



# THURSFIELD'S READING CURRICULUM - YEAR A

At Thursfield we understand that reading is fundamental to all learning, and so our reading curriculum has been carefully designed to ensure a progressive curriculum of literature throughout early years to UKS2. Each book has been selected based on its literary merit, where the depths of ideas and vocabulary allow for rich discussion and stimulus for writing. Our curriculum is a collection of contemporary and classic texts, written by a broad and diverse range of authors to ensure the widening of pupils' background knowledge.



Nursery

At nursery, children are exposed to traditional texts such as 'The Gingerbread Man', learning and developing new language from the stories, providing them with the foundations of listening to and talking about the stories they have heard.

In Early Years, children are read to and share a collection of texts which inspire a love for reading. Early Years continue with traditional tales to ensure a secure understanding of the repetitive structure of early reading books; children become able to independently retell these tales with use of story maps and resources.



Early Years

## Autumn Term

### KS1



'Flo of the Somme' by Hilary Robinson

This text has been chosen as a progression from traditional picture books to a text which draws on more complex themes such as war; the text ensures these themes are accessible to children through rhyme and use of illustrations. This text prepares the building blocks to transition from picture books to short chapter books through use of language and ambitious vocabulary.

Key Themes: **War**, **Courage**, **Adventure**

### LKS2

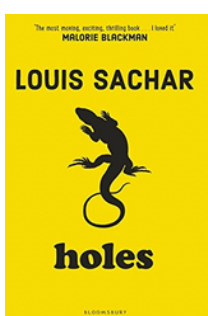


'The Boy Who Grew Dragons' by Andy Sheppard

Offering short chapters yet high-level, contextual vocabulary, this text provides the opportunity for children to build upon their knowledge of key themes such as courage whilst also exploring the fantasy elements of the text. The text provides children with the secure understanding of how authors can represent family and magic in preparation for their Spring Term text.

Key Themes: **Friendship**, **Family**, **Courage**, **Magic**

### KS2



'Holes' by Louis Sachar

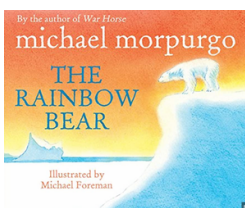
Containing timeless themes of friendship and perseverance, 'Holes' has been chosen as a year 5/6 text to due its complex structure; interconnected narratives and shifting timelines provide readers with the opportunities to explore the complexities of human experience and the lasting effect of choices. The story also contains more mature themes such as characters who struggle with injustice and racism, offering PSHE and History links.

Key Themes: **Friendship**, **Courage**, **Race and Injustice**



## Spring Term

### KS1

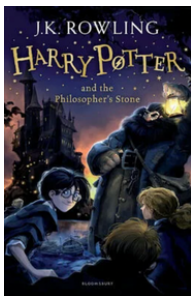


#### 'The Rainbow Bear' by Michael Morpurgo

This text has been chosen as an introduction to a classic author. Containing important themes, such as empathy, kindness and courage, 'The Rainbow Bear' builds on children's understanding of language and vocabulary, using illustrations to aid comprehension. The story also raises discussion about the ethics of keeping animals in zoos, evolution and adaptation.

Key Themes: **Friendship, Courage, Kindness**

### LKS2

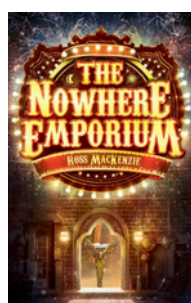


#### 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' by J.K. Rowling

An epic battle between good and evil, this text introduces children to world-building in a coming of age story. In preparation for their study of Holes in year 5/6, children are exposed to cause and consequence, linking key events and their effects through the entirety of the text.

Key Themes: **Family, Friendship, Magic, Adventure**

### KS2



#### 'The Nowhere Emporium' by Ross Mackenzie

This contemporary text builds on themes previously explored in year 3/4 with Harry Potter such as the fantasy elements woven throughout. 'The Nowhere Emporium' also links with the text 'Holes', due to the similarity in interconnected narratives and shifting timelines.

Key Themes: **Friendship, Courage, Magic, Bullying**

## Summer Term

### KS1



#### 'George's Marvellous Medicine' by Roald Dahl

A classic text by a well-loved author chosen as an introduction to a chapter book for key stage 1. Containing familiar themes such as friendship and kindness which children are able to discuss and draw comparisons between previously studied texts.

Key Themes: **Friendship, Kindness, Consequences of Negativity**

### LKS2



#### 'Secrets of a Sun King' by Emma Carroll

A historical text chosen for its increasing complexity of themes along with the following of key historical events - the discovery of Tutankhamen's tomb. This text offers rich language, PSHE links and also builds on children's background knowledge of key events in history.

Key Themes: **Friendship, Family, Trust and Secrets**

### KS2



#### 'The Final Year' by Matt Goodfellow

This contemporary text has been chosen for its contrast in structure to any other texts pupils have previously studied; written entirely in free verse, this novel uses high level language, enabling readers to really connect with the protagonists intense feelings of pain, anger and love. Illustrations accompany the text, allowing for inference and thought-provoking discussion.

Key Themes: **Family, Friendship, Bullying**

### Preparing Pupils for KS3

Our canon of books prepares children for the next step in their academic career; pupils entering KS3 will be studying classic literature such as 'Oliver Twist' and 'Midsummer Night's Dream', making it imperative that our reading curriculum creates confident readers who are able to access challenging texts such as these.

