**BOOKS IN YEAR 2**

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| Book Title | Synopsis | Age Suitability | Theme |
| Racism  *Anita Ganeri* | Accepting differences.  A non-fiction book to inform children about what racism is and exploring the effects of racism. | ALL (although would need to be contextualised & very teacher led with EYFS to ensure understanding) | Accepting Differences/Respect  (culture & race) |
| Yo Soy Muslim:  *Mark Gonzales* | Being Muslim – taking pride in heritage and religion  Ignoring ignorance and loving yourself for who you are | KS1 | Accepting Differences  (culture) |
| Leo and the Octopus  *Isabelle Marinov & Chris Nixon* | A little boy with Asperger’s Syndrome and a bond he forms with an octopus. | ALL | Accepting Differences (Asperger’s) |
| The Only Way is Badger  *Stella Jones* | Accepting differences. Anti-segregation.  Badger thinks only badgers should be allowed in his forest and excludes everyone else. | ALL | Accepting Differences |
| The Station Mouse  *Meg McLaren* | Accepting differences.  Not judging a book by its cover.  Little Station Mouse has always been told to stay out of sight because humans hate mice! He comes to realise that maybe he shouldn’t have to hide away after all. | ALL | Accepting Differences |
| The Proudest Blue  *Ibtihaj Muhammad* | Being proud of who you are (BAME) | KS1 | Accepting Differences  (culture & race) |
| Don’t Touch my Hair!  *Sharee Miller* | A little girl who’s afro hair keeps on being touched by others. | ALL | Accepting Differences  (culture & race) |
| My Hair!  *Hannah Lee* | Self love & accepting who you are (BAME) | ALL | Accepting Differences  (race) |
| Conker the Chameleon  *Peckham* |  | ALL | Accepting Differences |
| Sweep  *Louise Greig* | Dealing with anger | KS1 | Anger/Anxiety |
| Ruby’s Worry  *Tom Percival* | Being worried, sharing problems, talking about worries (not bottling them up). | ALL | Anger/Anxiety |
| Sleep Well Sifa & Suba:  *Nansubuga Nagadya Ishdahl* | AFRICAN SETTING  Aspiration. Sisters dreaming big and thinking to the future  Remembering not to always look to the past and what you’ve lost, but looking ahead and being hopeful about what’s to come | KS1 | Aspiration |
| The Most Magnificent Thing  *Ashley Spires* | Having grand ideas and not being able to execute them! Making mistakes, having a go – and how to react if it all goes wrong. | KS1 | Aspiration |
| Aziza’s Secret Fairy Door  *Lola Morayo* | Fairy land adventure. | Year 2 | Chapter book with BAME characters/authors |
| Llama Out Loud  *Annabelle Sami* | Big, rude pet llama! | Year 2 (2 copies) | Chapter book with BAME characters/authors |
| Sona Sharma Very Best Big Sister  *Chitra Soundar* | Becoming a big sister. | Year 2 | Chapter book with BAME characters/authors |
| Rumaysa A Fairytale  *Radiya Hafiza* | Rapunzel re-imagined with a Hijabi heroine. | Year 2 | Chapter book with BAME characters/authors |
| Sam Wu is Not Afraid of Ghosts  *Katie & Kevin Tsang* | A boy determined to prove that he’s not afraid of ghosts. | Year 2 | Chapter book with BAME characters/authors |
| Cookie!  *Connie Huq* | A young girl and her adventures at school. | Year 2 | Chapter book with BAME characters/authors |
| Planet Omar: Unexpected Super Spy  *Zanib Mian* | A mystery-solving Muslim boy called Omar – adventures at school! | Year 2 | Chapter book with BAME characters/authors |
| Planet Omar: Incredible Rescue Mission  *Zanib Mian* | A mystery-solving Muslim boy called Omar – adventures at school! | Year 2 | Chapter book with BAME characters/authors |
| Planet Omar: Accidental Trouble Magnet  *Zanib Mian* | A mystery-solving Muslim boy called Omar – adventures at school! | Year 2 (2 copies) | Chapter book with BAME characters/authors |
| An Alien in the Jam Factory  *Chrissie Sains* | Scooter McLay is a young super-inventor with cerebral palsy. | Year 2 (2 copies) | Chapter book – main character has cerebral palsy |
| Courage  *Bernard Waber* | Courage – what is it? | KS1 | Courage |
| The Girl who Never Made Mistakes  *Mark Pett* | Making mistakes & coping.  Having the courage to try something even if it might go wrong. | KS1 | Courage |
