



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.

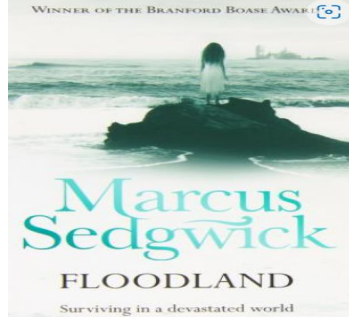
Autumn One

Our World



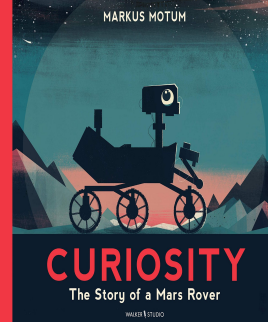
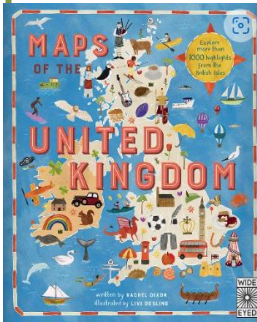
Book Focus (Year 5 - Autumn 1) :

Literacy Lesson Focus



Rationale - linking with the theme 'Our World' (also a precursor to Spring 2's Investigating Rivers Geography topic), Floodland reveals a fictitious future when many parts of England are submerged in water and people drift into gangs, divided due to the scarcity of resources, especially food. This text provides opportunities to teach and introduce the children to climate change and environmental movements. Additionally, through the protagonists, the children are faced with dilemmas and challenges which offer excellent opportunities for

Cross Curricular Texts



Rationale - Our topics for autumn are : Space and UK. During this cross curricular lessons we will not only use our library loan boxes to support learning but we will also be using 'Maps of the United Kingdom': This is a wonderful information book which offers children the opportunity to visualise the UK, learn more about their culture and discuss the place which they live. As well as 'Curiosity: The Story of the Mars Rover" will be used within science to write a diary entry describing the conditions on the planet Mars.. We will also use our other STEM texts to support learning within our Space topic.




Class Read / Poetry



Rationale - children will read PLANET SOS as the class novel, VIPERS questions will be used to support children's understanding of the text. A number of extracts from the text will support children's understanding of 'Our World' particularly during specific guided reading sessions

Children will create a poem about the Solar System using the poem 'Cosmic Disco' by Grace Nichols (a Caribbean-British poet). Additionally the children will explore the life and achievements of the significant female, black, aerospace engineer Mary Jackson (linked to British Space, Black History Month and 'Our World'.

Outcomes : Autumn 1

Year Group	Entertain	Inform	Persuade	Discuss	Speaking & Listening
Five   	Poem (Cosmic Disco) Character description (Floodland) Narrative (Floodland) Assessed piece 2022 Poetry (Floodland)	Diary as Dorothy Vaughan (Science/SMSC) Survival guide (Topic) Letter to new teacher (Baseline) Newspaper report (Floodland) Letter (Floodland) To write a blog from the Curiosity rover on Mars (Science) To create a fact-file about a mountain creature (topic) Explanation text (Floodland)	Persuasive Advert about a chocolate bar (Roald Dahl) Letter to world leaders (Floodland) Speech (Floodland)	Debate (Floodland)	Presentation 'all about me' to introduce yourself to new teacher Persuasive Debate/Speech (Floodland) Poetry performance (Cosmic disco) Record TV advertisement for chocolate bar (Roald Dahl)

Autumn Two
**Breaking
Stereotypes &
Fighting Adversity**



Book Focus (Year 5 - Autumn 2) :

Literacy Lesson Focus



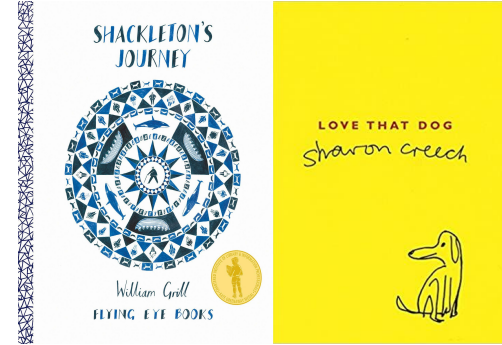
Rationale - to give our pupils a deeper understanding of overcoming adversity and the skills and qualities required to do this, we will be focusing on the exceptional true story of Sir Ernest Shackleton's 1914 expedition to Antarctica. William Grill's beautiful illustrations in his book 'Shackleton's Journey' bring to life the harsh and perilous conditions that his crew faced.

