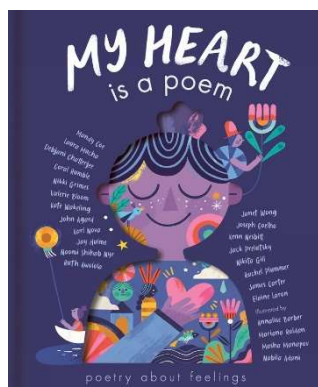


A selection of books especially selected for children in Year 3.

At Ferncumbe, our mission is to promote reading for pleasure and for children to develop a lifelong love of reading. Pupils are encouraged to read and explore a wide range of books in addition to the texts used in class. In this list, we have particularly avoided blockbusters and classics, so that we can include poetry, information texts and inspirational books in which all children can find themselves reflected.

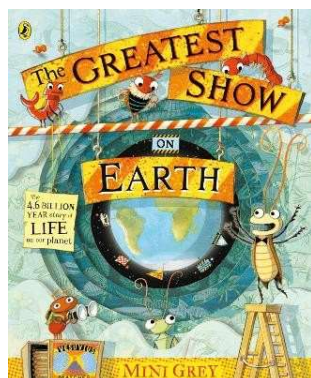
If your child is a very competent reader or has read all of these titles, then try the books from the Year 4 list.



My Heart is a Poem

Author: Various Release Date: 02/02/2023

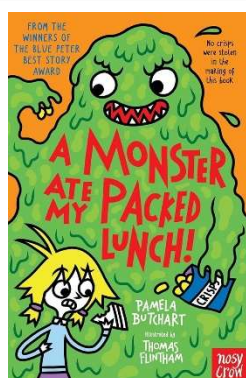
A beautifully illustrated anthology of poems from a dazzling and diverse array of modern poets with an accessible and contemporary look at emotions, feelings and walking in other people's shoes.



The Greatest Show on Earth

Author: Mini Grey Release Date: 28/04/2022

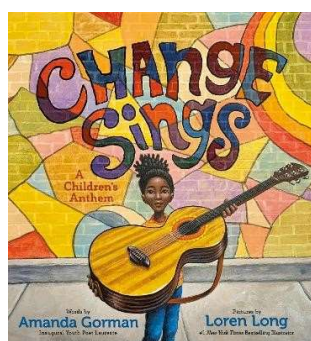
A wonderful tour of the development of our planet and all its inhabitants. This is a visual delight that will have children poring over it as they look at the amazing world in which we live. Each double page spread has so much to read and marvel at on it, that children will find it engrossing and informative in equal measures.



A Monster Ate My Packed Lunch

Author: Pamela Butchart Release Date: 01/07/2021

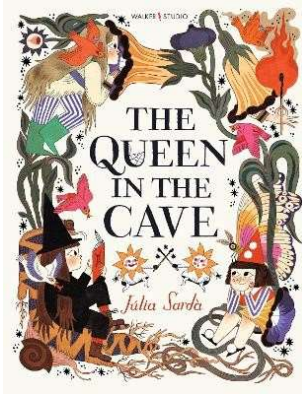
A Monster Ate My Packed Lunch sees Izzy and her class plus their long-suffering teachers heading off on a school activities trip. On the official agenda is raft-building, a nature walk and a ropes course, but things turn out to be a lot more surprising, risky and dramatic. Together the gang has seen off Yetis, Demon Dinner Ladies and Vampire Rats, but can they cope with Camp Mentors' monster? As always in this hugely popular series, the story is laugh-out-loud funny, the humour driven by Butchart's exuberant imagination and perfectly captured child's-eye view of life.



Change Sings

Author: Amanda Gorman Release Date: 21/09/2021

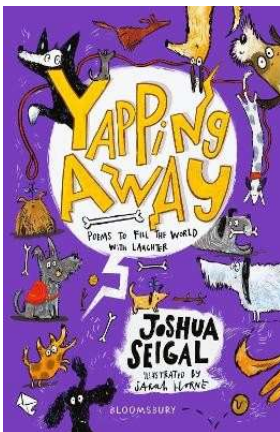
Celebrating unity and hope, this delightful picture book is a joyous anthem to the importance of working together for a better world. As a young girl leads a cast of characters on a musical journey, they learn that they have the power to make changes - big or small - in the world, in their communities and most importantly, in themselves.



