



The Literature Spine: information for staff

This document is a suggested reading list for the school. It has been collated, with staff recommendations, to deliberately expose the children to inspirational authors, a range of genres and key texts that we would want them to have encountered by the time they leave primary education. Certain books have been included to fit with the appropriate English topics for your year group. Reading with your class, whether in the English lesson or as class novel time, should occur **daily**.

In Key Stage One, you will read many more books than your list during the year, as your books tend to be thinner and quicker to get through. However, use the recommended books as your core list, which should be read completely and studied at in depth. Your children should move up to the next year group being able to confidently retell at least ten stories.

Key Stage Two, obviously your books are thicker and will take a while to read so there are fewer core texts. Each book has been linked to each English unit although you may change the order in which they are read. The children should be able to understand and retell the outline of each of the core books. Although you may not get through the entire list it is important that junior children continue to have daily class novel time!

Alongside the core books is a list of other suggested texts and additional texts, not seen on your list, may of course be read with your class. There may be a text that you would love to do but it's underneath a different year group heading. Just ask their previous teacher if they got around to reading it/next class teacher if they don't mind if you do it that year and then pass up a note of what you did read (including ones that perhaps weren't on that list).

Please be sensitive when selecting the next text for your class, bearing in mind their personal likes/dislikes and current home life circumstances. Even though it is recommended, this does not mean it is appropriate for your current cohort.

The literature spine will be available for parents to view on the school website and you may like to remind parents of that via your phase newsletters so that they can access the books their child will be studying and maybe even suggest that they share books / encourage their child to read other books by the same author or a book from the other suggested books.

The Literature Spine should always remain a working document - excellent new books are always been written and discovered and so may change year on year.

To be reviewed July 2019

The 5 Plagues of the Developing Reader

(source: Reading Reconsidered by Doug Lemov)

There are five types of texts that children should have access to in order to successfully navigate reading with confidence.

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| Archaic language | The vocabulary, usage, syntax and context for cultural reference of texts over 50 or 100 years old are vastly different and typically more complex than texts written today. Students need to be exposed to and develop proficiency with antiquated forms of expression to be able to hope to read James Madison, Frederick Douglass and Edmund Spenser when they get to college. |
| Non-linear time sequences | In passages written exclusively for students—or more specifically for student assessments— time tends to unfold with consistency. A story is narrated in a given style with a given cadence and that cadence endures and remains consistent, but in the best books, books where every aspect of the narration is nuanced to create an exact image, time moves in fits and start. It doubles back. The only way to master such books is to have read them time and again and to be carefully introduced to them by a thoughtful teacher or parent. |
| Narratively complex | Books are sometimes narrated by an unreliable narrator- Scout, for example, who doesn't understand and misperceives some of what happened to her. Or the narrator in Edgar Allan Poe's "The Tell-Tale Heart" who is a madman out of touch with reality. Other books have multiple narrators such as Faulkner's As I Lay Dying. Others have non-human narrators such as the horse that tells the story in Black Beauty. Some books have multiple intertwined and apparently (for a time) unrelated plot lines. These are far harder to read than books with a single plot line and students need to experience these as well. |
| Figurative/Symbolic text | Texts which happen on an allegorical or symbolic level. Not reflected in Lexiles; critical forms of text complexity that students must experience. |
| Resistant texts | Texts written to deliberately resist easy meaning-making by readers. Perhaps half of the poems ever written fall into this category. You have to assemble meaning around nuances, hints, uncertainties and clues. |



