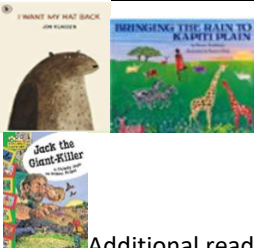
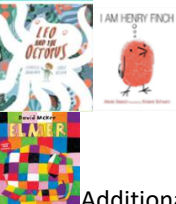
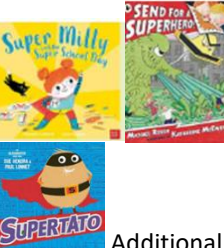
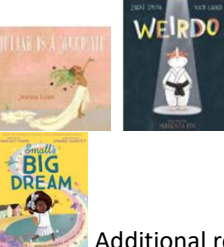
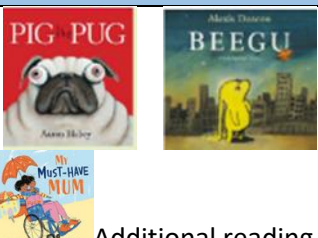


GODOLPHIN READING SPINE 2025-2026

"Books crowbar the world open for you- every book you read makes your imagination larger."
Katherine Rundell.

EYFS / Year 1

Autumn 1	
 <p>Additional reading</p>	<p>I want my Hat Back. This tale has a structured plot and repetitive language which children can join in with while reading. Links to animals, habitats and how to treat others.</p> <p>Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain. This book has strong link to African geography, wildlife and understanding concepts such as drought. Links to Kenya, rain, desert weather and animals.</p>
Autumn 2	
 <p>Additional reading</p>	<p>Leo and the Octopus. The story encourages children to be curious and reflect on their relationship with the natural world. Links to friendship and underwater worlds.</p> <p>I am Henry Finch. Through this story, children can learn the importance of mindfully recognising their own thoughts and learn strategies of self-regulation and care. Links to celebrating oneself.</p>
Spring 1	
 <p>Additional reading</p>	<p>Super Milly. This upbeat and very funny picture book about the power of kindness will inspire children to help others and have confidence in themselves. Links to superheroes, heroes, kindness, powers, talents, community, positive female role models.</p> <p>Send for a Superhero. This super-hero, comic genre which will engage children with its colourful style and characters. The fast-paced story provides an ideal opportunity to discuss the attributes of a hero and everyday heroes in our communities.</p>
Spring 2	
 <p>Additional reading</p>	<p>The Sea Saw. This text has strong PSHE links, exploring themes around how people grow and cope with change and loss.</p> <p>The Extraordinary Gardener has strong links to science as young children learn about important concepts such as seed dispersal, ecosystems, and the life cycle of a flower. This text also explores the importance of community.</p>
Summer 1	
 <p>Additional reading</p>	<p>Julian is a mermaid. This story provides a context to discuss creativity, fashion and expression with children and is also a space where gender stereotypes and identity can be sensitively explored. Links to the art and DT curriculums can be made.</p> <p>Weirdo. This charming story by two revered authors teaches children to be proud of who they are. With strong PSHE links, the text will open discussions around individuality and help develop empathy as children recognise differences between themselves and others.</p>
Summer 2	
 <p>Additional reading</p>	<p>Pig the Pug has strong PSHE links, providing an engaging space to discuss sharing, collaborating, and looking after each other. It can also lead to discussions about pets and taking care of living things.</p> <p>Beegu. The story lends itself to discussions about the importance of welcoming, respecting, and including others. Alexis Deacon is a significant, award-winning author and illustrator.</p>

GODOLPHIN READING SPINE 2025-2026

*"Books crowbar the world open for you- every book you read makes your imagination larger."
Katherine Rundell.*

