



# St Laurence's Reading, Writing & Oracy Spine

Reviewed 2024/5

# Rationale

**Reading for pleasure** is a vital part of every child's educational entitlement. Developing a love of reading has huge benefits for children, contributing to pupils' educational achievement across the curriculum in addition to providing a lifetime of enjoyment. At St Laurence's Catholic Primary school, we believe in both the importance of developing children's discrete word-reading skills and comprehension, as well as the need to foster a love of books and reading. 'Reading widely and often increases pupils' **vocabulary** because they encounter words they would rarely hear or use in everyday speech. Reading also feeds pupils' imagination and opens up a treasure house of wonder and joy for curious young minds,' (National Curriculum). We recognise that these two elements are intertwined: each relies on the other if children are to become **life-long readers**. With so much competition for children's time and attention it is vital that we embed a culture of reading into the core of what we do as a school, helping every child to become a lifelong reader. At St Laurence's Catholic School we ensure reading is a **top priority** within all areas of the curriculum. We ensure **purposeful books and vocabulary focuses** are at the heart of everything we teach to ensure extensive reading and exposure to a wide range of texts make a vital contribution to every child's educational achievement, regardless of their personal background.

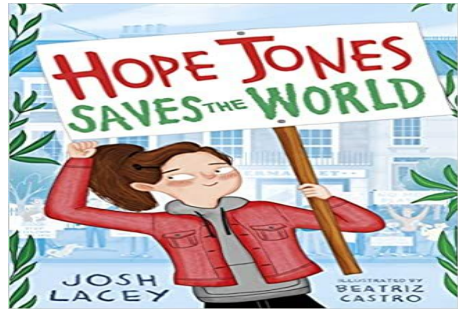
Autumn One

Our World



# Book Focus (Year 4 - Autumn 1) :

## Literacy Lesson Focus



**Rationale** - Part of our whole school theme is 'Our World'. Pupils will be reading Hope Jones saves the world as it is a really modern text about being a good citizen. Children will be able to immerse themselves as Hope writing really fun pieces of text including blogs !



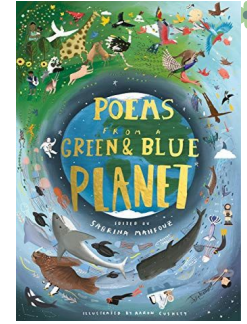
## Cross Curricular Texts



**Rationale** - Our topics for autumn are : Early Civilisations and States of Matter.

To support our learning we will use the text 'How we Lived' As it shows a range of cultures and timelines which lead up to the 21st century. To support our learning in science 'States of Matter' and our Topic work 'Water' we will be using lots of books including The Rhythm of Rain, Water Dance, The Story of Snow.


## Class Read / Poetry



To complement our whole school theme of our world pupils will be read some poetry from the poetry book 'Poems from a Green and Blue Planet'



# Outcomes : Autumn 1

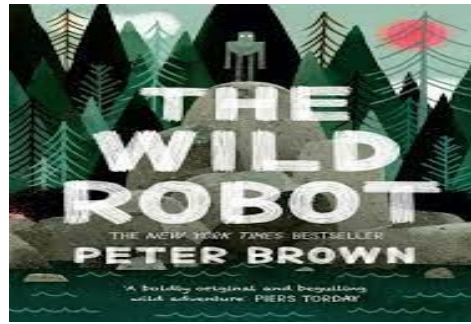
Year Group	Entertain	Inform	Persuade	Speaking & Listening	Discuss
 <b>Four</b>	Poetry (Spooky Spell Day)  Diary Entry  Character Description  Speech writing	Letter of advice  Blog  Non-Chronological report (topic)  Fact File (science)		Summarising key events  Reading aloud  Discussion/voicing opinions  Motivational speaking  Peer feedback	

**Autumn Two**  
**Breaking  
Stereotypes &  
Fighting Adversity**



# Book Focus (Year 4 - Autumn 2) :

## Literacy Lesson Focus



**Rationale** - As a link to the Autumn 2 reading theme, this book works perfectly. Within the story, the children follow a robot who is landed on a desert island and learns how to adapt to her environment, even though she is not made to survive here.. The book has constant links to stereotypes when speaking about Roz (robot) and the animals who live on the island. It teaches the children that no matter your circumstances, you can thrive in any environment with a positive attitude and perseverance.

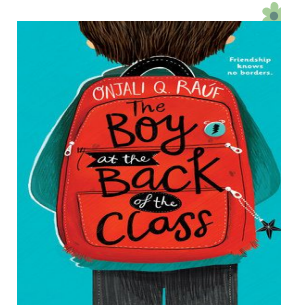
## Cross Curricular Texts



**Rationale** -Within Science our topic is Electricity so we will be using the literacy in science texts to cover key vocabulary and think about sound in the world around us.