Thameside Primary School Literature Spine 2019-20

| Foundation Stage | Term 1 | Term 2 | Term 3 | Term 4 | Term 5 | Term 6 |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| English topics | Term theme: Marvellous Me! Traditional and fairy tales Well known stories labels, list and captions | Term theme: Harvest Instructions, persuasion/ invitations, poetry, explanations, letters | Term theme: Dinosaurs and fossils Recounts, labels/ captions, non-fiction features | Term theme: Pirates Persuasive writing Letters Explanations | Term theme: Minibeasts and growing Recounts, labels, list and captions, stories with repeated language | Term them: Animals and Habitats Poetry and Nonsense poems Letters, Descriptions, Invitations |
| Core books to refer to in English lessons | Marvellous me by Lisa Bullard. What makes me a me? By Ben Faulkes and David Tazzyman Elmer by David McGee | The enormous turnip by Alexi Tolstoy My very first nativity story by Lois Rock The jolly Christmas postman by Janet and Allan Ahlberg | Nonfiction books on Dinosaurs and fossils. Stone girl, bone girl by Laurence Anholt. Chinese new year book. | Pirate pete books. Letter writing – a selection of non-fiction letters. The Easter Story by Lois Rock. | Jasper and the beanstalk Nonfiction books about minibeasts and growing. | Where do I live – non-fiction books about habitats. Walking through the jungle by Julie Cacomé The tiger who came to tea by Judith Kerr Where forest meets the sea by Jeannie Baker. |
| Book to be read to class by CT/TA | Super El by David McGee Elmer again by David McGee Elmer and the wind by David McGee I am absolutely too small to go to school. Wanda's first day by Mark Sperring | Julia Donaldson. The Gruffalo Room on the Broom The smartest giant in town. Monkey puzzle A squash and a squeeze. Scarecrows wedding | Shirley Hughes Dogger Alfie Lucy and tom at the seaside. When we went to the park. | Traditional tales Jack and the bean stalk little red riding hood. Three little pigs Three billy goats gruff. Hansel and Gretel. | Eric Carle Brown bear The tiny seed The bad tempered lady bird The very lonely firefly A house for Hermit crab Pancakes Pancakes | Beatrix potter. Peter Rabbit Jemima puddle-duck. |
| Books to support topics | You are Here by Oliver Jeffers Selection of Elmer books. Goldilocks and the three bears. | Selection of Autumn poetry. Pumpkin soup by Helen cooper. Pipkin pepper by Helen Cooper. Oliver's vegetables by Vivian French. | Chopsticks by | Pirate pete by nick sharratt. Pirates love underpants by Claire Freedman. The pirate cruncher by Jonny Duddle. The pirates of scurvy by Jonny Duddle. | Love you forever by Robert N Munsch. Pass the Jam Jim by Kaye Umansky. | Owl babies Lost and found by Oliver Jeffers Avocado baby by John Burningham. |



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| Year 1 | Term 1 | Term 2 | Term 3 | Term 4 | Term 5 | Term 6 |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| English topics | Traditional Tales (patterned language and character study) Instructions | Performance Poetry – Michael Rosen Classic books (story structure and description) | Information texts Picture Books (settings) | Persuasive Text Poetry – 4 Seasons | Classic books Instructions | Recounts Information Text |
| Core books to refer to in English lessons | Focus - The Three Little Pigs. Also to include a range of Traditional Tales to build children's knowledge. | One Snowy Night – Nick Buterworth Jolly Postman – Janet and Alan Alburg The Michael Rosen Book of Nonsense | Whatever Next by Jill Murphy. | Mr Gumpy's outing by John Burningham | Where the wild things are by Maurice Sendak | Tea In The Sugar Bowl, Potato In My Shoe |
| Book to be read to class by CT/TA | Compilation of Beatrix Potter books. | A First Poetry Book by Pie Corbett and Gaby Morgan | Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown | A Children's Treasury of Milligan: Classic Stories and Poems by Spike Milligan | George's Marvellous Medicine by Roald Dahl | The Queen's nose by Dick King-Smith |
| | In addition to a range of books taken from the book corner or bought in from home – often selected by the children to develop their interest and love of reading. | | | | | |
| Books to support topics | The Gingerbread Man, The Three Billy Goats Gruff Jack and the Beanstalk, Goldilocks Where's My Teddy by Jez Alborough My Friend Harry by Kim Lewis Rosie's Walk by Pat Hutchins Lost and found by Oliver Jeffers The Tiger Who Came to Tea by Judith Kerr Peepo by A.Alburg Dogger by Shirley Hughes See in side houses long ago – Rob Lloyd Jones Lost in the Toy Museum by David Lucas The Velveteen Rabbit by Margery Williams Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge by Mem Fox Reading detectives- Kerry Rensham The House that Once Was- Julie Fogliano & Lane Smith Toys and Games History snap shot – Sarah Ridley Belonging- Jennie Baker Major Glad, Major Dizzy- Jan Oke and Ian Nolan MY MAP BOOK Map Skills KS1- Pam Robson The Once Upon a Time Map Book Big Book: Take a Tour of Six Enchanted Lands | Grandfather and I by Helen Buckley We're going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen Brown Bear, Brown Bear by Eric Carle Polar Bear, Polar Bear by Eric Carle | Beegu by Alexis Deacon Avocado baby by John Burningham Aesop's Fables Creation tales | Six Dinner Sid by Inga Moore How to catch a star by Oliver Jeffers The Shopping Basket by John Burningham Doodling Daniel by Joyce Dunbar | Owl babies by Martin Waddell Handa's Hen by Eileen Browne Handa's Surprise by Eileen Browne | |