| I Can’t Do this…  *K J Walton* | Having courage – the power of ‘yet’.  Growth mindset – focussing on a goal and working to achieve it. | Year 2 (tricky vocabulary) | Courage |
| Malala’s Magic Pencil  *Malala Yousafzai* | Aspiration & courage.  Malala’s fears growing up – having her freedoms taken away etc. | Mature Year 2  (Teacher led) | Courage |
| Dachy’s Deaf  *Jack Hughes* | A pterodactyl with a hearing aid struggles to play with his friends after switching it off. | ALL | Disability  (deafness) |
| Rescue & Jessica Alife-Changing Friendship  *Jessica Kensky & Patrick Downes* | A young girl who suffers an accident ends up having a double amputation. Her and a rescue dog form a friendship that helps them both. | KS1 (wordy) | Disability (double amputee & rescue dog) |
| How to be Extraordinary  *Rashmi Sirdeshpande* | Inspirational historical figures from all walks of life. | KS1 (dense and small text). | Inspiration |
| Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History  *Vashti Harrison* | A celebration of inspirational black women throughout history. | Year 2 (wordy. 2 copies) | Inspiration  (BAME) |
| Little Leaders: Exceptional Men in Black History  *Vashti Harrison* | A celebration of inspirational black men throughout history. | Year 2 (wordy) | Inspiration  (BAME) |
| Little People, Big Dreams: Stephen Hawking  *Maria Isabel Sanchez Vegara* | Stephen Hawking’s life story | ALL | Inspiration (Disability) |
| Night of the Moon  *Hena Khan* | Celebrating Eid (Muslim Festival) | ALL (Although very long and wordy – Year R may need it in short bursts). | Islam (Ramadan & Eid) |
| Sadiq and the Ramadan Gift  *Siman Nuurali* | Sadiq and his friends hold a fundraiser for Somalia as a Ramadan gift. | Year 2 | Islam (Ramadan) |
| Nen and the Lonely Fisherman  *Ian Eagleton & James Mayhew* | A lonely fisherman and a merman fall in love. | KS1 (suitable for all but a bit long for Year R?) | LGBTQI+/Friendship |
| Heather has Two Mummies  *Leslea Newman* | Lesbian parents | Year 2 | LGBTQI+/Families |
| And Tango Makes Three  *Justin Richardson* | Surrogacy & homosexuality | KS1 | LGBTQI+/Families |
| I Am Jazz  *Jessica Herthel & Jazz Jennings* | Explaining transgender through the eyes of a young trans girl called Jazz. | ALL | LGBTQI+ (Transgender) |
| The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse  *Charlie Mackesy* | Friendship, love, kindness | ALL | Love/Friendship |
| Talking is not my Thing!  *Rose Robbins* | A boy with a sister who is mute | ALL | Mutism/ Shyness |
| It’s a No Money Day:  *Kate Milner* | Poverty  Saving up/making do/going without  Use of food banks and relying on the kindness of strangers to help you get by | ALL | Poverty |
| Yasmin the Friend  *Saadia Faruqi* | A girl who solves friendship problems | KS1 | Problem Solving |
| Yasmin the Builder  *Saadia Faruqi* | A girl who solves a logistical problem in class | KS1 | Problem Solving |
| The Green Giant  *Cottle* | Looking after the environment. Green spaces in cityscapes. | ALL | Respect |
| A Shelter for Sadness  *Annie Booth & David Litchfield* | Allowing/welcoming sadness in as a necessary part of life. | KS1 | Sadness |
| I Talk Like a River  *Jordan Scott* | A boy coming to terms with his stutter (based on a true story – see inner back page) | KS1  Teacher may need to lead – abstract concepts. | Stuttering |
| The Promise:  *Nicola Davies* | War  Spreading love and happiness even when all hope seems lost  Seeing positives  Environmental message | YEAR 2  (Themes & content appropriate for Year 1, but may be difficult to access for younger readers) | War/Refugees |
| The Day the War Came: *Nicola Davies* | Refugees (and some people’s refusal to accept refugees into their country).  War  Acceptance | YEAR 2  (Sensitive approach needed – not to be kept in class for free choice. Teacher led) | War/Refugees |
| A Child’s Garden:  *Michael Foreman* | War, separation (literally with a fence)  Spreading love and hope (planting a garden that grows through the fence)  Hope and peace | YEAR 2 | War/Refugees |
| My Name is Not Refugee:  *Kate Milner* | Same themes as ‘The Day the War Came’, but much more accessible and appropriate for younger children | KS1 | War/Refugees |

