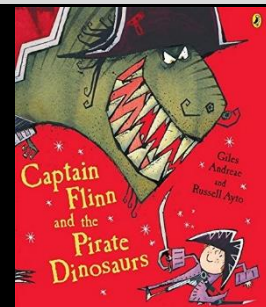
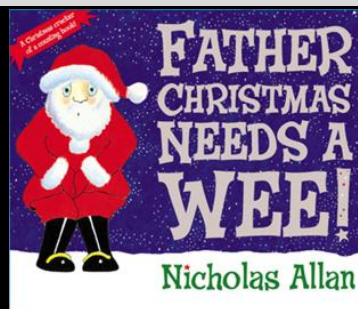
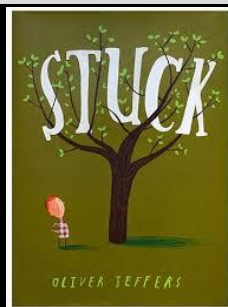


Dear Parents and Carers,

We believe reading regularly at home is one of the most valuable ways your child can make progress across all subjects at school. When reading becomes a pleasure, it can dramatically enrich a child's experiences and set them up for a life that is fulfilled and happy\*.

We've put together another selection of recommended reads that we think your child – with your guidance – might like to choose from if they are stuck for ideas. Perhaps the list could inspire a trip to a bookshop, a library or even a Christmas present...

## Recommendations for Infants



***Stuck***

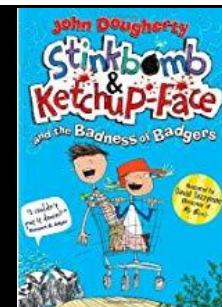
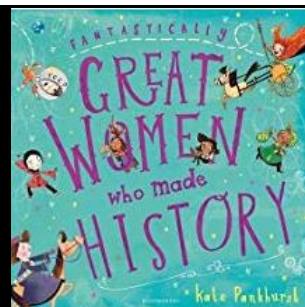
***Father Christmas Needs a Wee!***

***Captain Flinn and the Pirate Dinosaurs***

Oliver Jeffers

Nicholas Allan

Giles Andreae & Russell Ayton



***Oi! Caveboy! Iggy the Urk 1***

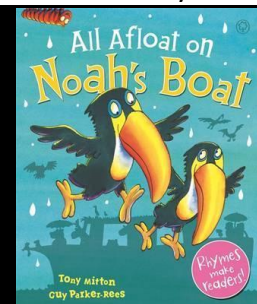
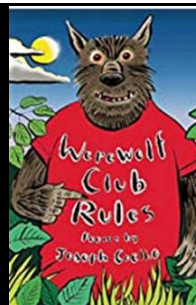
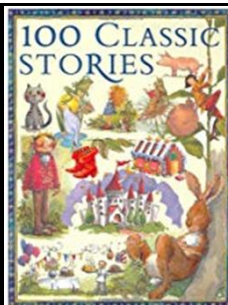
***Fantastically Great Women Who Made History***

***Stinkbomb & Ketchup-Face The Badness of Badgers***

Alan MacDonald & Mark Beech

Kate Pankhurst

John Dougherty & David Tazzyman



***100 Classic Stories***

***Werewolf Club Rules! And other poems***

***All Afloat on Noah's Boat***

Various authors

Joseph Coelho

Tony Mitton

# Staff recommendations...

## **Miss Holder: *Stuck!* by Oliver Jeffers**

*It all began when Floyd got his kite stuck in a tree... The trouble really began when he threw a shoe up to knock the kite loose and that got stuck too, followed by a ladder, a bucket of paint, the kitchen sink, an orangutan and a whale who was in the wrong place at the wrong time. And that was just the start of things.*

*Stuck is a silly kind of book that makes every child smile. Children just can't believe the crazy things Floyd does to retrieve his kite. Just when you think Floyd has a sensible plan, it turns out to be as foolish as his last idea. Every time I read this book to a new class, the children roar with laughter! They just can't believe Floyd and his silly antics. This is a great book to share and giggle at.*