Cross Curricular Texts



Rationale - During our topic (Vikings), we will be using the Viking Express, newspaper text. Children will use this text to learn about the raids and Lindisfarne and write their own newspaper report. In during our science topic (forces) children will look at the work of the scientist Sir Isaac Newton and writing a biography about the famous scientist.

Class Read / Poetry



Rationale - Love that Dog is a book about a boy who doesn't see the point in poetry and says 'its for girls' before finding the true power of words and poetry while writing about his love for his dog. Shackleton's crew, also loved their dogs (taking 69 with them on their expedition). A large number of our children have pet dogs and the aim of using this text is to encourage and inspire our more reluctant readers by showing them that poetry could be for them.

Outcomes : Autumn 2

Year Group	Entertain	Inform	Persuade	Discuss	Speaking & Listening
Five	Alternate ending to a narrative (SJ) Noun phrase poem about the pack-ice (SJ) Poem about the dogs (Love that dog)	Newspaper report on the raid at Lindisfarne. (Topic) Biography Sir Issaac Newton (Science)	Motivational speech in role of Shackleton (SJ) Formal letter of application for Shackleton's crew (SJ)		Perform motivational speech in role of Shackleton (SJ) News reporter (recording/performing) (Topic) Interviews - role play (SJ)

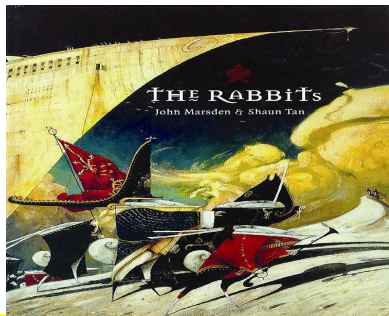
Spring One

Favourite Authors



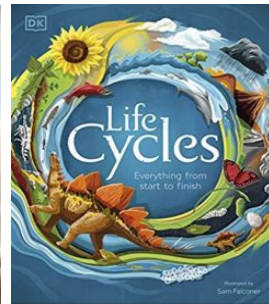
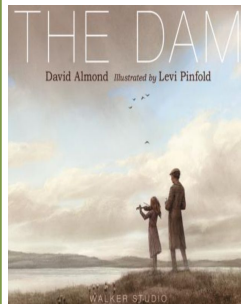
Book Focus (Year 5 - Spring 1):

Literacy Lesson Focus



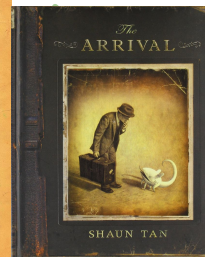
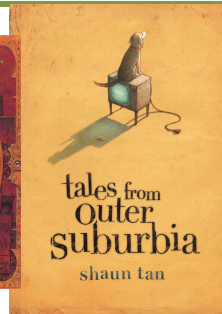
Rationale - Shaun Tan is an exceptional Australian writer, artist and Academy Award winning filmmaker. A hauntingly beautiful picture book, 'The Rabbits' is a thought-provoking allegorical fable about colonisation and the effect of man on the environment, which supports children's understanding of European history, colonisation and the impact of displacement on an indigenous people.

Cross Curricular Texts








Rationale - During our Geography topic Understanding Rivers, children explore the function and importance of rivers as well as the causes of river pollution and the effects it has on the environment. The Dam delves into the impact on habitats and the landscape of the area through this emotive text. Within science, children will use the DK Life Cycles book to create their own informative presentations to describe the life cycles of two distinct creatures.

Class Read / Poetry



Rationale - Tales from Outer Suburbia is a collection of short stories written and illustrated by Shaun Tan. Each story is unique, intriguing - offering the children opportunities to explore different concepts and opportunities through the peculiar illustrations and subject matters in both of these texts. The Viewer is the story of a young boy who regularly finds treasures at the local dump. One day he comes home with a box full of instruments for looking at things, including a viewfinder toy. We will explore these during guided reading/class reading sessions alongside our core text- The Rabbits

Outcomes : Spring 1

Year Group 	Entertain	Inform	Persuade	Discuss	Speaking & Listening 
Five 	<p>Aboriginal creation legend (topic)</p> <p>Setting description, focusing on the arrival of the Rabbits (The Rabbits)</p> <p>Narrative based on the impact of colonisation (The Rabbits)</p>	<p>Life cycles presentation (Science)</p> <p>Writing in the role of Rabbit (diary)</p> <p>Biography of Jane Goodall (Science)</p> <p>Fact-file describing the key stages in childhood development (Science)</p>		<p>A poem discussing the pros and cons of colonisation of Australia (The Rabbits)</p>	<p>Performance poetry (The Rabbits) </p> <p>Present findings of Life Cycles (Science)</p> 