Our Topic is about our European Neighbours. We will use non fiction books to research these countries and compare cultures. A Lion in Paris allows us to explore the city and write a diary entry thinking about how the character is treated and how he is feeling.




## Class Read / Poetry



**Rationale** - This book fits well with our topic and explores the experience of refugees and how children adapt to new friendships and language barriers.



# Outcomes : Autumn 2

 Year Group	Entertain	Inform	Persuade	Speaking & Listening	Discuss 
 Four	Narrative Log Dream Journal	Character Description Setting Description Survival Guide Investigation (science) Leaflet (topic)	Speech	Movie review Hot seating Weather reports - SeeSaw Videos	



Spring One

# Favourite Authors



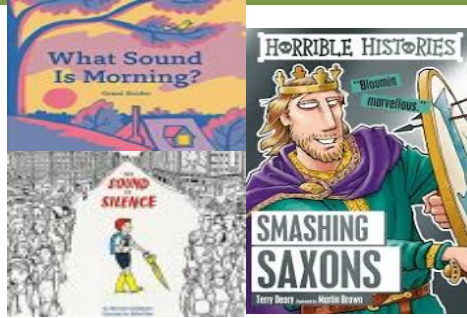
# Book Focus (Year 4 - Spring 1 Joseph Coelho):

## Literacy Lesson Focus



Rationale - Joseph Coelho is extremely passionate about his poetry and provides many visual aids to use as part of literacy lessons, which children really enjoy. This, in turn, helps the children to become more passionate about their own poetry. There are varied styles and sizes of poems, with many topics - some require deeper thought and some are humorous. As well as this, Joseph Coelho is an author who communicates and collaborates with school and comes from a similar background to our children. He shows them that you can be successful regardless of your beginnings!

## Cross Curricular Texts



Rationale - To support our learning in science topic Sound we will be using lots of the key science texts like What Sound is Morning or the Sound of Silence to help deepen our understanding.





Our history topic is the Anglo Saxons. A favourite of pupils and teachers alike is the Horrible History Series. We will use our project loan non fiction books as well as 'Smashing Saxons' to learn more about this settlement.

## Class Read / Poetry



Our children LOVE Joseph Coelho so we are dedicating our class read and poetry also to this author. Our children will also get chance to write some non fiction pieces by writing a biography on him and even write letters to him. He has in the past spoke to classes and his work is really thoughtful. We have chosen this author because his work makes our children smile, laugh and think about their world as well as producing amazing pieces of their own.

# Outcomes : Spring 1

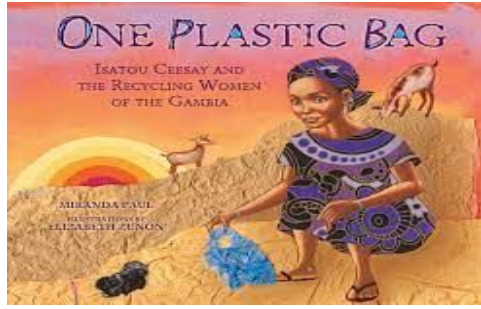
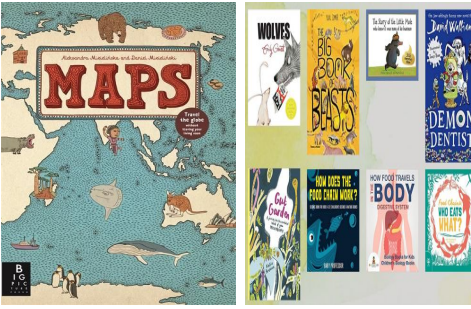


 Year Group	Entertain	Inform	Persuade	Speaking & Listening	 Discuss
<b>Four</b>  	Poetry Narrative Letter (RE)	Biography Non Chron Report (science) Newspaper Report (topic) Leaflet (science) Leaflet (RE)	Letter of Advice	Reading aloud Remembering poetry by heart Discussing poetry / favourite authors Performing poetry	

Spring Two






Other Cultures



# Book Focus (Year 4 - Spring 2):

Literacy Lesson Focus	Cross Curricular Texts	Class Read / Poetry
		
<p><b>Rationale</b> - This story enables children to have a window into life in Gambia. This text follows the story of women who live there and how they turn what we would class as rubbish into useful and purposeful objects .</p> <p></p>	<p><b>Rationale</b> - We will continue to support our learning in science topic 'Animals including Humans' we will be using lots of books including Demon Dentist, Gut Garden and How the Food Chain works</p> <p>Our geography topic is all about settlements. The book 'Maps' allows pupils to engage with a fun version of mapping skills to support their own creations.</p>	<p><b>Rationale</b> - Roftoppers teaches the children about the opposite culture type to One plastic bag - wealth. As well as teaching the children about cultures, it is a humorous book and the children really enjoy the story. It also breaks the stereotype of having a single parent (dad) and this being a negative thing. It's extremely important for children within our school to be exposed to different family dynamics within enjoyable stories, due to various individual family situations.</p>