The Queen in the Cave

Author: Julia Sarda Release Date: 07/10/2021

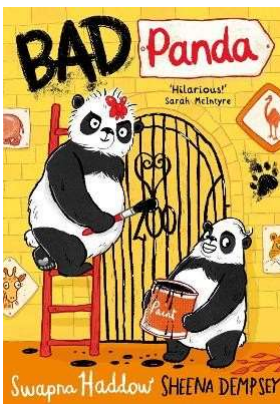
One night, Franca has a dream about a marvellous queen. And now she feels intrigued... Eager to know more about this mystical figure, Franca shares her dream with her two younger sisters. Together, they set out on an enchanting adventure to discover the kingdom of the queen in the cave. This is a riveting and atmospheric picture book that will surprise and enthrall young readers and dreamers.



Yapping Away: Poems by Joshua Seigal

Author: Joshua Seigal Release Date: 19/08/2021

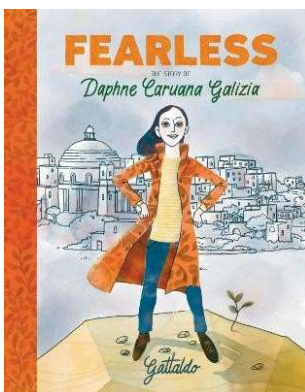
The opening poem in Joshua Seigal's sparkling new collection invites readers to 'fill the world with words', and he does a very good job of doing just that in poems that represent his audience's world perfectly. Here are poems about classrooms, playtime, grandparents, chocolate biscuits - all just right to read aloud and deliciously easy to remember.



Bad Panda

Author: Swapna Haddow Release Date: 01/07/2021

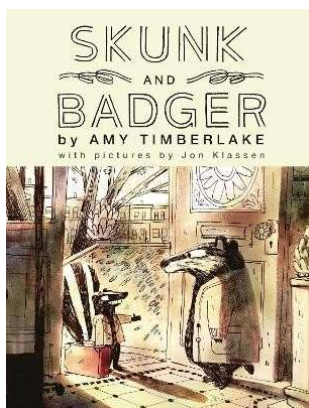
Thoroughly fed up with being treated as the cutest creature in the zoo, Lin plots some serious panda-monium in this comical story. She will do everything in her power to prove that she's the baddest, meanest, most un-cute animal in the zoo.



Fearless: The Story of Daphne Caruana Galizia

Author: Gattaldo Release Date: 08/10/2020

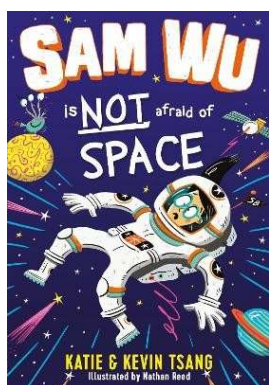
What does it take to be an investigative journalist and discover the truth against all the odds? Daphne Caruana Galizia had a happy childhood with her family on the small island of Malta, loving books, stories and writing. When she became a journalist, she discovered that there was much to write about in her home country. She found that greedy and corrupt politicians were making themselves rich rather than working for the good of their people. Fearlessly, Daphne exposed criminal and dishonest activities. Her enemies responded with threats and insults to discourage her from revealing more. But nothing could dissuade Daphne from fighting for what she believed in.



Skunk and Badger

Author: Amy Timberlake Release Date: 03/09/2020

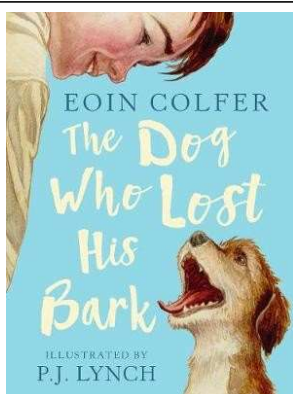
Meet Skunk and Badger. The first time Badger saw Skunk, he thought, 'puny' and shut the front door. There was simply too much slick in this Skunk's stripe. Too much puff in his tail. Also, there'd been that grin, and the way he'd stuck out his paw as if he had been looking forward to meeting Badger. Badger knew what to make of that. He shut the door before the fellow got any ideas... But Skunk is Badger's new roommate, and there is nothing Badger can do about it. When Skunk bursts into Badger's life, everything Badger knows is upended.