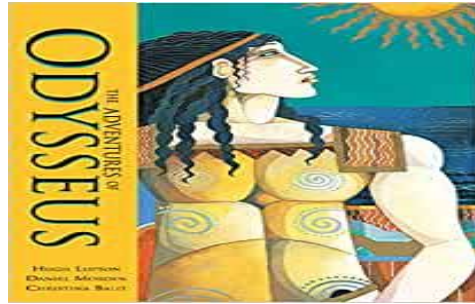
Spring Two

Other Cultures



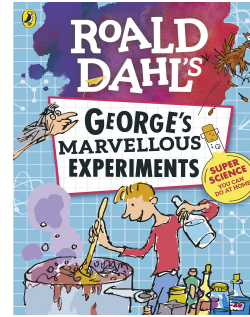
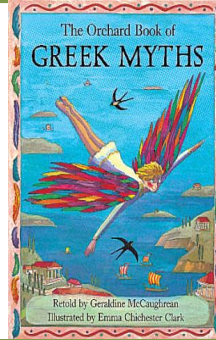
Book Focus (Year 5 - Spring 2):

Literacy Lesson Focus



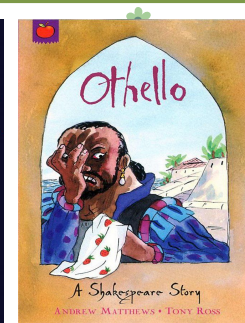
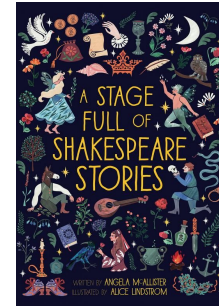
Rationale - We will be travelling back in time 8th century Greece and reading the Epic adventure of Odysseus. Gods, monsters and heroes were a key cornerstone of Greek culture and their stories are still shared to this day. Children will learn about Odysseus and his epic adventure as he endures harrowing ordeals, battles monsters and learns what it means to be a hero. This will also support children's learning with topic as we study the ancient Greeks.

Cross Curricular Texts



Rationale - Within our topic lessons and during guided reading sessions, we will read a variety of Greek myths (Theseus and the Minotaur, Perseus and Medusa and tale of Icarus) using the Orchard Book of Greek myths and resources from Literacy Shed +. Within science, during our properties of materials topic, we will look at irreversible changes using George's Marvellous Experiments book. Whilst also looking at reversible changes and linking it to the text Kensuke's Kingdom.

Class Read / Poetry



Rationale - we will explore the various themes characters within this dramatic Shakespearean tragedy. The children will develop their knowledge of the characters through character: descriptions, comparisons of emotions and behaviours as well as through role-play and hot seating sessions. The children will create their own version of the dramatic climax of the play by writing and performing their own play script.

Outcomes : Spring 2

Year Group	Entertain	Inform	Persuade	Discuss	Speaking & Listening
Five	<p>Playscript (Othello)</p> <p>Poem describing the land of the dead (Odysseus)</p> <p>Description of a Greek mythological creature (Odysseus)</p> <p>Additional chapter (Odysseus)</p>	<p>Explanation text, to describe reversible and irreversible changes (science)</p>	<p>Book review (Odysseus)</p>	<p>Odysseus dilemma on which path to choose (Odysseus)</p>	<p>Perform a scene from Othello</p> <p>Debate about what path Odysseus should choose</p>

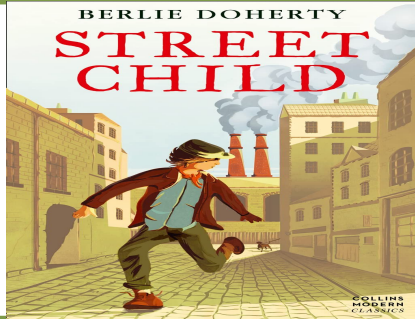
Summer One

Classic Narrative &
Poetry



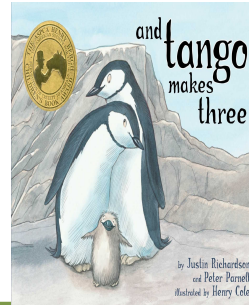
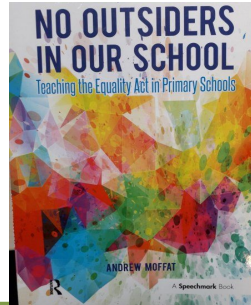
Book Focus (Year 5 - Summer 1):