Thameside Primary School Literature Spine 2019-20

| Year 2 | Term 1 | Term 2 | Term 3 | Term 4 | Term 5 | Term 6 |
|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| English topics | Classic books Instructions | Persuasion | Journey stories Recounts | Non-chronological reports | Information Texts: Seaside | Traditional Tales Poetry |
| Core books to be used as the focus of English lessons | The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch by Ronda & David Armitage | One Snowy Night by M Christina Butler The Hodgeheg by Dick King-Smith | The Tunnel by Anthony Browne (Journey Stories) Diary of a Killer Cat by Anne Fine (Recounts) | The Flower by John Light | Selection of non-fiction books from Library. | A Children's Treasury of Milligan: Classic Stories and Poems by Spike Milligan (Poetry) |
| Books to support Guided Reading | Start Up History: The Great Fire of London (GFoL) Great Fire of London by Stewart Ross (GFoL) Eliot Midnight Superhero by Anne Cottringer | When the Rain Comes by Malika Favre (Kenya) | The Journey Home by Frann Preston-Gannon (Journey Stories) Mary Seacole, Florence Nightingale and Edith Cavell (Comparing People from the Past) by Nick Hunter (Topic) The Zoo by Anthony Browne (OR TERM 3) | The Flower by John Light (Plants) Somebody Swallowed Stanley by Sarah Roberts | Wave by Suzy Lee (The Seaside) Seaside Holidays by Stewart Ross (The Seaside) The Sea Book by Charlotte Milner | |
| Book to be read to class by CT/TA | Selection of classic picture books, including those chosen from the book corner by the children. The Lighthouse Keeper's Tea by Ronda & David Armitage The Lighthouse Keeper's Breakfast by Ronda & David Armitage The Lighthouse Keeper's Surprise by Ronda & David Armitage Katie Morag by Mairi Hedderwick | Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl Selection of books chosen from the book corner or brought in from home by the children. | Diary of a Killer Cat by Anne Fine (Recounts) Diary of a Worm by Doreen Cronin (Recounts) Dear Greenpeace by Simon James (Recounts) Diary of a Spider by Doreen Cronin (Recounts) Selection of books chosen from the book corner or brought in from home by the children. | Selection of books chosen from the book corner or brought in from home by the children. | Selection of books chosen from the book corner or brought in from home by the children. | The Snail and the Whale by Julia Donaldson (Poetry) Gingerbread Man (Traditional Tales) Little Red Riding Hood (Traditional Tales) The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith (Traditional Tales) |
| Books to support topics | Start Up History: The Great Fire of London Vlad and the GFoL by Kate Cunningham | When the Rain Comes by Malika Favre | About Animals by Claire Llewellyn Mary Seacole, Florence Nightingale and Edith | Somebody Swallowed Stanley by Sarah Roberts Planet Patrol by Mick Manning and Brita Granstrom (L) | About Minibeasts by Claire Llewellyn Wave by Suzy Lee Seaside Holidays by Stewart Ross The Sea Book by Charlotte Milner | |