**Year 2 – Reading spine – Books to read for pleasure, discuss and support teaching of topics**

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| Chocolate cake  *Michael Rosen*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Rhythm and rhyme* | Fantastically funny and full of silly noises, this is Michael Rosen's love letter to every child's favourite treat, chocolate cake. Brought to life as a picture book for the first time with brilliant and characterful illustrations by Kevin Waldron. |
| How to wash a woolly mammoth  *Michelle Robinson*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Instructions* | Does your woolly mammoth need a wash? This picture book will show you how! A little girl, sensibly clad in a yellow mackintosh and red wellington boots offers readers a step-by-step guide to bathing a mammoth, including everything from how to get the mammoth into the tub (try a skateboard or maybe a heavy-duty crane, or even luring him in with a cake) to how to wash his hair. Just make sure he doesn't get any soap in his eyes… |
| Inside the Villains  *Clotilde Perrin*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Descriptions /*  *Adjectives and adverbs* | Everyone will want to get their hands on this book to lift the flaps, peek in pockets, and reveal all of these fairy-tale villains' secrets! For a twist on well-known tales. Personality cards show strengths and weaknesses, pastimes, physical characteristics, favourite meals and--of course--their favourite books. |
| Don’t look in this book  *Samuel Langley-Swain*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Rhyme /*  *Imagination /*  *Story starters* | An unusual rhyming journey through a world of dynamic story starters. this book is used by teachers in Key stages 1 and 2 to engage reluctant readers and writers, inspiring them to write creatively and map stories using the fun and disruptive content. Other more able writers in school extend their stories into fully illustrated poems. This book is a great tool for anyone who wants to reignite the imaginative wonder in the mind of their child/student. |
| In to the forest  *Anthony Browne*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Fairy tales /*  *Fears* | A shortcut through the forest to Grandma's house produces some eerie moments – and some oddly familiar characters – in a strikingly illustrated tale about facing fears. |
| Dr Xargle’s book of Earthlets  *Jeanne Willis*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Descriptive writing* | This delightful, crazy and humorous 'alien-eye view' description of what a baby does will delight young children, parents and teachers alike. |
| The day the crayons quit  *Drew Daywalt*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Letters* | This sumptuous book is a real work of art: each beautifully-designed spread features an entertaining handwritten letter from one of the crayons, accompanied with delightfully scribbly illustrations from Jeffers. The volume of text may make this a little challenging for younger readers to tackle alone, but this is a perfect book to share, with enough wit and lively imagination to entertain parents just as much as children. |
| Tuesday  *David Wiesner*  *Imagination /*  *Description* | This unusual story unfolds rather like a silent movie in bold, colourful but wordless pictures. Light-hearted and quirky, it is sure to appeal to a child's sense of adventure and fun, as well as stimulating the imagination. |
| The giraffe and the pelly and me  *Roald Dahl*  *Reading for pleasure/* | Billy's biggest wish is to turn a weird old wooden house into a wonderful sweet-shop. But then he finds a giraffe, a pelly and a monkey living inside - they're the Ladderless Window-Cleaning Company! (Who needs ladders when you've got a giraffe?) They become best friends, and when they meet the richest man in all of England, there's a chance that Billy's scrumptious-galumptious dream just might come true . . . |
| Mr Wolf’s pancakes  *Jan Tearnley*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Fairy tales/*  *Friendship/*  *respect* | A brilliantly funny take on well-loved fairy tales such as The 3 Little Pigs and Little Red Riding Hood from Jan Fearnley. |