Literacy Lesson Focus



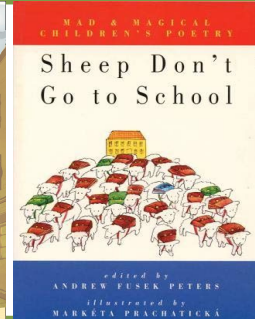
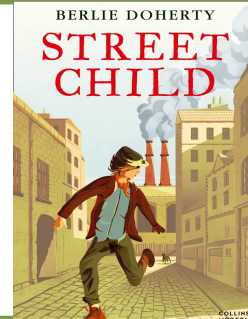
Rationale - We will be stepping into the tough, unforgiving world of Jim Jarvis - an orphan in Victorian London, based on the boy whose plight inspired Dr Barnardo to found his famous children's homes. This brilliant text is full of trials and tribulations. Consequently, the children are given the writing opportunities - to fully immerse themselves into Jim Jarvis' hopes, heart-aches, losses and eventual salvation when he meets Dr Barnardo - through diaries, research and original narratives.

Cross Curricular Texts



Rationale- During the whole summer term we will be looking at a range of books as art of are No Outsiders/ All are Welcome project. The books include: And Tango Makes Three, How to Heal A Broken Wing, Rose Blanche ,Where the Poppies Now Grow and The Cow Who Climbed a Tree. Children will read each text and complete a series of tasks to help develop and strengthen their social and emotional understanding of the world around us.

Class Read / Poetry



Rationale - as a juxtaposition to Jim Jarvis and his bleak life in the workhouse, Sheep Don't go to School, is a collection of poetry that brims full of life, experimentation and possibilities, written by poets full of hope imagination and wonder. Children will write a piece of performance poetry to deliver to the class, whilst also being collated into a class poetry book.

Outcomes : Summer 1

Year Group	Entertain	Inform	Persuade	Discuss	Speaking & Listening
Five	<p>Newspaper report - Jim Jarvis escape from the poor house</p> <p>Narrative- alternative ending (Street Child)</p> <p>Performance poetry (Sheep Don't Go to School)</p>	<p>Diary in the role of Jim Jarvis (Street Child)</p> <p>To write a fact-file about Victorian life (Street Child)</p>	<p>A persuasive advert for Barnardos</p>		<p>Speech in role (Bernardo) getting children to join your charity</p> <p>Performance poetry</p> <p>Hot-seating as different character's to understand feelings</p>

Summer Two

Growing Up



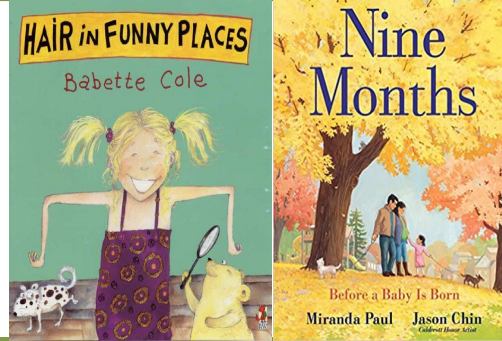
Book Focus (Year 5 - Summer 2):

Literacy Lesson Focus



Rationale - We will explore the life of thirteen year old Cameron, who is in need of a heart transplant when a pioneering doctor approaches his family with a startling proposal. Will Cameron choose to become the world's first pig-heart boy? The children will explore the complexities of having to make huge life changing choices with potentially damaging ethical and social consequences through discussion, roleplay and a variety of writing purposes.

Cross Curricular Texts






Rationale - During our science topic, we look at how we grow and change as humans from fertilisation to old age. We use books such as 'Hair in Funny Places' and 'Nine Months' to support the children's understanding of the concepts of gestation periods, puberty and growing old. Within topic, we explore the human and physical features of Japan through the eyes of a 10 year old boy, who visits Japan for four months in 'My awesome Japan Adventure'.

Class Read / Poetry



Rationale - Pig Heart Boy is used as our class read to allow children to immerse themselves in Cameron's life, in his wins and his losses throughout this powerful story about friendship, loyalty and family around this topical and controversial issue by former Children's Laureate, Malorie Blackman. We will also read different Tales from China to support our history topic of the Shang Dynasty. This will allow the children to compare the differences between their culture and another - broadening their minds.

Outcomes : Summer 2

Year Group	Entertain	Inform	Persuade	Discuss	Speaking & Listening
Five 	Folktale (Shang Dynasty) 	To write an email to a family member concerning emotions, feelings and concerns. (PHB) Postcard from Shang Dynasty (Topic) Newspaper report about Heart Transplant (PHB)	Formal letter to Dr Bryce to receive a transplant (PHB)	Balanced argument about Cameron's dilemma. (PHB)	Debate - should pig-heart transplants be allowed to happen?  Role play a press conference as Cam (hot-seating) 