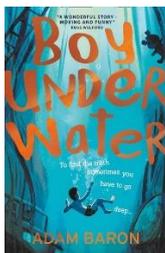


The House With Chicken Legs by Sophie Anderson

Twelve-year-old Marinka yearns to live in a "normal house" and to have a "normal family", but instead her house has chicken legs, and her grandmother is a Yaga, a Guardian of The Gate between this world and the next. Worse still, in Marinka's eyes, is that it's her destiny to become a Yaga herself, to take on the duty of giving the dead "one last wonderful evening" before they "return to the stars". Baba Yaga has long warned Marinka of the dangers of venturing too far in the world of the living, but her desire "to have friendships that last more than one night" is so strong that she's prepared to risk everything.

Boy Under Water by Adam Baron



Being pulled to safety from the bottom of Lewisham Pool by classmate Veronique (losing his trunks in the process) is a terrible experience for Cymbeline Igloo, as it would be for any 9-year-old, but it leads his mum to have a breakdown. Cym has never understood her determination to keep him away from water, but now it's only by uncovering the family secrets that he can give her the help she needs.

This is a story about someone who wants to stop... Alfie Monk is like any other nearly teenage boy - except he's 1,000 years old and can remember the last Viking invasion of England. Obviously, no one believes him. So, when everything Alfie knows and loves is destroyed in a fire, and the modern world comes crashing in, Alfie embarks on a mission to find friendship, acceptance, and a different way to live... which means finding a way to make sure he will eventually die.

The 1,000 Year Old Boy by Ross Welford



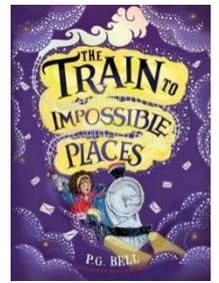
Year 5/6 Recommended New Reads

Ghost by Jason Reynolds



Castle Cranshaw discovered his talent for running the night he and his mum fled his violent dad. "Running isn't anything I ever had to practice. It's just something I knew how to do", he explains. Hassled at school for his Mum-made haircuts, and constantly trying to avoid "altercations" that wind up making his school file bulge, Ghost's life takes an upward turn when he spontaneously races a budding elite sprinter at a training session and wins. The coach, a former Olympic gold medalist, immediately invites him to join the team and they form a heart-melting bond fuelled by friendly sparring.

The Train To Impossible Places by P.G. Bell

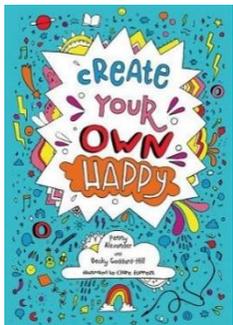


It's not every day that a magical train drives through your hallway but that's what happens to Suzy at the opening of this terrific adventure story. She discovers it's the Impossible Postal Express, responsible for making deliveries throughout the Union of Impossible Places. Being something of a scientist, and deeply inquisitive, Suzy can't let this opportunity pass and climbs aboard. It's not long before she's been deputized as a Postal Operative (by the troll in charge), which in turn embroils her in an even bigger adventure, and one of those magical good versus evil power struggles that are central to all the best fantasy adventures.

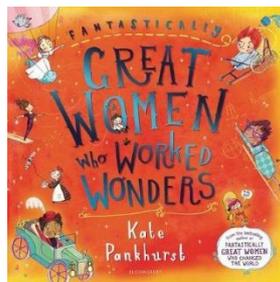
The Star-Spun Web by Sinead O'Hart



As a little baby, Tess de Sousa is left on a doorstep by her father to keep her safe. To be safe, he knows he must get her out of one world and into another. Apparently orphaned, Tess, with her pet tarantula for company, grows up in Ackerbee's Home for Lost and Foundlings where she is encouraged to use her brain to do difficult scientific research and is very much loved by all. But her life changes suddenly when a stranger, claiming to be family, arrives at Ackerbee's Home, and takes her away with him to Roedeer Lodge.



Create Your Own Happy by Penny Alexander and Becky Goddard - Hill



The People Awards by Lily Murray



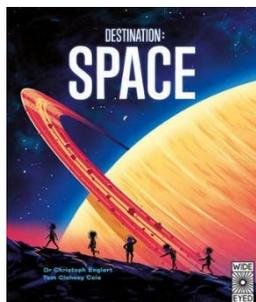
From speaking in front of your class to standing up for others; planting a seed bomb outdoors or making your own happy playlist, making a recycling monster to paying kindness forward, learn how to Create Your Own Happy!

For increasingly independent thinkers and proactive young people, this book gives them a handle on their own emotional wellbeing to best equip them with confidence for the everyday challenges of life and school. They'll learn about the inspiring and surprising science behind emotions along the way, carry out activities with family or independently, and most importantly, find smile-tastic ideas for expressing themselves!

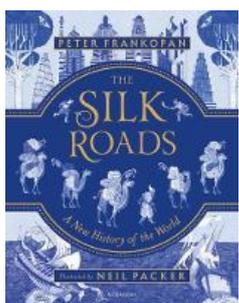
Great Women Who Worked Wonders by Kate Pankhurst

It tells the stories of pioneering women who achieved amazing things, often in the face of prejudice or downright hostility from society. There are familiar names - Rosalind Franklin is included - plus lots that are lesser known, but just as fascinating: balloonist Sophie Blanchard for example, and Sarah Breedlove, beauty entrepreneur.

This book picks out fifty men and women from different centuries and continents and gives them 'awards' for their achievements. Most get very specific awards just for them - Einstein for example gets the Curiosity Award - but there are categories too: the Brilliant Idea Awards recognise Isaac Newton as well as Sejong the Great who created the Korean alphabet. All sorts of people feature from David Bowie and Simon Bolivar to J.K. Rowling and Ana Nzinga. Most are represented with full page portraits opposite smaller pictures showing scenes from their lives.



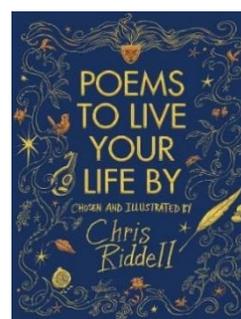
Destination Space by Christoph Englert



Silk Roads by Peter Frankopan

The book's journey leads armchair adventurers along thrilling, far-reaching roads, taking in the history of ancient Persia, Constantinople, Rome, Attila the Hun, the emergence of Islam, Viking slavery, Genghis Khan, Columbus - and more - from a holistic perspective.

Beginning with the beginning of time itself, the Big Bang, and including topics such as dark energy, gravity and the life cycle of a star, there's a huge amount of fascinating information in this book, presented clearly and succinctly. Dr Christopher Englert's text is accessible, even when describing complex theories, and inspiring; Tom Clohosy Cole's gleaming illustrations are beautiful to look at and support and expand the text.



Poems To Live Your Life By Chris Riddell

Illustrator and author Chris Riddell has created a rich anthology of poems from the past to the present all of which have a special meaning for him. Grouping them under headings including 'Musings', 'Youth', 'Imaginings', 'Nature' and 'Endings' he has added an illustration to each often giving an insight into his own reading of it.