YEAR 2/3

Autumn 1		Autumn 2	
 <p>The Barnabus Project The Fan Brothers Cooperation, courage, acceptance, following your dreams, freedom, friendship.</p>	 <p>Goldilocks Lauren Child, Anthony Brown, Leigh Hodgkinson iconic fairy tale. Lauren Child CBE is a prolific, significant award-winning author/illustrator. Anthony Browne CBE , award-winning, iconic author and illustrator a modern setting. Leigh Hodgkinson Award-winning sequel to the classic fairy tale Goldilocks and the Three Bears.</p>	 <p>The First Drawing Mordicai Gerstein he story makes strong historical links, as well as exploring the awe and wonder – and sometimes fear and apprehension – around first-time discoveries. The First Drawing will inspire children to become artists themselves and provides a wonderful context for discussing dreams and desires to do something new and different.</p>	 <p>Stone Age Boy Satoshi Kitamura Strong historical links. Travel 20,000 years into the past and discover what life as a caveman was like in this prehistoric picture book by a prodigiously talented artist/author.</p>
Class Reads The Boy Who Grew Dragons , White Fox, Cave Girl, Iron Man, Lost Species (NF)			
Spring 1		Spring 2	
 <p>If all the world were.. Joseph Coelho Represents BAME characters and families authentically. Joseph Coelho is an award-winning children's author and poet who is also the Waterstones Children's Laureate for 2022-2024.</p>	 <p>The Tin Forest Jenny Ward Strong links with the topics of the environment, recycling and protection of the rainforest which are expressed through imagery presented in the illustrations.</p>	 <p>The Zebra's Great Escape Katherine Rundell Debut picture book by multi-award winning and highly-acclaimed children's author, Katherine Rundell. A fantastic way to introduce younger readers to her signature storytelling style filled with adventure and empathy</p>	 <p>House held up by trees Ted Kooser Explores change in nature and the power of nature to reclaim spaces. Links well with class read and geography topic.</p>
Class Read The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane Mystery and Magic of Trees			
Summer 1		Summer 2	
 <p>Arthur and the Golden Rope Joe Todd-Stanton Explore the meanings of new vocabulary in context and be able to draw links with other areas of the curriculum. Direct link to History topic</p>	 <p>How to be a Viking Cressida Cowell a humorous and engaging story that introduces young readers to the world of Vikings in a relatable way. The book features a likeable, yet flawed protagonist, who challenges typical Viking stereotypes and encourages readers to embrace their individuality. A great choice for promoting discussion about character, bravery, and overcoming fears. Prequel to how to train your dragon, first in a series.</p>	 <p>Stone Girl Bone Girl Laurence Anholt Complex plot, wide range of vocabulary, non linear time sequence. Direct link to science topic. The book highlights Mar Anning's passion for fossils, her significant discoveries, and her perseverance in a field dominated by men. Exposes children to a strong female role model in science and history, while also introducing them to the fascinating world of paleontology.</p>	 <p>Midnight Feasts AF Harrold. Drawing on a rich and broad range of writers, classic and modern, poet A.F. Harrold has crafted a poetry anthology that celebrates every facet of food culture. A delicious and quirky collection of poems old and new, skilfully curated and perfectly paced.</p>
Class read How to train your dragon Cressida Cowell		Krindlekrax Phillip Ridley	

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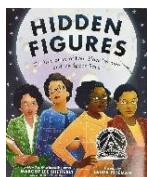
Katherine Rundell.

Year 4/5/6

Autumn 1 and 2

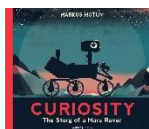
Focus Texts

Hidden Figures (Margot Lee Shetterly)



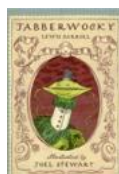
An inspiring true story that encourages KS2 pupils to stay curious about science, history, and the important contributions of overlooked individuals. The book helps pupils feel connected to real-life role models and promotes kindness by highlighting teamwork, perseverance, and breaking down barriers.

Curiosity – The Story of the Mars Rover (Markus Motum)



Curiosity sparks students' natural wonder about space, science, and discovery. Told from the perspective of the Mars rover, the book encourages curiosity not just as a trait, but as a driving force for learning, innovation, and connection with the world beyond Earth.

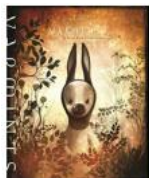
Lewis Carroll's *Jabberwocky*



A playful and imaginative poem that encourages students to be curious about language, meaning, and interpretation. Despite its use of nonsensical words, the poem demonstrates how structure, context, and imagination help us make sense of unfamiliar language.

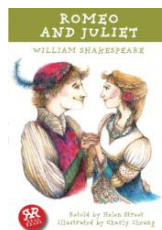
Class Reads: *Brightstorm* (Vashti Harding) and *Letters from a Lighthouse* (Emma Carroll)

Spring 1 and 2



Varmints (Helen Ward)

Varmints encourages students to be kind, connected, and curious about the world around them. Through its powerful imagery and quiet message, it highlights the impact of human actions on nature and the importance of protecting what is fragile. The story fosters empathy and invites discussion about environmental responsibility.

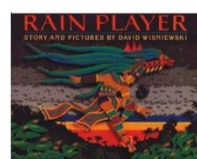


Romeo and Juliet (William Shakespeare)

Romeo and Juliet allows students to engage with Shakespeare's timeless themes. Kindness through empathy for characters' struggles, fostering compassion for the consequences of hatred and miscommunication. Approaching the text with curiosity opens students to explore unfamiliar language, historical context, and cultural values, nurturing a desire to ask deeper questions about love, loyalty, and identity. By emphasizing connection, pupils relate the play's themes to their own lives and communities, understanding how ancient stories still resonate today.

Class Reads: *Cogheart* (Peter Bunzl), *The Girl who became a Tree* (Joseph Coelho) and *Overheard in a Tower Block* (Joseph Coelho)

Summer 1 and 2



RainPlayer (David Wisniewski)

Rain Player introduces students to Mayan culture through a powerful myth about courage, respect, and learning from mistakes. Using the values of **Kind**, **Curious**, and **Connected**, students are encouraged to show empathy, ask questions about different cultures, and make links between ancient stories and their own lives. This supports deeper understanding and appreciation of diverse perspectives.



The Promise (Nicola Davies)

The Promise inspires students to be kind, connected, and curious about their role in shaping a better world. Through a story of transformation and hope, it shows how small acts—like planting seeds—can lead to powerful change. The book encourages empathy and environmental awareness, making it ideal for discussions on caring for people, places, and the planet.

Class Reads: *Wonder* (RJ Palacio) and *Who let the Gods out* (Maz Evans)