## **Mrs Thompson: *Father Christmas Needs a Wee!* by Nicolas Allan**

*This is a fabulous book for this time of year and I have loved reading this to my class and my boys for many years. At every house Father Christmas eats and drinks the tasty treats that have been left for him and therefore he needs a wee! This is a great counting book and also reinforces recognising numerals to ten. The story also rhymes and it is a very funny book especially if you like toilet humour!*

## **Mrs Stokes: *Captain Flinn and the Pirate Dinosaurs!* by Nicolas Allan**

*Captain Flinn and the Pirate Dinosaurs is a favourite story of my grandchildren. In the story a boy called Flinn goes into a cupboard at school and meets a real-life pirate captain. Then the adventure begins...*

## **Mrs Parsons: *All Afloat on Noah's Boat* by Tony Mitton**

*All Afloat on Noah's Boat is undoubtedly my favourite children's book of all time; it was the first book my son was given as a baby. Guy Parker-Rees' illustrations are so vibrant and energetic combined with the amazing rhythmic words from Tony Mitton. Children will be enthralled by how the pictures come to life through such fantastic language; they'll also be excited by what each page has to offer. This is truly a book of awe and wonder which is fostered throughout each page in a vibrancy that will leave children feeling excited about reading!*

## Mr Munro recommends...

### *Oi! Caveman! Iggy the Urk 1* **by Alan MacDonald & Mark Beech**

*Go back to the stone age with a Neolithic-fun-filled adventure following the adventures of Iggy the Urk as he searches for a rare plant to save his chief, but finds something far more dangerous...*

### *Fantastically Great Women Who Made History* **by Kate Pankhurst**

*A fantastic non-fiction picture book looking at some of history's most famous and influential women. It is beautifully illustrated and excellently researched. The author is the descendant of Emmeline Pankhurst, the original suffragette.*

### *Stinkbomb & Ketchup-Face: The Badness of Badgers* **by John Dougherty**

*A hilarious book following the brother and sister team who try to solve crime with the help of a shopping trolley sidekick. Also there are badgers... bad badgers.*

### *100 Classic Stories* **by various authors**

*This particular volume of stories has excellent retellings of classic and traditional tales. There are many favourite tales and some less well known. This is a brilliant book to use to learn all of the classic tales.*

### *Werewolf Club Rules! And other poems* **by Joseph Coelho**

*Joseph Coelho was excellent at the Bath Children's Literature Festival and this is the collection of poems from him. They are funny, thoughtful and very well written. Excellent for reading out aloud.*

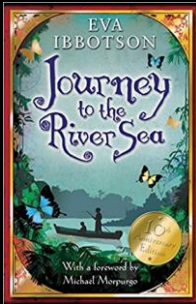
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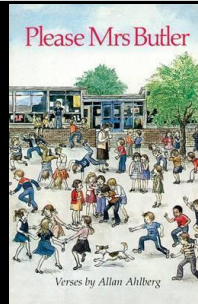
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## Recommendations for Juniors