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| | <p>Toby and the GFoL by Margaret Nash</p> <p>The Great Fire of London by Emma Adams</p> <p>Ways into History: GFoL</p> | <p>The Big Wide-Mouthed Toad Frog (and other stories) (L)</p> <p>Handa's Hen by Eileen Browne (L)</p> <p>Handa's Surprise by Eileen Browne (L)</p> <p>Mama Panya's Pancakes by Mary and Rich Chamberlin (L)</p> <p>Selection of non-fiction books from Library.</p> | <p>Cavell (Comparing People From the Past) by Nick Hunter</p> <p>Florence Nightingale: Mother of Modern Nursing by Professor Carol Alexander</p> <p>Selection of non-fiction books from Library.</p> | <p>Why Should I Save Energy? (L)</p> <p>10 Things I Can Do to Help My World by Melanie Walsh (L)</p> <p>What If? Book About Recycling by Nick Manning and Brita Granstrom (L)</p> <p>George Saves the World by Lunchtime by Jo Readman (L)</p> <p>Whadayamean by John Burringam (L)</p> <p>All the Wild Wonders by Wendy Cooling (L)</p> <p>Selection of non-fiction books from Library.</p> | |
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| Year3 | Term 1 | Term 2 | Term 3 | Term 4 | Term 5 | Term 6 |
|--|--|---|--|--------|--|--------|
| English topics | Quest (setting and action) /Poetry | Explanation text, instructions | Tale of Fear (suspense and build up) Description, newspaper Poetry | | Persuasive text, recount, letter | |
| Core books to be used as the focus of English lessons | The Golden Rope | Until I met Dudley by Roger McGough | The Iron Man by Ted Hughes | | Charlie and The Chocolate Factory Roald Dahl | |
| Books to support Guided Reading | Stone Age Boy by Satoshi Kitamura | Building Boy by Ross Montgomery When I Was A Child By Andy Stanton | Changes in Britain: The Roman empire (GR) The Land of Neverbelieve by Norman Messenger (GR) | | Chocolate: Bean to bar (Collins Bug Cat) (N/F) * | |
| Book to be read to class by CT/TA | The Abominables by Eva Ibbotson Hansel & Gretal by Anthony Browne | How to Train your Dragon by Cressida Cowell | Julias Zebra: Rumble with the Romans by Gary Northfield The Happy Prince (Picture book) | | The Great Chocoplot by Chris Callaghan | |
| Books to support Topic | The Pebble in my pocket – by Meredith Hooper (fiction & non fiction) – science link The Secrets of Stonehenge by Mick Manning | The Bad Moon Stick by Lemony Snicket | Deadly Animals (Science) The Time Travelling Cat and the Roman Eagle by Julia Jarman I Was A Rat by Philip Pullman Read me: A poem for every day of the year Mirror by Jeannie Baker (Art) | | Return (wordless picture book) Mr Bunny’s Chocolate Factory by Elys Dolan | |



Thameside Primary School Literature Spine 2019-20

| Year 4 | Term 1 | Term 2 | Term 3 | Term 4 | Term 5 | Term 6 |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| English topics | Finding/losing tale (description and openings) | Recounts – newspaper reports Instructions | Portal Tale (Dilemma and dialogue) | Argument Persuasion | Warning Tale (Action/suspense and openings) | Non chronological report Poetry |
| Core books to be used as the focus of English lessons (& read to the class) | Aladdin and the Enchanted Lamp by Philip Pullman | First News | Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe by C S Lewis | Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe by C S Lewis | The Islands of Fandye by Ollie Locke | Range of Report texts |
| Books to support Guided Reading (order may vary) | Leon and the Place Between by Grahame Baker-Smith (Picture Book) Range of Anglo Saxon non-fiction books | Beowulf by Michael Morpurgo Range of Anglo Saxon non-fiction books | The Snow Queen by Han Christian Anderson | The Sea Monster by Chris Wormell (Picture Book) Range of Viking non-fiction books | Firebird by Saviour Pirotta (Picture Book) | On the Origins of Species Charles Darwin by Sabina Rodeno |
| Book to be read to class by CT/TA | Shield Maiden by Stuart Hill | Anglo Saxon Boy by Tony Bradman | How to Train your Dragon by Cressida Cowell | Aesop's Fables by Michael Morpurgo | Bad Kids by Toni Robinson The World's Worst Children by David Walliams | 101 Poems for Children by Carol Anne Duffy |
| Books to support topics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglo Saxons and Vikings (Usbourne) • Shield Maiden by Stuart Hill • Saxon Tales by Terry Deary • Anglo Saxons/Vikings Topic Boxes (Library) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saxon Tales by Terry Deary • Anglo Saxons/Vikings Topic Boxes (Library) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglo Saxons/Vikings Topic Boxes (Library) |  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DT: Viking Longship by Mick Manning and Brita Granstrom • Anglo Saxons/Vikings Topic Boxes (Library) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Area Topic Boxes (Library) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Area Topic Boxes (Library) |