# Outcomes : Spring 2

Year Group 	Entertain	Inform	Persuade	Speaking & Listening	Discuss 
Four   	Playscript (Shakespeare week)  Setting Description  Character Description	Letter Non-Chronologica l report Letter (Shakespeare week) Newspaper report (Shakespeare week) Scientific Investigation Scientific recount (data) Instructions	Speech (Shakespeare week)  Persuade people to recycle letter	Performing / Reading aloud / Drama Shakespeare  Conscience alley  Hot seating	

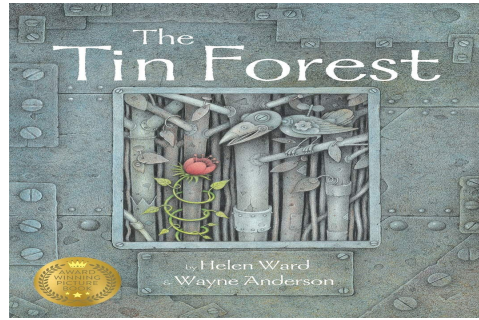
Summer One

Classic Narrative &  
Poetry



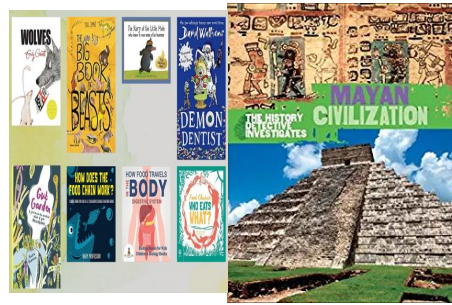
# Book Focus (Year 4 - Summer 1 ):

## Literacy Lesson Focus



**Rationale** - As part of our classic narrative theme, we have chosen 'The Tin Forest'. The reason being that it allows the children to explore the traditional features of a narrative - magic, introduction, problem, solution - without the prior knowledge of the story. Therefore, the children are still hooked by the story and wanting to know what happens next, while enjoying and learning about classic narrative features. A bonus of using this book is that it also offers a small insight into deforestation, which can link to our PSHE topics.

## Cross Curricular Texts



**Rationale** -To link with our topic of the ancient Maya we will be looking at many non fiction books to help us better understand what life was like for the people, the Gods they worshiped and the culture they lived.

We will continue to support our learning in science topic 'Animals including Humans' we will be using lots of books including Demon Dentist, Gut Garden and How the Food Chain works.

## Class Read / Poetry



**Rationale** - These books offer a range of writing linked to our science topic. We will look at a selection of poetry from Tiger Tiger burning bright as part of our STEMsational writing ;linking in with living things and their habitats.





# Outcomes : Summer 1

Year Group	Entertain	Inform	Persuade	Speaking & Listening	Discuss
Four	<p>Setting Description</p> <p>Character Description</p> <p>Diary Entry</p> <p>Classic narrative (twist on a classic)</p>	<p>Fact File (Topic)</p> <p>Investigation (science)</p>	<p>Letter of advice</p> <p>Persuasive letter against littering</p>	<p>Peer feedback</p> <p>Group work</p> <p>Hot seating</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>Voicing opinions</p>	

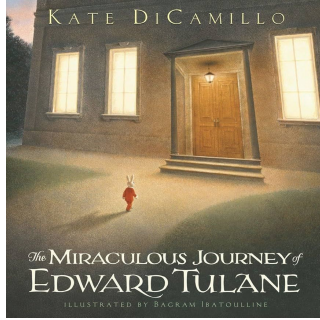
Summer Two

Growing Up



# Book Focus (Year 4 - Summer 2):

## Literacy Lesson Focus



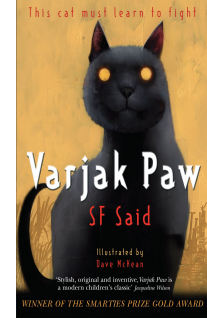
**Rationale** - We chose *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* as our literacy focus due to its explorative nature. It allows children the opportunity to experience the feeling and emotion of a character as he explores new walks of life. This has helped the children become more open about their own emotions as they begin to transition into the next year. There are many writing opportunities that this book lends itself to, such as: notes, diaries, speeches and newspaper reports.

## Cross Curricular Texts



In our science topic of living things and their habitats we will be looking at the text 'The incredible ecosystems of planet Earth' By using the *Encyclopedia of animals'* Children will learn about different creatures in our world and how we play a part in that.

## Class Read / Poetry



**Rationale** - *Varjak Paw* offers a good link with our literacy book as it fits with our theme in exploring new worlds and growing up.



# Outcomes : Summer 2

Year Group	Entertain	Inform	Persuade	Speaking & Listening	Discuss
Four	Poetry Note Setting description Narrative Character description	Newspaper report Investigation (science) Fact file (topic)	Debate Speech	Speaking aloud Making decisions Conscience alley Expressing feelings	