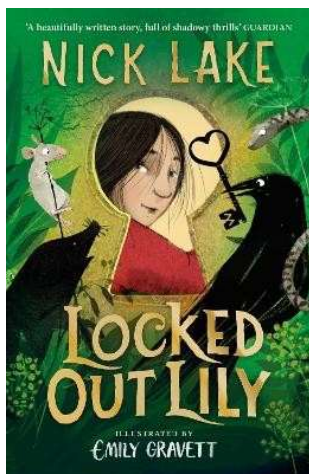


A selection of books especially selected for children in Year 6.

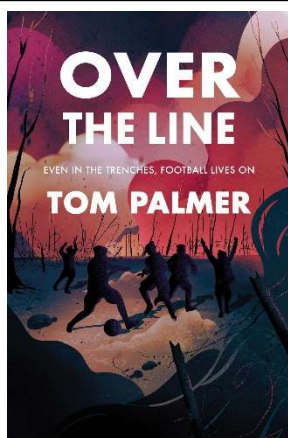
At Ferncumbe, our mission is to promote reading for pleasure and for children to develop a lifelong love of reading. Pupils are encouraged to read and explore a wide range of books in addition to the texts used in class. In this list, we have particularly avoided blockbusters and classics, so that we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



Locked Out Lily

Author: Nick Lake **Release Date:** 04/08/2022

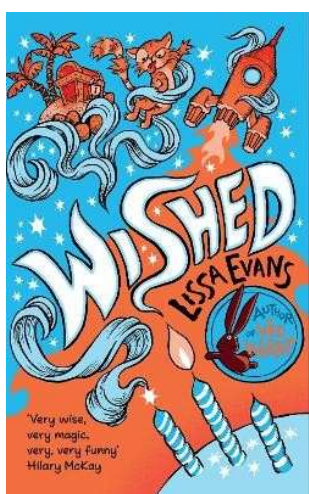
Lily just wants things to go back to the way they were: before she got sick, before her parents decided to have another baby. So when she's sent away to stay with her grandmother while her mum has the baby, Lily is determined to go home. But she doesn't expect to find people in her house - people who look like her parents, but definitely aren't. Together with some unlikely animal companions, Lily must face her fears and summon the courage to break into her own house and defeat 'The Replacements' before the night is out.



Over the Line

Author: Tom Palmer **Release Date:** 06/08/2020

It's the proudest moment of Jack's life his debut as a professional footballer. Now he has a chance to achieve his dream of playing for his country. But it's 1914 and the world is at war. Talk of sportsmen's cowardice leads to the formation of a Footballers' Battalion and Jack has little choice but to join up. The promise of a Cup in Flanders offers a glimmer of hope, but Jack and his teammates will have to survive a waking nightmare if they are ever to play again.



Wished

Author: Lissa Evans **Release Date:** 07/04/2022

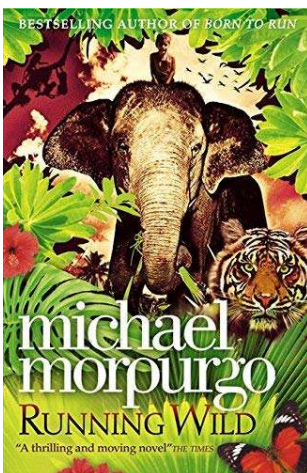
Ed and his sister Roo are faced with the most boring half-term holiday in history: five days spent in the company of their elderly neighbour Miss Filey and her ancient, smelly cat. But when they find a box of birthday candles in a cupboard in Miss Filey's house, their world is changed completely. These are no ordinary candles, every single one of them comes with a wish. There's only one problem: some of those wishes actually belong to someone else...



Spark

Author: Mitch Johnson **Release Date:** 03/02/2022

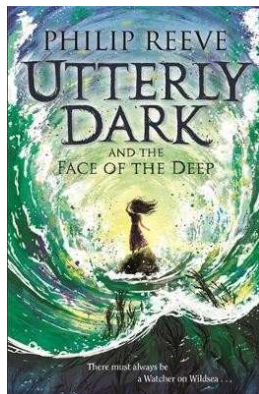
An explosive, action-packed adventure. Ash has always lived in Last Village, lonely since the day his father left and never came back. The world is unbearably hot, water is drying up, and life is hard. After a vicious thunderstorm, Ash wakes to find that the village's water has completely run out, and all the other villagers have mysteriously disappeared. Accompanied by the outcast Bronwyn, Ash sets off in search of water for answers about what happened to the villagers, with hope they might find 'The Kingdom' - a rumoured land to the north where life still flourishes. Ash and Bronwyn have to survive a journey across an arid landscape, discovering that other people out there are even more dangerous than the lightning strikes that follow them.