Sam Wu is Not Afraid of Space

Author: Katie Tsang & Kevin Tsang Release Date: 06/08/2020

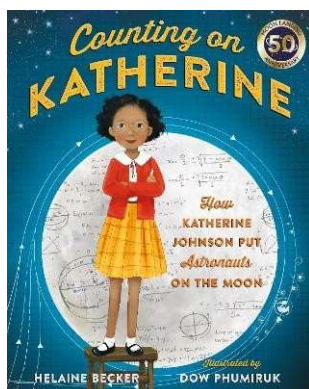
A wonderfully funny and reassuring read for every child staying away from home for the very first time. Common childhood fears dealt with in a hilarious, sensitive and accessible way.



The Dog Who Lost His Bark

Author: Eoin Colfer Release Date: 01/08/2019

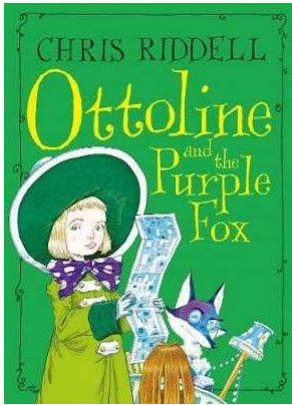
Patrick is delighted to go to stay at his grandparents' house, especially when he is told he can choose a rescue puppy. Oz, the puppy has had a terrible start but Patrick is determined to help, until his own life falls apart and he doesn't love his dog. Colfer explores his subject with an empathy which makes the characters and dilemmas very real.



Counting on Katherine

Author: Helaine Becker Release Date: 16/05/2019

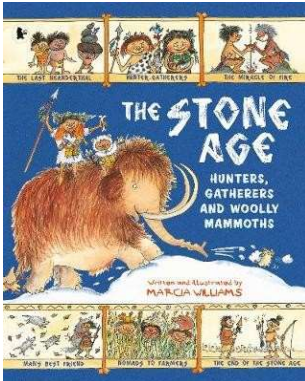
Meet Katherine Johnson, the mathematical genius who helped make the historic Apollo 11 moon landings possible and made sure that Apollo 13 returned home safely when the mission was in critical danger. As a child, Katherine loved to count. Boundless, curious, and excited by calculations, young Katherine longed to know as much as she could about maths, about the universe... From Katherine's early beginnings as a gifted student to her heroic accomplishments as a prominent mathematician at NASA, this is the true story of a groundbreaking African-American woman who went above and beyond what was expected of her in the 1960s, saving lives and making enormous contributions to history.



Ottoline and the Purple Fox

Author: Chris Riddell Release Date: 17/05/2018

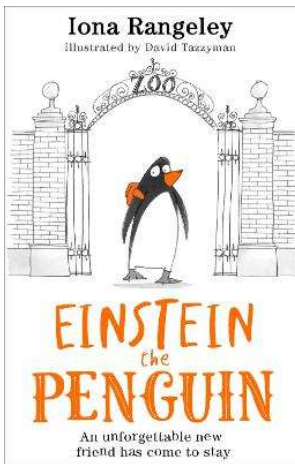
This is the fourth adventure for Ottoline and her best friend Mr Munroe, and it is every bit as enchanting, witty and surprising as the first. The emphasis is on friendship in this story: with her parents still roving the world for interesting items to add to their ever-growing collection of objects, Ottoline holds a dinner party.



The Stone Age Hunters, Gatherers and Woolly Mammoths

Author: Marcia Williams Release Date: 01/10/2017

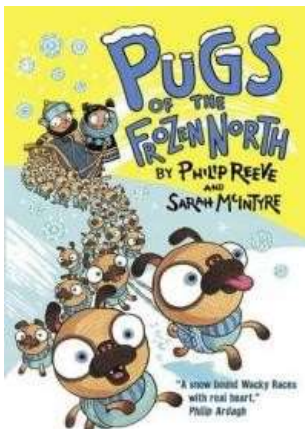
A masterclass in how to make history come to life with trademark cartoon style illustrations and lots of fascinating facts and detail.



