

New Marston Primary Reading Spines

"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.

This spine is designed to do two things: one, let you know what books each year group will read as part of their English lessons; the second is to share some of the recommended reads that experts have made (The Book Trust, The National Literacy Trust, educational researchers - such as Pie Corbett or Doug Lemov - and recognised award nominees like the Carnegie Award). It is important to stress that the recommended books for each phase (EYFS, KS1, LKS2 and UKS2) are ideas to help guide the children towards age-appropriate books. As an aside, there is conscious thought given to the children and their lives. These books have been selected to reflect the cultural capital of the children as well as who they are. We hope that children will recognise themselves in the books that they read.

In the recommended reads and the class books, there is at least one picture book included in each year group. As your child becomes a more competent reader, their decoding and fluency skills improve. In KS2, picture books can be judged as often carrying complex themes which help develop children's inference and prediction skills. They are invaluable for discussion both within and out of the classroom setting. We have also tried to recommend short chapter books in KS1 and some poetry and non-fiction texts for each phase.

Research has time and again shown a clear link between a child who reads for pleasure and success in life, 'Readers are more engaged politically, and more likely to become involved in their communities.'

- Cherry Gand Vignoles A 2020

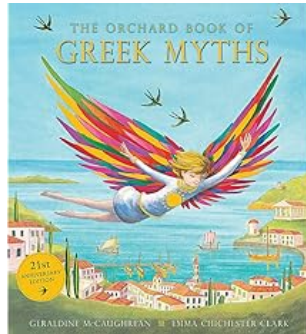
We also hope that, as time goes on, there will be a way of having parents recommend books as well. Watch this space for how that may be done.

Year 4 Reading Spine
Class Books

Autumn one

Orchard Greek Myths (Geraldine McCaughrean and Emma Chichester Clark)

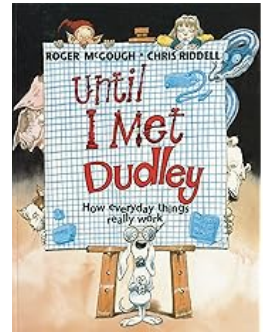
Featuring all of the best-known stories, including Theseus & the Minotaur, Heracles, Daedalus & Icarus, The wooden Horse and Pandora's Box. Retold by master storyteller, Geraldine McCaughrean, with full colour artwork throughout, this is an essential for every child's bookshelf.



Autumn Two

Until I Met Dudley (Roger McGough and Chris Riddell)

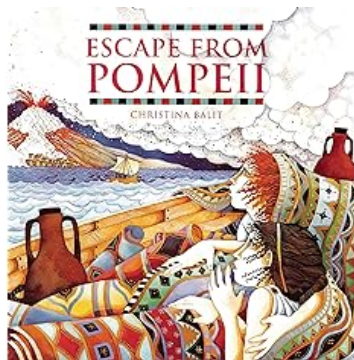
Have you ever wondered how a toaster works? or a fridge-freezer, or a washing-up machine? In this fun-filled book of how things work, Dudley, the techno-wizard dog, provides the answers. Roger McGough's delightfully ingenious text and Chris Riddell's striking illustrations take children from the furthest realms of fantasy into the fascinating world of technology.



Spring One

Escape from Pompeii (Christina Balit)

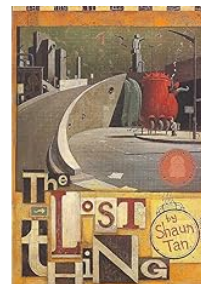
Tranio, like most Roman boys, likes to watch whatever is going on: tradesmen selling their goods, ships unloading their exotic cargoes, politicians making speeches in the forum. But one hot August day a very different scene unfolds. The ground begins to shake, the sky to darken. People run gasping for air.



Spring Two

The Lost Thing (Shaun Tan)

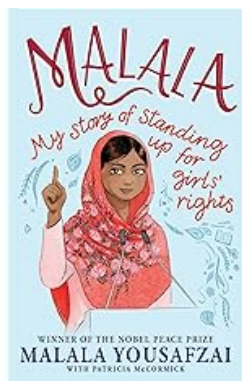
A humorous story about a boy who discovers a bizarre-looking creature whilst out collecting bottle-tops at the beach. Having guessed that it is lost, he tries to find out who owns it or where it belongs, but the problem is met with indifference by everyone else, who barely notice its presence. In spite of his better judgement, the boy feels sorry for this hapless creature, and attempts to find out where it belongs.