| Nim’s Island  *Wendy Orr*  *Friendship /*  *Respect/*  *Managing feelings* | Nim lives on a beautiful island in the middle of the wide blue sea with her father, Jack, an iguana called Fred, a sea lion called Selkie and a turtle called Chica. But when Jack disappears and disaster threatens her home, Nim must be braver than she's ever been before. And she needs help from her friends. |
| Fluff the farting fish  *Michael Rosen*  *Reading for pleasure* | Elvie is desperate for a puppy that she can train up to do amazing tricks. But it's not a puppy Mum returns from the pet shop with, it's a fish. But Elvie doesn't give up. Determined to fulfill her dream of having a performing pet she trains up Fluff the fish. Fluff can't sit, she won't bark on command, but she does have a very special fishy talent all of her own . . . |
| The tear thief  *Carol Ann Duffy*  *Managing feelings and emotions* | Each night, in the hours between supper and bedtime, the Tear Thief carries her waterproof, silvery sack as she steals the tears of every child who cries. But what does she do with all those tears? This warm, poignant and beautifully illustrated story offers a thought-provoking message and a starting point for sharing childrens emotional responses. |
| Traction Man  *Mini Grey*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Self confidence/*  *Imagination* | Mini Grey’s sense of humour is in full surreal flow in this book. For Traction Man, feats of derring-do are all in a day’s work. Readers so inclined can easily discern a positive message about one’s true nature residing within. Most, however, will be happy simply to revel in Grey’s wild imagination. |
| The bear and the piano  *David Litchfield*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Wants and needs/*  *friendship* | This is a moving tale of exploration and belonging from an exciting debut author-illustrator, boasting some beautiful artwork. It's a striking picture book to enjoy over and over again. |
| The Hodgeheg  *Dick King Smith*  *Road safety/*  *Animals and habitats* | Max is a hedgehog who lives with his family in a nice little home, but unfortunately on the wrong side of the road from the Park. His first attempt ends in a nasty bump on the head. After some careful detective work, Max eventually discovers the best way to cross the road - with the help of the lollipop lady, of course! |
| Big book of the blue  *Yuval Zommer*  *Non fiction/* | Unusually for nature non-fiction, the Big Book series (this is the third, after Beasts and Bugs) has a gentle sense of humour, presenting digestible facts, ideal for lower primary children, with a light-hearted twist. The illustration is fun and beautifully done, too. |
| There’s room for everyone  *Anahita Teymorian*  *Wants and needs/*  *Refugee/*  *The world / habitats* | A child grows and discovers the world. As he lies awake at night, he sees there's enough room in the sky for all the stars and the moon. When he visits the ocean, he sees there is enough room for all the fish, even for the whales. As he grows up, he doesn't understand why people fight for space. Surely, if we are kinder to one another, there will always be room for everyone? This is a beautiful and profound picture book - a testament of our time and a touching allegory for war and the refugee crisis. |
| Flat Stanley  *Jeff Brown*  *Reading for pleasure* | Stanley Lambchop is an ordinary boy with an extraordinary problem. One night, a giant pinboard falls on top of him leaving him completely flat. At first, Stanley enjoys the benefits of his strange predicament. But it's not always easy being different, and, once the novelty begins to wear off, Stanley wishes he could be just like everybody else again. But how will he ever fill out? |
| The 3 little wolves and the big bad pig  *Eugene Trivizas*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Fairy tale/*  *Writing journal* | The classic fight between pigs and wolves as you've never seen it before! A subversive and hilarious take on the well-loved fairy tale. |