Einstein the Penguin

Author: Iona Rangeley Release Date: 11/11/2021

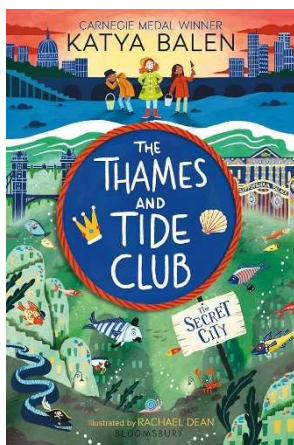
When the Stewarts spend a sunny, frosty December day at London Zoo, they're enchanted by one small penguin. At the delight of young Imogen and Arthur, Mrs Stewart insists the penguin "must come and stay with them whenever he likes." But not one Stewart expects the penguin to turn up at their door that evening, rucksack labelled "Einstein" on his back... The family's new feathered friend helps Arthur to come out of his shell and makes massive demands on Imogen's amateur sleuthing. But together they must find out why Einstein came to them and they must keep away from the mysterious white-coat man. And Einstein can't stay forever, can he...?



Pugs of the Frozen North

Author: Philip Reeve Release Date: 01/09/2016

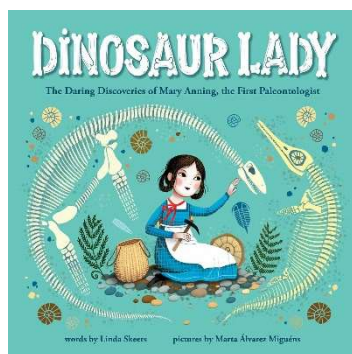
Shen the cabin boy is abandoned by his shipmates when their ship is stranded in the ice. He's completely alone, except for 64 little pugs, part of the ship's cargo! He soon teams up with Shika, a girl desperately seeking dogs to pull her grandpa's sled in the Race to the Top of the World, a once in a lifetime contest to win your heart's desire. The eccentric competitors mean there's something of the Wacky Races about all of this, but amongst the crazy and very entertaining scenes there are surprising notes of poignancy.



The Thames and Tide Club: The Secret City

Author: Katya Balen Release Date: 11/05/2023

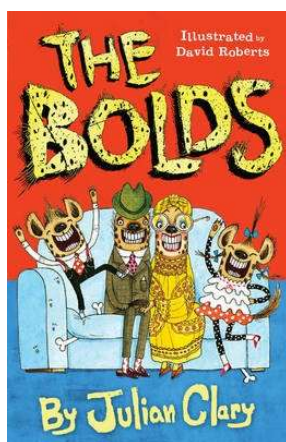
Award winning Katya Balen spins a delightfully funny and fanciful adventure story as mudlarkers Clem and her friends Ash and Zara find something really special hidden in the Thames riverside. Unearthing it sets them off on a madcap and very, very wet adventure in a London that it is at once familiar and totally unrecognisable. Katya Balen's vividly imagined and brilliantly controlled underwater world is perfectly captured in Rachel Dean's delightful illustrations.



Dinosaur Lady

Author: Linda Skeers Release Date: 07/08/2020

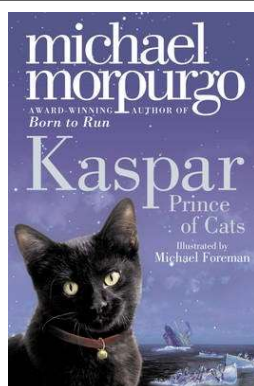
Mary Anning loved scouring the beach near her home for shells and fossils. She fearlessly climbed over crumbling cliffs and rocky peaks, searching for new specimens. One day, something caught Mary's eye. Bones. Dinosaur Bones. Mary's discoveries rocked the world of science and helped create a brand-new field of study: paleontology. But many people believed women couldn't be scientists, so Mary wasn't given the credit she deserved. Nevertheless, Mary kept learning and made discoveries that reshaped scientific beliefs about the natural world.



The Bolds

Author: Julian Clary Release Date: 30/07/2015

The Bolds is a real treat - a funny story with a ludicrous but hugely enjoyable plotline, lots of jokes, some nail-biting moments and wonderful characters. The Bolds live happily in Teddington where Mrs Bold sells hats and Mr Bold writes the jokes for Christmas crackers, jobs for which they are perfectly suited. Hardly anyone knows they are actually hyenas! Their secret nearly comes out when they attract the attention of their grumpy next-door neighbour, but maybe he's got things to hide too.



