

'Books crowbar the world open for you – every book you read makes your imagination larger' Katherine Rundell

"Early reading, whether it is in a parent's lap, on the carpet of a classroom, or in a snug reading corner, gently but indelibly imprints upon us the mould from which will cast a lifetime of communication in the world. "

Alex Quigley – Closing the Reading Gap 2020.

Welcome to the Caldecote Reading Spine. We update it each academic year. Teachers and pupils have contributed to some of the changes. This year we have added a collection of wordless books which encourages imagination and inference skills using pictures alone.

It is important to stress that the recommended books for each year group are **ideas to help guide** the children towards age appropriate books. We have included three levels of books dependent on your child's reading skills. We have considered many aspects when compiling this list:


- There is a picture book **(in red bold)** included in each year group. As your child becomes a more competent reader their decoding and fluency skills improve. Sometimes, in KS2, picture books can be judged as an 'easy read' however these books often carry complex themes which help develop children's inference and prediction skills. They are invaluable for discussion both within and out of the classroom setting.
- **(D)** Books with specific diversity theme,
- **(W)** Wordless books.
- Research has consistently shown that there is a gender gap in reading attainment with girls outperforming boys. Our list ensures that there are books that will encourage and enthuse both genders.
- We have included 'aspirational' reads. Books that are challenging including language and themes.
- We have used some titles recommended by educational experts such as Pie Corbett, The Book Trust, Books for Topics and prestigious children's book award nominations.
- Links to our 'cultural capital' – exposing our children to different cultures and childhood experiences.
- A reading rich school embraces all our community. We need to work together to inspire our children to engage in the love of reading.

CALDECOTE READING SPINE 2023-2024

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YEAR 2

Year 2 is a transition year where children are going from emergent readers learning to decode and to acquiring more skills such as fluency and accuracy. The books included are to illustrate the range of reading skills our Y2 children have but also to challenge them, exposing them to new words and themes. The fiction books have been chosen to inspire, engage and enthuse our children on their literature journey through our primary school. It is imperative that children share the wonders of illustrations and key themes often included in picture books.

Yellow Class Year 2 Reading Spine Class Books & Novels	
Autumn 1 – Discover Cambridge Fitz and Will The Cambridge Cats  A chase in time – Sally Nicholls  Monty mouse of Cambridge Town	Autumn 2 – Rio The Great Kapok Tree – Lynne Cherry  Quest – Aaron Becker  The Dog That Saved Christmas – Nichola Davies
Spring 1 – Skittles, Scooters and Scalextric Lost in the toy museum – David Lucas  A most peculiar toy factory – Alex Bell Paddington Bear: The Original Story of the bear from Darkest Peru – Michael Bond Rosie Revere Engineer - Andrea Beatty Tom's Midnight garden - 	Spring 2 – Plants Bloom – Annie Booth and Robyn Wilson-Owen  The Extraordinary Gardener – Sam Boughton Charlotte's Web – EB White  Diary of a Fly – Doreen Cronin 
Summer 1 – Great Fire of London The Great Fire of London – Emma Adams  Vlad and The Great Fire of London – Kate Cunningham 	Summer 2 – Location, Location, Location The Boy who Grew Dragons – Andy Shepherd.  The Spectacular City – Theresa Heapy 
Year 2 Reading Spine Children's recommended Book List	
Fitz and Will The Cambridge Cats – The May Ball 	Amazing Grace – Mary Hoffman & Caroline Binch  Captain Underpants – Dav Pilkey  The Magic Faraway Tree – Enid Blyton
Emily Brown and the Thing – Cressida Cowell  The Twits – Roald Dahl 	Lost – Eli Fountain  Emily's legs – Dick King Smith  The Dog who Lost his Bark- Eoin Colfer 
The Great Paper Caper – Oliver Jeffers  Horrid Henry – Francesca Simon  The Truth Pixie – Matt Haig 	Meerkat Mail – Emily Gravett  The Giraffe and the Pelly and Me – Roald Dahl  The 13 Storey Tree House – Andy Griffiths & Terry Denton 

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Year 2 Non-Fiction Books	
Autumn 1 - Discover Cambridge Cambridge Punting - Pip Barker  Little people, Big Dreams – Stephen Hawkins  A city through time – Steve Noon 	Autumn 2 – Rio Amazon Adventure - Lonely Planet Kids 
Spring 1 – Skittles, Scooters and Scalextrix The Story of Inventions – Catherine Barr and Steve Williams  Toys and Games – Sally Hewitt	Spring 2 – Gardeners World Little People, Big Dreams series  Just Like Me - Louise Gooding  The Book of Bees – Piotr Socha Bee Book - Charlotte Milner 
Summer 1 – Great Fire of London The Great Fire of London – Emma Adams 	Summer 2 –Location, Location, Location Street Through History - Steve Noon 
Poetry	
Classic poem to learn: Nature Trail Poem – Benjamin Zephaniah	
I Am The Seed That Grew The Tree – Fiona Waters 	