

Reading Spine – Year 4				
To choose a selection throughout the year – a mix of genres/skills/styles				
Year 4	Book	Plagues of Reading / English	Genre	Why now?
Autumn 1 – children to choose a selection from:	Gorilla	Pathways Writing Unit		
	The Griffin Gate	Complexity of character	Steampunk, fantasy adventure with family at the heart	Good start to the year Enjoyment from previous years
	Stitch Head	Complexity of character	Fantasy story	Great character Open to difference
	Agent Aisha	Complexity of Plot/symbolic	Mystery tale	Coding and critical thinking (computing) Asian Female protagonist
	The Thieves of Ostia – Caroline Lawrence	Complexity of character	Adventure tale	Roman link Good for language building and setting Inquisitive and brave female protagonist in Rome
	How Doth the Little Crocodile – Lewis Carroll	Archaic	Poem	Intro to poetry

	Something Told the Wild Geese	Resistant text	Classic poetry	Short poem about autumn coming
Autumn 2 - children to choose a selection from:	Leon and the Place Between	Pathways Writing Unit		
	The Diary of Iliona	Complexity of character	Fictional Diary	Roman link
	Podkin and the Five Realms Book 2 – Gift of Dark Hollow	Complexity of character	Fantasy tale	Builds suspense and character Build on Y3 Podkin 1
	The Little Match Girl	Archaic	Classic tale	Beautiful story of rich/poor Looking after others
	Guitar Genius – story of Les Paul	Non-linear time sequence	Biography	Inventions and creativity Musical links

Spring 1 - children to choose a selection from:	Escape from Pompeii	Pathways Writing Unit		
	Fantastically Great Women who changed the World	Resistant Text	Non-fiction books	Fits with Local History topic
	The Red Tree – Shaun Tan	Resistant Text	Picture book	Developing imagination and story Reassuring children that bad thoughts do not last forever.
	The Creakers	Complexity of Plot	Adventure book	Builds suspense and tension Enjoyment
	The Velveteen Rabbit	Archaic	English classic fairy-tale	Bond between child and rabbit Beautiful writing and illustration
Spring 2 - children to choose a	Amazing Islands by Sabrina Weiss & Kerry Hyndman, Koji's Island	Pathways Writing Unit		

	The Invisible Tom Percival	Complexity of character	Picture book / moving tale	Tackles the themes of poverty, homelessness and the power of community.
	The Girl Who Speaks Bear – Sophie Anderson	Complexity of character	Adventure Tale	Class book for enjoyment. References to myth and folklore
	I don't like Poetry by Joshua Seigal	Resistant Text	Poetry	Developing language and grammatical terms
	The Molehouse Cat Antonia Barber	Complexity of plot	Picture book about a journey /adventure	Bravery, sacrifice and friendship
	Max and the Millions	Complexity of character	Adventure, plot twists and mystery	Making new friends Imaginative story Fast paced adventure
Summer 1 - children to choose a selection from:	Where the Forest Meets the Sea & Jungle Explorer	Pathways Writing Unit		
	Beowulf	Archaic	Myth / Anglo Saxon tale	Overcoming the monster Link to history topic
	The Mysteries of Harris Burdock	Resistant Text	Picture book	Inspiring Creativity Developing imagination

	Catch a Little Rhyme	Complexity of plot	Poem	Links to summer Rhyming couplets
	The Butterfly Lion – Michael Morpurgo	Non-linear time sequence	Award winning children’s author Journey tale	Friendship. Good language and plot.
Summer 2 - children to choose a selection from:	Blue John	Pathways Writing Unit		
	The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane	Complexity of character	Journey Tale	Emotional and social awareness. Maturity and empathy. Introduction of a variety of new characters in new settings. Beautiful illustrations and language.
	The Girl who Stole an Elephant by Nizrana Faroo	Complexity of character	Adventure and journey through the African jungle	Literacy link
	The Muslims	Resistant text	Story tackling bullying and islamophobia.	Understanding of other cultures.
	Fortunately the Milk Neil Gaiman	Non-Linear time sequence	Time-travel story	Enjoyment and clever ending Fantasy and good language

	Ducks Ditty	Complexity of plot	Poem	From Wind in the Willows Link to summer Beautiful illustrations and prose
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Archaic	Non-Linear time - sequences	Complexity of Narrator	Complexity of Plot/symbol	Resistant texts
How Doth the Little Crocodile	Guitar Genius – Les Paul	The Diary of Iliona	Agent Aisha	Something told the Wild Geese
The Little Match Girl	Butterfly Lion	The Thieves of Ostia	The Creakers	The Red Tree – Shaun Tan
Velveteen Rabbit	Fortunately the Milk	Podkin and the Five Realms	The Molehouse Cat	I Don't Like Poetry
Beowulf		The Invisible – Tom Percival	Catch a Little Rhyme	The Mysteries of Harris Burdock
		The Girl who Speaks Bear	Ducks Ditty	Fantastically Great Women who Changed the World
		Max and the Millions		
		The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane		
		The Girl who Stole an Elephant		