Kaspar Prince of Cats

Author: Michael Morpurgo Release Date: 07/01/2010

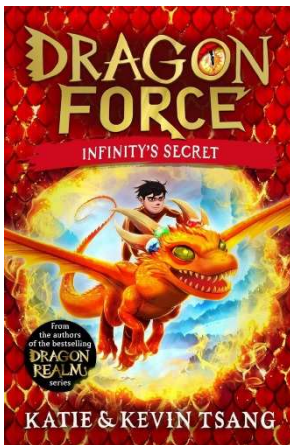
A wonderfully emotional but heart-warming tale. Brilliantly interwoven in historical fact at the time of the sinking of the Titanic is the story of Kaspar the Savoy cat, who we also discover is a survivor of the sinking of the Titanic. The story is utterly compelling and brought to life still further by some dreamy illustrations.



Ocean Meets Sky

Author: The Fan Brothers Release Date: 06/06/2019

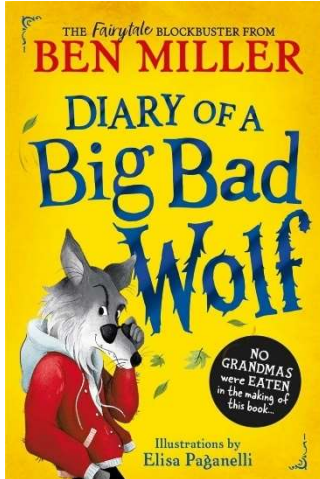
Finn lives by the sea and the sea lives by him. Every time he looks out his window it's a constant reminder of the stories his grandfather told him about the place where the ocean meets the sky. Where whales and jellyfish soar and birds and castles float. Finn's grandfather is gone now but Finn knows the perfect way to honor him. He'll build his own ship and sail out to find this magical place himself! And when he arrives, maybe, just maybe, he'll find something he didn't know he was looking for.



Dragon Force: Infinity's Secret

Author: Katie & Kevin Tsang Release Date: 14/09/2023

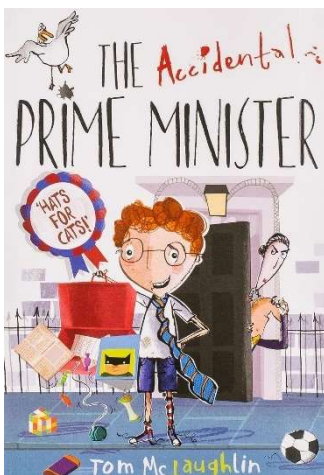
Twelve-year-old Lance Lo, his younger sister Zoe and new friends have enrolled at Camp Claw to learn all the skills they need to become protectors of the new world. But when the camp is mysteriously attacked and an evil plot exposed, it's up to the latest recruits to prove they've got what it takes to save the day.



Diary of a Big Bad Wolf

Author: Ben Miller Release Date: 14/03/2024

Lawrence, a big, bad, wolf, has just emerged from his den after a long, hard winter. He's weak, tired and hungry and so embarks on a mission to get fit and find the ultimate, delectable treat: Little Red Riding Hood. But it's not as easy as he thinks, for Lawrence is a lone wolf, without a pack and there is a pesky group of characters who keep getting in the way of his nefarious dinner plans... three little pigs, a woodcutter, a grandma and a mysterious old woman who brews concoctions in her gingerbread house all get in his way, tricking or outwitting him!



The Accidental Prime Minister

Author: Tom McLaughlin Release Date: 02/04/2015

Lawrence, a big, bad, wolf, has just emerged from his den after a long, hard winter. He's weak, tired and hungry and so embarks on a mission to get fit and find the ultimate, delectable treat: Little Red Riding Hood. But it's not as easy as he thinks, for Lawrence is a lone wolf, without a pack and there is a pesky group of characters who keep getting in the way of his nefarious dinner plans... three little pigs, a woodcutter, a grandma and a mysterious old woman who brews concoctions in her gingerbread house all get in his way, tricking or outwitting him!