Summer One

Malala: My Story of Standing up for Girls' Rights (Malala Yousafzai and Patricia McCormick)

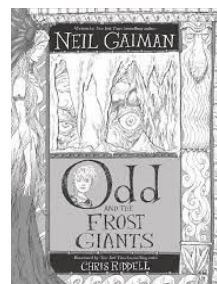
This illustrated adaptation of Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai's bestselling memoir, I Am Malala, introduces readers of 7+ to the remarkable story of a teenage girl who risked her life for the right to go to school.



Summer Two

Odd and the Frost Giant (Neil Gaiman)

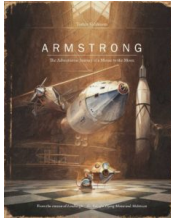
Odd's luck has been bad so far. He lost his father on a viking expedition, his foot was crushed beneath a tree, and the winter seems to be going on forever. But when Odd flees to the woods and releases a trapped bear, his luck begins to change.



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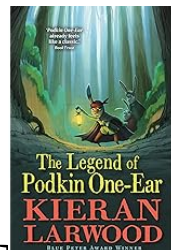
Lower Key Stage Two Reading Spine Recommended Reads

Armstrong: The Adventurous Journey of a Mouse to the Moon - Torben Kuhlmann



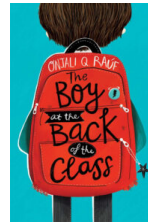
How do you convince your friends that the moon is not made of cheese? Be the first to venture into space and prove it of course! Armstrong is a captivating and compelling work of beauty.

Max and the Millions - Ross Montgomery



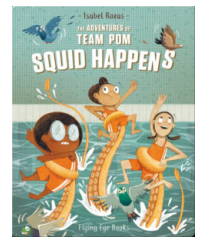
The Legend of Podkin One-Ear - Kieran Larwood & David Wyatt

The Boy at the Back of the Class - Onjali Q. Rauf & Pippa Curnick

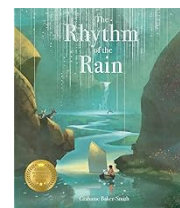


Podkin is the son of a warrior chieftain. He knows that one day it will be up to him to lead his warren and guard it in times of danger. But for now, he's quite happy to laze around. But then Podkin's home is brutally attacked, and the young rabbits are forced to flee.

Squid Happens - Isabel Roxas



The Rhythm of the Rain - Grahame Baker-Smith



Issac plays in his favourite pool on the

The Highland Falcon Thief - M. G. Leonard & Sam Sedgman

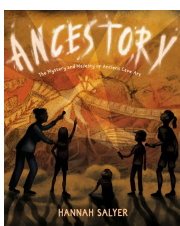


The Taming of the Cat - Helen Cooper
An exquisite story within a story, featuring a mouse who is forced to tell stories to save his life, a cat who plans to eat said mouse as soon as the story is finished, and our protagonist's protagonist, a princess in trouble.



mountainside. As rain starts to fall, he empties his little jar of water into the pool and races the sparkling streams as they tumble over waterfalls, rush through swollen rivers and burst out into the vast open sea.

Ancestry - Hannah Salyer



The Boy who Saved a Bear - Nizvana Farook

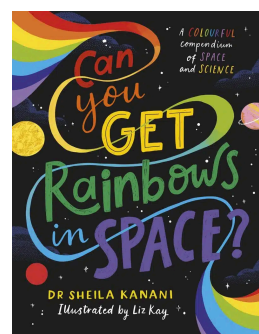
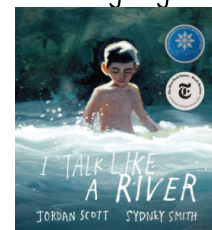


Nuwan works at the library, delivering books. one day, he accidentally takes away a very valuable key that's been hidden inside one of the books, and in the process thwarts the plans of some very dangerous thieves. on the run, he hides in a cave, only to discover in the middle of the night that he is sharing it with a big hairy, terrifying bear!

Brand New Boy - David Almond & Marta Aftes

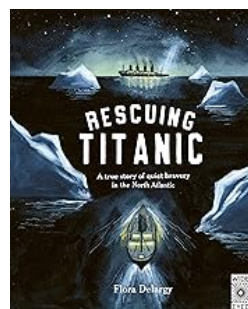


I Talk Like A River - Jordan Scott & Sydney Smith



Can You Get Rainbows in Space? - Dr Sheila Kanani

Rescuing Titanic - Flora Delargy



This engagingly illustrated book tells in thrilling detail the story of the Carpathia, the small vessel which saved hundreds of people from drowning during the sinking of the Titanic.