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| Year 5 | Term 1 | Term 2 | Term 3 | Term 4 | Term 5 | Term 6 |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|---|
| English topics | Tale of fear | Persuasive | Flashback narrative | Discussion | Recount - diary | The Highwayman – narrative poetry |
| Core books to be used as the focus of English lessons | Uncle Montague's Tale of Terror by Chris Priestley | Uncle Montague's Tale of Terror by Chris Priestley | Running Wild by Michael Morpurgo | Running Wild by Michael Morpurgo | The Wolves in the Walls by Neil Gaiman | The Highwayman by Alfred Noyes |
| Books to support Guided Reading | Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson | Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson | Who let the Gods out? By Maz Evans | Greenling by Levi Pinfold | The Unforgotten Coat by Frank Cottrell Boyce | The Egyptian Cinderella by Shirley Climo |
| Books to read to the class | Private Peaceful by Michael Morpurgo | This is Greece by Miroslav Sasek | Shapeshifters Tales from Ovid Metamorphoses by Adrain Mitchell | There May be a Castle – by Piers Torday | Secrets of a Sun King by Emma Carroll | Secrets of a Sun King by Emma Carroll |
| Books to support topics | Rivers A River The Rhythm of the Rain Project Geography Rivers Our World of Water | Greece Books from the Ancient Greece Topic box Newspaper articles | Ancient Greece So You Think You've Got it Bad? A Kid's Life in Ancient Greece A Visitor's Guide to Ancient Greece + books from the Ancient Greece Topic box | Local Area Books that cover local issues in Caversham/ its history | Egyptians Books from the Ancient Greece Topic box | Egyptians Books from the Ancient Greece Topic box |



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| Year 6 | Term 1 | Term 2 | Term 3 | Term 4 | Term 5 | Term 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| English topics | Quest/defeating the monster | Non chronological reports | Character Flaw | Biography Newspaper Reports | Finding Tale | Discussion and persuasion Advert |
| Core books to be used as the focus of English lessons (& read to the class) | Letters from the lighthouse by Emma Carroll | | Wonder by R.J.Palacio | Holes by Louis Sachar | | Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo |
| | The Eagle by Alfred, Lord Tennyson (Poem) | In Flanders Fields by John McCrae (Poem) | | | | |
| Books to support Guided Reading | Once by Morris Gleitzman (class set – use in guided reading) | The Arrival by Shaun Tan | Skellig by David Almond | Unforgotten, by Tohby Riddle | The Executioner's Daughter by Jane Hardstaff | The Island, by Armin Greder |
| Books to be read to the class | Our Castle by the Sea, by Lucy Strange | The Silver Sword by Ian Serrailer | Northern Lights by Philip Pullman | Beetle Boy, by M.G. Leonard | A Monster Calls, by Patrick Ness | The Boy Who Sailed the Ocean in an Arm Chair by Lara Williamson |
| Books to support topics | WW2 Topic boxes – Children in WW2 (Conference room) The Harmonica, World War 2 Factfile, Evacuation! It's Official, print from World War 2 Memorial, by Gary Crew & Shaun Tan Rose Blanche by Ian McEwan, Roberto Innocenti | WW2 Topic boxes – Children in WW2 (Conference room) 12 things to know about INVASIVE SPECIES by Jamie Kallio Archie's War by Marcia Williams Number The Stars by Lois Lowry Carrie's War by Nina Bawden When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit by Judith Kerr The Secret Life of Bletchley Park by Sinclair McKay | Mountain climates Topic boxes - library From Hereabout Hill – The Giants Necklace by Michael Morpurgo The Flower Man The Hobbit by J R R Tolkein Bubble Boy, by Stewart Foster | Tudor Topic boxes (Conference room) I am Malala by Malala Yousafzaia and Patricia McCormick The Worst Children's Jobs in History, by Sir Tony Robinson Explorer, by Katherine Rundell | Aztec/ Mayan cultures Topic box (Conference room/ library) The Lie Tree by Frances Hardinge The Viewer, by Gary Crew & Shaun Tan My Name is Mina by David Almond (sequel to Skellig) | Local Area – resources and books (conference room) Origin of Species, retold and illustrated by Sabina Radeva Fact Tracker – Tsunamis and other Natural Disasters By Mary Pope and Natalie Pope Boyce Half Man, by Michael Morpurgo |



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