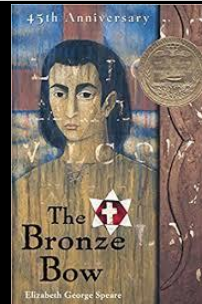
***Journey to the River Sea***

Eva Ibbotson



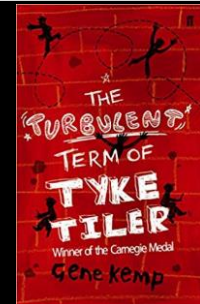
***Please Mrs Butler***

Allan Ahlberg



***The Bronze Bow***

Elizabeth George Speare



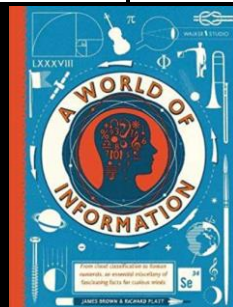
***The Turbulent Term of Tyke Tiler***

Gene Kemp



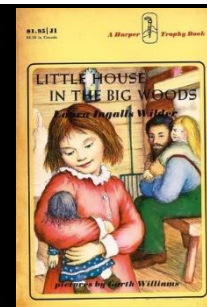
***Murder in Midwinter***

Fleur Hitchcock



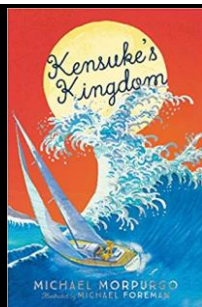
***A World of Information***

James Brown & Richard Platt



***Little House in the Big Woods***

Laura Ingalls Wilder



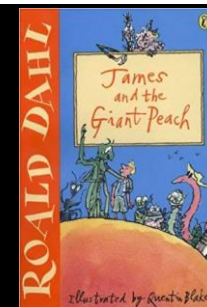
***Kensuke's Kingdom***

Michael Morpurgo



***The Silver Sword***

Ian Serraillier



***James and the Giant Peach***

Roald Dahl

# Staff recommendations...

## **Mrs Edgley: *Journey to the River Seal* by Eva Ibbotson**

*A fabulous tale of adventure and bravery featuring a little orphan girl called Maia as the strong, resourceful and clever main character. Maia's circumstances change dramatically when she is swept from her English boarding school to live with her ruthless and calculating relatives in the Amazon. The characters in the story are easily relatable and portrayed in great depth and complexity. Maia meets many friends and foes upon the way and shows hope and courage in the face of despair.*

*There are elements of joy and fun followed by parts that will have you on the edge of your seat. Will Maia be stuck forever with her greedy relatives? Will she find a way to escape? How will living in the Amazon compare to her life in England?*

*I won't reveal how the story ends, but I highly recommend finding out what happens to Maia and her wicked relatives in the Amazon, how love and friendship carry her through tricky times and how the story ends with poetic justice for all....*

## **Miss Ashby: *Please, Mrs Butler* by Allan Ahlberg**

*This is a fantastic collection of humorous poetry about events in a typical school. It's perfect to dip into and read in short bursts over the holidays. These poems will make you laugh out loud.*

*I read this book so often as a child that I have now memorised a few poems and I find the lines pop into my head during the day at school. Some of my favourite poems are: **Supply Teacher** (rules for what to do when you have a supply teacher); **Headmaster's Hymn** (to be sung) and **Dog in the Playground** (imagine what it would be like to have a dog appear in the playground at St Philip's - complete chaos!).*

## **Mrs Astin: *A World of Information* by James Brown and Richard Platt**

*How much do clouds weigh? Who invented the pencil? How many ways can you tie a knot? This book is full of the answers, presented in stylish infographics. It is perfect for all ages and a great book to share together. It will amuse and intrigue even the most curious minds.*

*I love this book because I can return to it over time and digest its contents bit by bit. This book is truly fascinating and makes me go "aaah!" Also it is a big beautiful, mind-boggling read. All my family enjoy reading it.*

## **Mr Bentley-Taylor: *The Bronze Bow* by Elizabeth George Speare**

*Aimed at the older Junior school children, this book looks at life in Israel in about 30 A.D. through the eyes of Daniel, whose parents were victims of the cruel Romans who occupy Israel with an iron fist. How will he respond? Is revenge possible? Will the Jews be under Roman rule forever? Will Rosh – an outlaw living in the wilderness – lead a rebellion to free Israel? Daniel befriends a brother and sister, Joel and Malthace who are wondering whether Jesus, who preaches peace, might be the answer?*

*This is an excellent work of historical fiction, exploring themes such as friendship, oppression, justice, revenge and hope. Speare's prose is both beautiful and poetic throughout. A great insight into how life must have been under Roman rule.*