Running Wild

Author: Michael Morpurgo **Release Date:** 11/06/2010

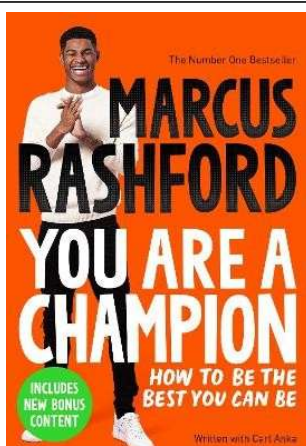
For Will and his mother, going to Indonesia isn't just a holiday. It's an escape, a new start, a chance to put things behind them - things like the death of Will's father. And to begin with, it seems to be just what they both needed. But then Oona, the elephant Will is riding on the beach, begins acting strangely, shying away from the sea. And that's when the tsunami comes crashing in, and Oona begins to run. Except that when the tsunami is gone, Oona just keeps on running. With nothing on his back but a shirt and nothing to sustain him but a bottle of water, Will must learn to survive deep in the jungle. Luckily, though, he's not completely alone... He's got Oona.



Utterly Dark and the Face of the Deep

Author: Philip Reeve **Release Date:** 02/09/2021

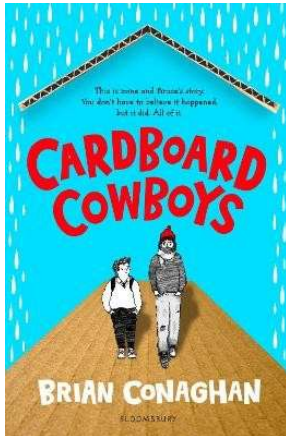
The watery landscape of the Autumn Isles provides the backdrop for a gutsy and gusty story of powerful old magic, new-fangled science and the perennial battle for the balance of power between land and the sea. When Utterly Dark was a baby, she was washed up on the shores of the Autumn Isles and taken in by the Watcher of Wildsea. But everything changes when her guardian suddenly drowns. Now who will keep the Watch, and make sure Wildsea stays safe from the strange forces teeming in the deep ocean around them?



You Are a Champion

Author: Marcus Rashford, Carl Anka **Release Date:** 27/05/2021

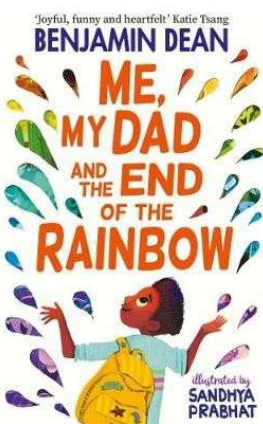
Dedicated to every young person who is trying to find their way and his mum for helping him to believe that dreams can come true, this is a motivational book by the inspirational Marcus Rashford. It's a positive and inspiring guide for life, packed full of stories from Marcus's own life and calling for the readers to be their OWN champion and that if they believe in themselves, incredible things can happen. With chapters covering everything from building your confidence to navigating adversity, finding your team, using your voice and standing up for each other, and never stopping learning.



Cardboard Cowboys

Author: Brian Conaghan Release Date: 15/04/2021

Even though I found him living in a house made of cardboard, Bruce is a massive legend. FACT. So this mine and Bruce's story. You don't have to believe it happened, but it did. All of it. Nobody at school can see past Lenny's size to the person within. So when lessons get too tough, Lenny always goes to his bench to think. At least there no one can see him. Then one day, midway through lobbing his empty can of Irn-Bru into the canal he's stopped by Bruce. Bruce lives in a cardboard home hidden away by the banks and he doesn't approve of kids messing up his front lawn. But a bumpy start soon gives way to an unexpected friendship - and an epic road trip - that will change both of them for life.

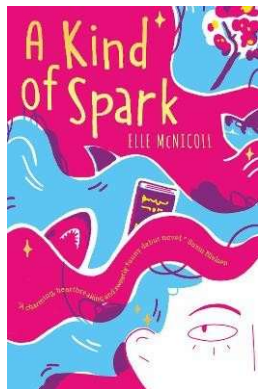


Me, My Dad and the End of the Rainbow

Author: Benjamin Dean Release Date: 04/02/2021

My name's Archie Albright, and I know two things for certain: 1. My mum and dad kind of hate each other, and they're not doing a great job of pretending that they don't anymore. 2. They're both keeping a secret from me, but I can't figure out what.

