

'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.





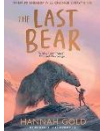
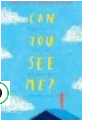
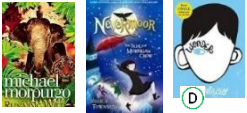
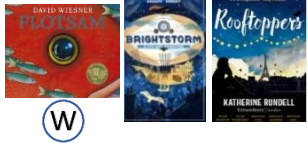


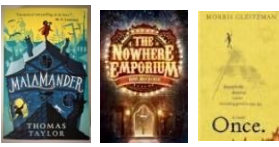

It is important to stress that the recommended books for each year group are **ideas to help guide** the children towards age appropriate books. We have included three levels of books dependent on your child’s reading skills. We have considered many aspects when compiling this list:

- 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 2025-2026


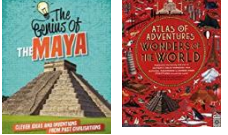




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YEAR 6

Silver Class - Year 6 Reading Spine	
Class Novels	
<p>Autumn 1 – Blood and Heart Wild Boy – Lloyd Jones</p> 	<p>Autumn 2 – Mexico Onyeka and the Academy of the Sun - Tola Okogwu</p> 
<p>Spring 1 – Globalisation Boy in the Tower – Polly Ho-Yen</p> 	<p>Spring 2 – Gallows and Handcuffs Orphans of the Tide – Struan Murray</p> 
<p>Summer 1 – Darwin The Last Bear – Hannah Gold Journey – Aaron Becker</p> 	<p>Summer 2 – Shang Dynasty Can You See Me? - Libby Scott & Rebecca Westcott</p> 
Year 6 Reading Spine	
Children's recommended Book List	
<p>Running Wild – Michael Morpurgo Nevermore – Jessica Townsend Wonder – RJ Palacio</p> 	<p>Flotsam – David Weisner Brightstorm - Vashti Hardy Rooftoppers – Katherine Rundell</p> 
<p>Troofriend – Kirsty Applebaum Floodland – Marcus Sedgwick</p> 	<p>Northern Lights – Philip Pullman The Island at the End of Everything – Kiran Millwood Hargrave</p> 
<p>Malamander – Thomas Taylor The Nowhere Emporium – Ross MacKenzie Once – Morris Gleitzman</p> 	<p>A Monster Calls– Patrick Ness Asha and the Spirit Bird - Jasbinder Bila Evernight – Ross Mackenzie</p> 

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Year 6 Non-Fiction Books	
<p>Autumn 1 – Blood and Heart Illumanatomy – Kate Davies Knowledge Encyclopaedia Human Body – DK</p> 	<p>Autumn 2 – Mexico Atlas of Wonders of the World – Ben Handicott The Genius of the Maya - _Izzi Howell</p> 
<p>Spring 1 – Globalisation The World Around Me – Charlotte Guillain A World Full of Journeys and Migrations – Martin Howard and Christopher Corr</p> 	<p>Spring 2 – Gallows and Handcuffs Past in Pictures: A Photographic View of Crime and Punishment – Alex Woolf Aspects of History Beyond 1066: Crime and Punishment Through the Ages – Ben Hubbard</p> 
<p>Summer 1 – Darwin The Variety of Life – Nicola Davies The Origin of Species – Sabina Ravida</p> 	<p>Summer 2 – Shang Dynasty Why did the Shang Write on Turtles? - Tim Cooke</p> 
Poetry	
<p>Classic poem to learn: Life Doesn't Frighten Me – Maya Angelou</p>	
<p>On The Move – Michael Rosen Inside Out & Back Again – Thanhha Lai</p> 