

*'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 4

Green Class - Year 4 Reading Spine	
Class Novels	
<b>Autumn 1 – Rivers</b> <b>Why The Whales Came</b> – Michael Morpurgo <b>Big Blue Whale</b> – Nichola Davies	 
<b>Autumn 2 – Mixtures and Potions</b> <b>Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone</b> – JK Rowling <b>Macbeth</b> – Andrew Matthews & Tony Ross	 
<b>Spring 1 – Volatile Earth</b> <b>The Firework Maker's Daughter</b> – Philip Pullman <b>Escape From Pompeii</b> – Christina Balit	 
<b>Spring 2 - Romans</b> <b>Varjak Paw</b> – SF Said <b>Empire's End</b> – Leila Rasheed	 
<b>Summer 1 – Nibblers and Nashers</b> <b>Demon Dentist</b> – David Walliams	
<b>Summer 2 – Ancient Greece</b> <b>Greek Myths for Young Children</b> – Heather Amery <b>Return</b> – Aaron Becker	 
Year 4 Reading Spine	
Children's recommended Book List	
<b>The Creakers</b> – Tom Fletcher <b>The Witches</b> – Roald Dahl <b>Winnie Spells Trouble</b> – Laura Owens	  
<b>The Chicken Gave it to Me</b> – Anne Fine <b>Series of Unfortunate Events</b> – Lemony Snicket <b>Rotten Romans</b> <b>Cut Throat Celts</b> <b>Terry Deary</b>	  
<b>The Akimbo Adventures</b> – Alexander McCall Smith <b>The Legend of Podkin One Ear</b> – Kieran Larwood	 
<b>The Whisperer</b> – Nick Butterworth <b>Birthday Boy</b> – David Baddiel <b>Wed Wabbit</b> – Lissa Evans	  
<b>At the Beach</b> – Roland Harvey <b>When the Mountains Roared</b> – Jess Butterworth <b>The Elephant Thief</b> – Jane Kerr	  
<b>Cloud Tea Monkeys</b> – Mal Peet & Elsbeth Graham <b>Midnight for Charlie Bone</b> – Jenny Nimmo	 

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## Year 4 Non-Fiction Books

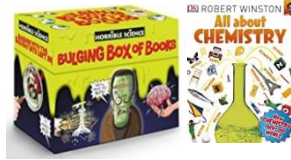
### Autumn 1 – Mixtures & Potions

**All About Chemistry –**

Robert Winston

**Bulging Box of Books –**

Horrible Science



### Autumn 2 – Rivers

**The Where On Earth Book of**

**Rivers – Susie Brooks**

**Horrible Geography Raging**

**Rivers – Anita Ganeri**



### Spring 1 – Romans

**So You Think You've Got It**

**Bad – Chae Strathie**

**You Wouldn't Want To Be A**

**Roman Gladiator – John**

Malam



### Spring 2 - Volcanoes

**Everything Volcanoes and**

**Earthquakes – Kathy Furgang**

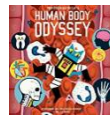
**The Science of Natural**

**Disasters – Alex Woolf**



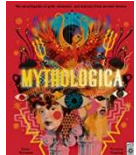
### Summer 1 – Animals and Humans

**Human Body Odyssey – Dominic Walliman**



### Summer 2 – Ancient Greece

**Mythologica – Dr S.P Kershaw**



## Poetry

**Classic poem to learn: Jabberwocky – Lewis Carroll**

**Big Book of Bad Things – Michael Rosen**