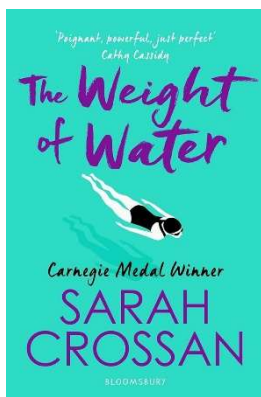
All Archie wants is for everything to go back to normal, to three months before when his parents were happy and still lived together. When Archie sees a colourful, crumpled flyer fall out of Dad's pocket, he thinks he may have found the answer. Only problem? The answer might just lie at the end of the rainbow, an adventure away. Together with his best friends, Bell and Seb, Archie sets off on a heart-warming and unforgettable journey to try and fix his family, even if he has to break a few rules to do it.



A Kind of Spark

Author: Elle McNicoll Release Date: 04/06/2020

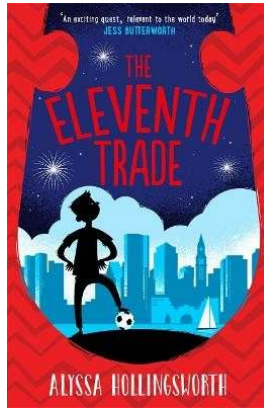
When 11 year old Addie, who is autistic, learns about the 16th century women who were persecuted for witchcraft, she starts to lobby for a local memorial in her small Scottish village. With the help of a new girl at school, she fights valiantly against injustice and oppression.



The Weight of Water

Author: Sarah Crossan Release Date: 03/01/2013

Armed with a suitcase and an old laundry bag filled with clothes, Kasienka and her mother head for England. Life is lonely for Kasienka. At home her mother's heart is breaking and at school friends are scarce. But when someone special swims into her life, Kasienka learns that there might be more than one way for her to stay afloat. *The Weight of Water* is a startlingly original piece of fiction; most simply a brilliant coming of age story, it also tackles the alienation experienced by many young immigrants. Moving, unsentimental and utterly page-turning, we meet and share the experiences of a remarkable girl who shows us how quiet courage prevails.



The Eleventh Trade

Author: Alyssa Hollingsworth **Release Date:** 18/09/2018

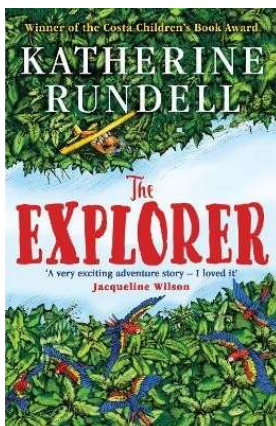
Sami gets by in Boston on the money his grandfather makes on the street playing his rehab. When the instrument is stolen, Sami needs to find \$700 to get it back. All he has is a man United key ring. It's only going to be possible if Sami is prepared to accept help. A story of hope.



Evenfall

Author: Alexander Armstrong **Release Date:** 12/09/2024

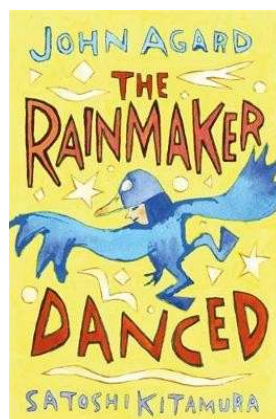
13-year-old Sam thinks he's an ordinary boy. But destiny knows better. Sam is part of an ancient, secret society. For decades, the Order of the Evening has lain dormant but now the Order must rise again. For at the heart of the Order's lost palace lies a powerful magic; magic that, in the wrong hands, has the power to destroy the world. Bequeathed with the mysterious seal of the Golden Linnet, Sam must uncover family secrets, face deadly foes and undertake perilous journeys. He will find allies in the most unlikely of places and learn to unlock his true powers.



The Explorer

Author: Katherine Rundell **Release Date:** 02/01/2018

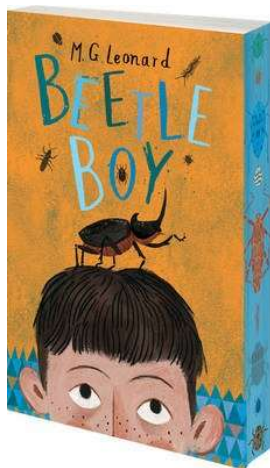
After crashing hundreds of miles from civilisation in the Amazon rainforest, Fred, Con, Lila and Max are utterly alone and in grave danger. They have no food, no water and no chance of being rescued. But they are alive and they have hope. As they negotiate the wild jungle they begin to find signs that something - someone - has been there before them. Could there possibly be a way out after all?



