understanding of a diverse world. Many of the books in this spine will be used as P4C stimulus and to help us promote equality, diversity and British Values.
- To ensure children deepen their knowledge of books, including classic literature.
- To encourage children to think about how the story or theme links to other books they have read as well as the curriculum.
- To help children make links to their own experiences of the world.
- To expose children to a wide range of authors. that they might not otherwise meet.

The books we have chosen for this spine are likely to be:

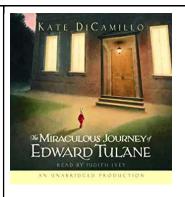
- Multi-layered and capable of being read at different levels
- Books that deal with important themes
- Books in which language is used in lively and inventive ways
- Books by a range of diverse, skillful and experienced children's authors
- Traditional and contemporary 'classics' of children's literature
- · Stories with different cultural settings

Year 3	Book Choice	Why this?	If you liked this, read this!
Where Magic Grows by Onjali Q Rauf	ONTALI Q. RAUF Where Magic Stows Unique Tales of Wonder and Enchantment administry Alexymens.	This is a collection of stories written by Onjai Q Rauf (children will read other books by this author in higher year groups). Whilst gently conveying messages of hope and the power of love and compassion, this book is also entertaining and complete with beautiful full-colour illustrations.	The Invisible by Tom Percival
The Owl who was afraid of the Dark by Jill Tomlinson	Jill Tomlinson The OWI Who was Afraid of the Dark	This story explores overcoming fear and how things aren't always what they seem. It deals with themes of worry, kindness and accepting help.	The Worst Witch by Jill Murphy
Charlotte's Web by E B White	E.B.WHITE Charlottes Web	Exposing our children to a children's classic literature and extracts from this book are studied within reading lessons.	The Curious Lobster by Richard W. Hatch.
Talk like a River by Jordan Scott	I TALK LIKE A RIVER JORDAN SCOTT SYDNEY SMITH	Helps children understand how difficult it must be for children with speech and language problems. Confidence building is a key theme.	Hello Star by Vashti Harrison

It's a No Money Day by Kate Milner	From the award-winning author of My Name is Not Refugee It's a No- Money Day Klass Flagge Free VRA Instrator Asards	Highly relevant to the current economic climate. Highlights the use of foodbanks and talks of how to have fun for free.	My Name is not Refugee by Kate Milner The Mega Magic Hair Swap by Rochelle Humes
The Snowman by Micheal Murpergo	* The * Snowman A series for superity shares the first start of a superity shares the first start of a superity shares the first start of a superity shares that start of a superity shares that start of a superity shares that start of a superity share	This is a well-known story by Raymond Briggs that has been re-imagined by Michael Morpurgo. Children are exposed to many of his books throughout their time here and are able to recognise similar themes.	Animal Stories by Michael Morpurgo
The Smeds and The Smoos by Julia Donaldson	Smeds and Smoos Authorities and Smoos	Exposing the children to poetry through a popular author's reimagining of Romeo and Juliet.	The Highway Rat and other books by Julia Donaldson
Great Women who Saved the Planet by Kate Pankhurst	CREAT CREAT CREAT CONTROL CONT	Non-fiction text which celebrates women from around the world and highlights the climate change crisis.	Great Women Who Changed the World by Kate Pankhurst

Year 4	Book Choice	Why this?	If you liked this, read this!
The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame	Renneth THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS	Classic literature and extracts are studied within reading lessons. It explores themes linked to greed, arrogance and social class.	Winnie the Pooh by A A Milne and other children's classics
Beaver Towers by Nigel Hinton	BEAVER TOWERS NIGEL HINTON THustrated by Peter Rush	An adventure story that links in with other genres studied in English and reading lessons. Children can relate to the main character who is a young boy seeking adventure and facing adversity.	The rest of the Beaver Towers series!
The Great Food Bank Heist By Onjali Q Rauf	Onjali Q. Rauf The Lood GREAT BANK HELS T Illustrated by Elisa Paganelli	This story highlights issues around equality and poverty. It gives a child's eye view of dealing with struggles of food poverty. Children in all year groups read a story by Onjali Q Rauf, who highlights current issues in society in a child friendly way.	A Bike Like Sergio's by Maribeth Boelts

The Miraculous Journey			
of Edward Tulane by			
Kate DiCamillo and			
Judith Ivey			

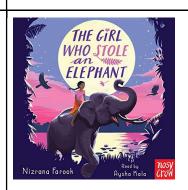


Children read extracts from this text in their reading lessons. This story has key SMSC themes and links to our curriculum Golden Threads (care and love and treating people with respect).