| The owl who was afraid of the dark.  *Jill Tomlinson*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Overcoming fears* | Plop is a baby owl. Perfect in every way - except for one. He's afraid of the dark. But he soon discovers, through a variety of new friends, that dark can be fun and exciting and magical. |
| A planet full of plastic  *Neal Layton*  *Non-Fiction/*  *Environmental care* | This brilliant non-fiction picture book, illustrated in Neal's trademark collage style, is perfect for readers aged 4-7 who love nature and want to help the environment. |
| Little Mouse’s big book of fears  *Emily Gravetts*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Managing feelings/*  *Fears / anxiety* | This is an extraordinary picture book, complete with nibbled pages, novelty elements, flaps, die-cuts and even a fold-out map of the Isle of Fright at the end of the book. Young children will identify with the charming rodent protagonist, whose story offers a great starting point for conversations about fears and anxieties of all kinds. |
| Dougal’s Deep Sea diary  *Simon Bartram*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Diary writing/*  *Writing journal* | Meet Dougal, who’s off on holiday doing what he likes best – deep-sea diving. He’d really love to see a mermaid or find the Lost City of Atlantis, and he doesn’t mind helping out with the odd dolphin show. This is his diary . . . |
| Who’s afraid of the big bad book?  *Lauren Child*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Fairy tales* | Lauren Child uses a classic fairy-tale formula for this ingenious and original tale. Herb is drawn into a book of fairy tales where he visits many magic places and meets several well-known characters. But he constantly gets into trouble and spends most of his time trying to escape from these dangerous situations. |
| Meerkat Mail  *Emily Gravett*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Postcard writing/*  *Writing journal* | Meerkat Mail is a brilliant picture book from Emily Gravett, the winner of the Kate Greenaway Medal. It has wonderfully detailed, witty artwork and a giant, glossy postcard flap to lift on every spread. Perfect for fans of The Jolly Postman - and meerkats! |
| Tidy  *Emily Gravett*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Care for the environment* | With warm, rich illustrations, bursting with humorous detail and amusing rhyming text, the tale skips along and is great to read aloud. As well as providing plenty of giggles, it also carries a valuable message about the importance of caring appropriately for the environment. |
| Amazing Grace  *Mary Hoffman*  *Inspirational /*  *BAME* | Grace loves to act out stories. Sometimes she plays the leading part, sometimes she is 'a cast of thousands.' When her school decides to perform Peter Pan, Grace is longing to play Peter, but her classmates say that Peter was a boy, and besides, he wasn't black... But Grace's Ma and Nana tell her she can be anything she wants if she puts her mind to it...This classic story clearly communicates an inspiring message that anything is possible. A warm-hearted tale about following your dreams. |
| A child of books  *Oliver Jeffers*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Joy of reading/*  *Fairy tales/*  *imagination* | A stunning art book that uses text from classic children's stories as part of the illustration, this picture book is also a celebration of the power of story. A beautiful collaboration between visual artist Sam Winston and renowned children's author-illustrator Oliver Jeffers has resulted in a timeless book that will inspire and enthral. |
| The Flower  *John Light*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Growing plants/*  *environmental* | Brigg lives in a small, grey room in a large, grey city. When he finds a book in the library labelled 'Do Not Read', he cannot resist taking it home. In it, he comes upon pictures of bright, vibrant objects called flowers. He cannot find flowers anywhere in the city, but stumbles instead on a packet of seeds. This sets off a chain of events, which bring about unexpected results, continuing to grow and bloom even after we have turned the last page. |