The Rainmaker Danced

Author: John Agard **Release Date:** 21/09/2017

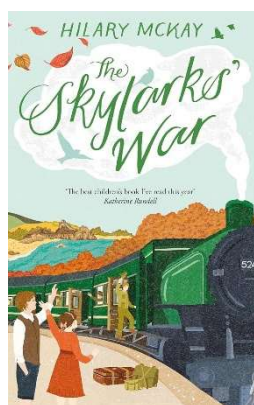
A wonderful children's poetry collection from a celebrated, award-winning poet. From nature and science to identity, prepare to be transported on a journey through past and present. This collection explores the wonders of the world - inviting your child to ponder life's questions with lots of fun along the way!



Beetle Boy

Author: M.G. Leonard Release Date: 03/03/2016

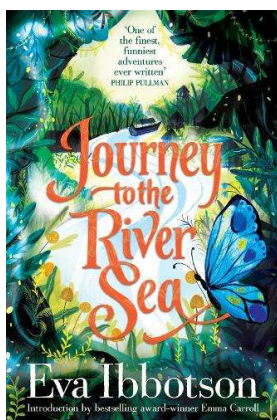
A rollicking adventure spiced up with fascinating information about beetles, this novel fuses science, survival and sleuthing! Darkus's life is turned upside down when his father goes missing. Darkus refuses to accept that his father is dead and he is determined to find out what happened for himself. Sent to stay with his uncle, he discovers the strange neighbours have a yard full of junk - and beetles. Darkus is befriended by a handsome, giant beetle who seems to understand Darkus and is also connected to his dad's disappearance. What is going on?



The Skylarks' War

Author: Hilary McKay Release Date: 05/10/2009

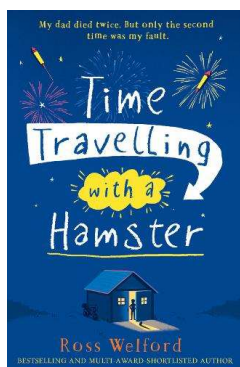
Clarry and her brother Peter live for their annual summer trips to Cornwall - a chance not only to escape their apathetic father, but to experience the joy of exploring nature with their exciting cousin Rupert. But when the First World War begins and Rupert enlists in the army, their world is thrown upside down - will they ever see him again? And how will the shadow of conflict change their lives?



Journey to the River Sea

Author: Eva Ibbotson Release Date: 25/08/2016

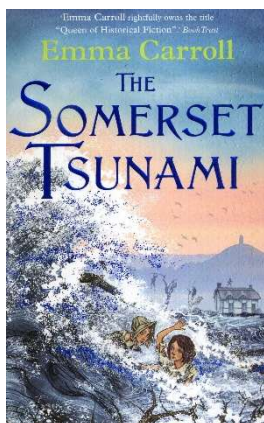
An Amazon adventure set in the wilderness of Brazil, Journey to the River Sea is filled with mystery and memorable characters. It is 1910 and Maia, tragically orphaned at thirteen, has been sent from England to start a new life with distant relatives in Manaus, hundreds of miles up the Amazon. She is accompanied by an eccentric and mysterious governess who has secret reasons of her own for making the journey. Both soon discover an exotic world bursting with new experiences in Journey to the River Sea.



Time Travelling with a Hamster

Author: Ross Welford Release Date: 31/12/2015

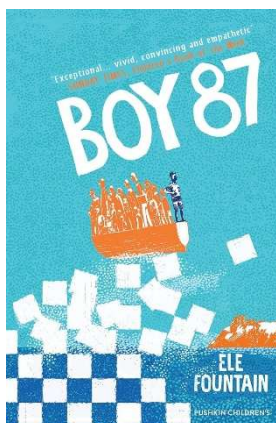
Full of heart and humour, this is a hilarious tale about the dangers of time-travel. On Al Chaudhury's twelfth birthday his beloved Grandpa Byron gives him a letter from Al's late father. In it Al receives a mission: travel back to 1984 in a secret time machine and save his father's life. Al soon discovers that time travel requires daring and imagination. It also requires lies, theft, setting his school on fire and ignoring philosophical advice from Grandpa Byron. All without losing his pet hamster, Alan Shearer.