## **Mr Richmond: *Murder in Midwinter* by Fleur Hitchcock**

*This book is an exciting, suspenseful thriller for older juniors.*

*Maya takes a photo with her mobile phone of some very suspicious looking characters. They notice her doing it too. When news breaks of a murder, Maya wonders if the people in her photo might be involved – and might be after her!*

*Maya is sent to her aunt's farm as a safe hideout. But is it really safe?*

*Maya is a great character -smart, adventurous and funny- and the story builds up to an exciting finale. This is a light, fast-paced book that would be great to read over the Christmas holiday. The author lives in Bath too!*

## **Mrs Sinclair: *Little House in the Big Woods* by Laura Ingalls Wilder**

*Little House in the Big Woods takes place in 1871 and introduces us to four-year-old Laura, who lives in a log cabin on the edge of the Big Woods of Wisconsin. She shares the cabin with her Pa, her Ma, her sisters Mary and Carrie, and their lovable dog, Jack.*

*Pioneer life isn't easy for the Ingalls family, since they must grow or catch all their own food as they get ready for the cold winter. But they make the best of every tough situation. They celebrate Christmas with homemade toys and treats, do their spring planting, bring in the harvest in the fall, and make their first trip into town. And every night, safe and warm in their little house, the sound of Pa's fiddle lulls Laura and her sisters to sleep.*

*This is the first in the Little House on the Prairie series of books. I loved these books as a child and imagined myself as a pioneer! I really liked Laura; she always seemed very brave. I have re-read these books as an adult and they are still a firm favourite.*

## **Mrs Lye: *Kensuke's Kingdom* by Michael Morpurgo**

*Michael's parents lose their jobs, so they decide to buy a boat and sail around the world. Michael, their son, almost twelve, goes with them and the family dog. During their adventures, Michael is swept off the boat and is washed up on an island. On waking, he finds food and fresh water next to him...he is not alone! Who is watching him? Will he ever see his parents and Stella, his dog, again? A great read – adventure, friendships and history all in one. Enjoy!*

## **Mrs Childs-Evans: *The Silver Sword!* by Ian Serrallier**

*The Silver Sword is a book about three children called Swlf, Edek and Bronia who are searching for their parents in the chaos of the Second World War. They meet an orphan boy called Jan who has a love of animals and is particularly good at stealing! He shows his new friends his most treasured possession, a paper knife - a silver sword – which was entrusted to him by an escaped prisoner of war. They soon discover that this knife belongs to the children's father and together they begin their search for him across the battle fields of Europe.*

*The book was written in 1956 – it is older than me! I remember reading it as a child and being caught up in the drama of the story and the children's friendships and adventures. Well suited to older juniors and those who like war stories full of courage and excitement.*

## **Mrs Coppens: *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl**

*James Henry Trotter lives with his two horrid aunts, Spiker and Sponge. He hasn't got a single friend in the whole wide world. That is, not until he meets the Old Green Grasshopper and the rest of the insects aboard a giant, magical peach! *James and the Giant Peach* was Roald Dahl's first classic novel for children.*

*When Dahl made up *James and the Giant Peach* as a bedtime story for his daughters, Olivia and Tessa, little could he have known that half a century later, millions of parents and children would still be enjoying the story. As a child, this was the first book that I remember sitting and reading for pleasure. I imagined myself in the peach with James and his friends enjoying the many adventures.*

## **Mrs Callow: *The Turbulent Term of Tike Tyler* by Gene Kemp**

*I read *The Turbulent Term of Tike Tiler* (clever use of alliteration, don't you think?) when I was about 10 years old, and it was one of the first books I read where my jaw literally dropped when I came to the twist at the end! For that reason alone it is still one of my favourite books to this day. Yes, it was written a while ago, so there is an element of 'non-PC-ness' about it, but no more or less so than any Enid Blyton book. It is about Tyke and Danny, who are best friends, and the mischievous adventures they get up to at school. Be careful if you check out the reviews on Amazon -some crazy folk give away one of the best twists you will find in literature!! Just read it - I promise you won't be disappointed!*

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