Kindness Is My Superpower

by Alicia Ortego

The Girl who Stole an Elephant by Nizrana Farook

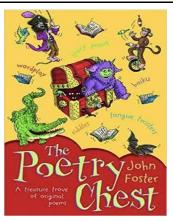


All about journeys and adventure. This story is written by Nizrana Farook, who was born and raised in Colombo, Sri Lanka, and the beautiful landscapes of her home country find their way into the stories she writes.

Other books by Nizrana Farook such as:

- -The Boy who Met a Whale
- -The Girl who Lost a Leopard
- -The Boy who Saved a Bear

The Poetry Chest by John Foster

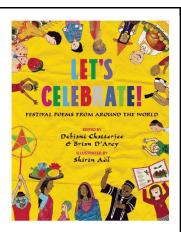


A good variety of poems - some studied in English and reading lessons.
There is a great section of poems about 'the world' which supports children's understanding of geography.

100 Best Poems for Children edited by Roger McGough, illustrated by Sheila Moxley.

Year 5	Book Choice	Why this?	If you liked this, read this!
A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens	tristmas * arol**	Extracts from this classic text are studied in our reading lessons. This well-known story also links to the year 5 history topic on The Victorians and helps support us in teaching our moral themes about inequality and generosity.	Christmas stories that have a classic feel to them: The Box of Delights by John Masefield and The Dark is Rising by Susan Cooper (both full of magic, mystery, folklore and tradition).
Wonder by R J Palacio	R.J. Palacies	This story supports children with understanding the importance of kindness. It is rich with themes such as anti-bullying, compassion, acceptance, and empathy. It supports P4C themes: morals, choices and dilemmas.	Auggie and Me by R J Palacio, a companion book to Wonder (three new chapters from three different characters). The Boy Who Lost His Face by Louis Sachar
Holes by Louis Sachar	LOUIS SACHAR LOUIS SACHAR LOUIS SACHAR LOUIS SACHAR LOUIS SACHAR	This story is about a boy falsely accused of a crime. Themes injustice, perseverance, and determination link to our RSHE and R.E curriculum.	Small Steps by Louis Sachar, a follow-up on two of Stanley's fellow campers a couple of years after Holes.

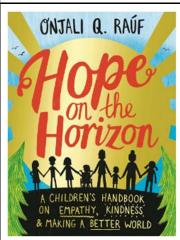
Let's Celebrate!By various authors



An anthology of poems, which celebrate festivals all over the world. From Chinese New Year to Carnival, Thanksgiving to Holi, and from Purnima to Diwali. These poems link to our autumn theme 'captivating cultures'.

Confetti by Pat Mora

Hope on the Horizon by Onjali Q Rauf



This is a handbook for empathy and fighting for the things that matter, featuring many beloved fictional characters children will recognise, as well as thoughts from a host of inspiring people. Children read books by Onjali Q Rauf in all year groups.

Heroes by Marcus Rashford

Year 6	Book Choice	Why this?	If you liked this, read this!
The Breadwinner by Deborah Ellis	THE BREADWINNER DEBORAH ELLIS	A novel which gives an insight into the everyday difficulties faced by Afghani families and the levels of bravery and doggedness required to survive.	Other stories from The Breadwinner series.
The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe by C. S. Lewis	C. S. Lewis The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe Book Linthe Chronoles of Nama	It's a children's classic. Children study WWII in history, so the evacuation links in with this historical era. Themes in the story such as bravery, loyalty link into our SMSC and RSHE curriculum. This book is used within our English curriculum too.	Other books from the Chronicles of Narnia series.
Street Child by Berlie Doherty	STREET CHILD BERLIE DOHERTY "A brilliant and moving book." Julia Gidding	This is a modern classic. The children study the Victorian era during year 5 and look at some extracts within shared reading too, so then they read the full story when they are in year 6 and use it as a stimulus for writing.	Far from Home by Berlie Doherty

		T	
The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Q Rauf	BOY O BACK CLOSS	This book supports the children with their own experiences of the world and of diversity. They read other books by this author, who is also a human rights activist. This story was influenced by her personal experiences working at the border camps in Calais.	The Star Outside My Window by Onjali Q 'Rauf
Room 13 by Robert Swindells	Robert Swindells Figure 1. The state of the	This is a story about a residential trip. As the children usually go on a residential trip in Year 6, it links well to their own experiences.	The Frighteners by Pete Johnson
Coming to England by Floella Benjamin	FLOELLA BENJAMIN An inspiring Irve Story Gelebrating the Windrush Generation Coming to England	A similar storyline to The Boy at the Back of the Class about the triumph of hope, love, and determination. This is an inspiring true story of Baroness Floella Benjamin moving from Trinidad, to London as part of the Windrush generation, to the House of Lords.	We Sang Across the Sea: The Empire Windrush and Me by Benjamin Zephaniah