The Somerset Tsunami

Author: Emma Carroll Release Date: 03/10/2019

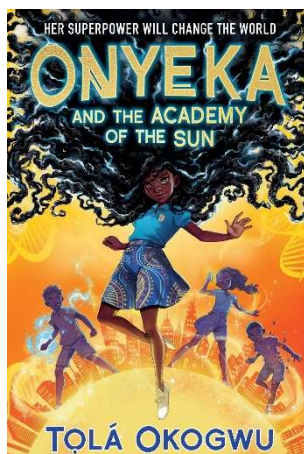
Set in deepest Somerset during the 17th century, Fortune Sharpe is not your average girl. Strong-witted and determined, she sets about making a boat with her brother. It might seem like something fun to do, but Fortune has to leave her home in a hurry when she is spotted rowing the boat on the Sabbath. Fortune is sent off to find work disguised as a boy, but luckily, she doesn't have to look far before she discovers that the local manor house has an opportunity for her. Fortune slowly realises that this house holds many secrets within its walls. When the other children of the house discover she's not who they thought she was, suspicions are raised. And with King James' witchfinders roaming the county, will Fortune escape unscathed?



Boy 87

Author: Ele Fountain Release Date: 05/04/2018

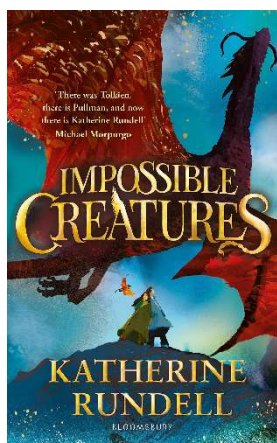
Fourteen-year-old Shif and his best friend Bini are ordinary boys with big ambitions, but their world implodes when they attract the attention of the military "giffa". Wrenched from their families, they're sent to a remote desert prison, where their cellmates are barely clinging on to life. However, the boys' arrival sparks hope in the imprisoned men, and they give everything to ensure their escape. Reaching the nearest town, Shif has only just begun the perilous journey which he hopes will end in safety and freedom.



Onyeka and the Academy of the Sun

Author: Tolá Okogwu Release Date: 09/06/2022

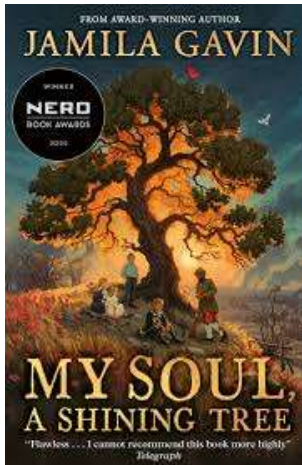
Onyeka has a lot of hair—the kind that makes strangers stop in the street and whisper behind her back. At least she has Cheyenne, her best friend, who couldn't care less what other people think. Still, Onyeka has always felt insecure about her vibrant curls... until the day Cheyenne almost drowns and Onyeka's hair takes on a life of its own, inexplicably pulling Cheyenne from the water. Onyeka's mother tells her that her shocking psychokinetic powers make her a Solari, one of a secret group of people with superpowers unique to Nigeria. Her mother quickly whisks her off to the Academy of the Sun, a school in Nigeria where Solari are trained. But Onyeka soon has to put her powers to the test...



Impossible Creatures

Author: Katherine Rundell Release Date: 14/09/2023

Christopher is stunned when he discovers a Way-Between from our world to the Archipelago: a cluster of magical islands where all the creatures of myth still live and breed and thrive in their thousands. There he meets Mal: a girl from the islands, who is in possession of a flying coat and a baby griffin, and who is being pursued by a killer. Together they embark on an urgent quest to discover why the creatures are suddenly perishing in a bid to save both the islands and the world beyond them from a rising evil - before it's too late.



My Soul a Shining Tree

Author: Jamila Gavin Release Date: 31/07/2025

Based on the true story of Indian WWI gunner and recipient of the Victoria Cross, Khudadad Khan. The story is told from four perspectives: Lotte, a Belgian farmgirl whose village is the flashpoint for a battle; Ernst, a German teenage cavalry soldier whose grandiose dreams of war lie in tatters; Khudadad Khan, the gunner fighting with the British Army; and a wild walnut tree. As their perspectives converge, their shared humanity emerges as a light in the darkness of war, safe beneath the branches of the walnut tree that shelters them all.