| The great fire of London  *Emma Adams*  *Historical/*  *topic* | Children will love examining the rich detail of each spread, from the detailed city map to the drawings of London before, during and after the fire took hold. This book takes the dramatic historical information surrounding the Great Fire of London and transforms it into a breathtaking story that will transfix readers of all ages. |
| The invisible  *Tom Percival*  *Wants and needs/*  *Respect/*  *friendship* | When poverty affects her family, Isabel starts to feel invisible – an uplifting story about seeing our neighbours and belonging. This is a vital picture book for society today – with an emphasis on family and belonging. |
| Billy and the Dragon  *Nadia Shireen*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *BAME* | The second in Nadia Shireen’s Billy books is as delightful as the first. Shireen’s comic timing is first class, and her characters are full of brilliant wide-eyed, hilarious expressions while remaining cuddly, relatable and full of comforting warmth. It’s great to see a brown girl knight defeating the dragon, too. |
| Clean up  *Nathan Byron*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Environmental – water pollution/*  *BAME* | *Clean Up* also reminds us that there are always things we can do to make the world better, and that environmental issues aren’t separate from our everyday lives: plastic pollution is affecting Grammy and Grampy’s business as well as hurting turtles and ruining the beach for visitors. |
| Ellie and the cat  *Malorie Blackman*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Managing emotions/*  *Friendship/*  *BAME* | In a dyslexia-friendly format, this is a magical and gently comic tale of friendship and thinking of others. When she’s turned into a cat, we get to see Ellie for who she really is behind the sadness of missing her dad, while she’s given the chance to make some unusual new friends and ultimately find a place to belong. |
| Tell me a dragon  *Jackie Morris*  *Descriptive writing/*  *Writing journal* | Everyone has their very own dragon, and this book describes many different varieties of the beast, showing in words and stunning pictures exactly why their owners find them so entrancing. |
| The true story of the 3 little pigs  *Jon Scieszka*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Newspaper recount/*  *Fairy tale* | In revelatory newspaper style, this brilliant picture book exposes the truth about the three little porkers, and one A. Wolf. Putting a brilliantly inventive and very funny spin on fairy tales, Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith bring a refreshing contemporary twist to a familiar original. |
| We’re all wonders  *R. J. Palacio*  *Difference / bullying/*  *Friendship/*  *respect* | Based on Palacio's Wonder, this picture book deals with issues of difference and bullying. The book ends on an uplifting note as Auggie muses that people can learn to see differently, implying that the acceptance he seeks may be closer than he thinks. |
| Where the poppies now grow  *Hilary Robinson*  *Poetry/*  *Friendship/*  *WW1* | This moving poetic text matched with warm-hearted illustrations captures the lives of two friends and the parts they played in the enormous military campaign of the First World War. |
| The girl who stole an elephant  *Nizrana Farook*  *Reading for pleasure/*  *Respect/*  *Friendship/*  *Teamwork/*  *BAME* | An exotic setting and hypnotic storytelling make Chaya’s story impossible to put down. The young characters all have their flaws but are all driven by an underlying desire for a better, fairer way of living. With themes of morality, friendship, teamwork and loyalty, this book will have wide appeal to middle grade readers as it incorporates tension and jeopardy in an exciting coming-of-age adventure. |
| Varjak Paw  *SF Said*  *Reading for pleasure* | A story of finding your true strengths by learning to trust your instincts and think for yourself. Striking, edgy illustrations' |
| The everywhere bear  *Julia Donaldson*  *Reading for pleasure/* | The story focuses on a stuffed toy that lives at a school: the Everywhere Bear. One day, the bear falls from a boy's backpack and goes on the most extraordinary adventure. But will he ever make it back to Class One? |