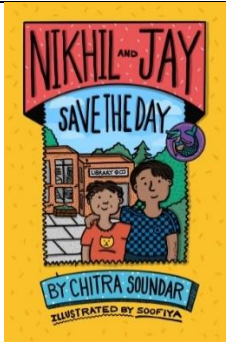
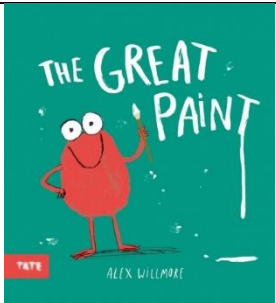
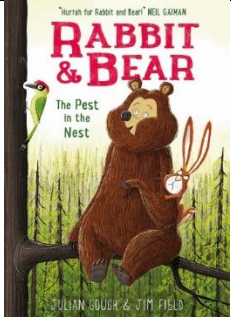
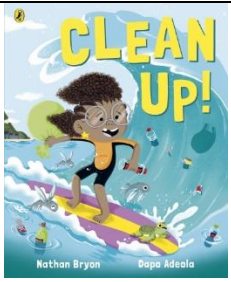
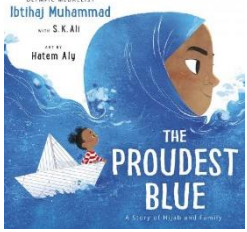
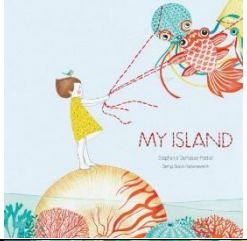
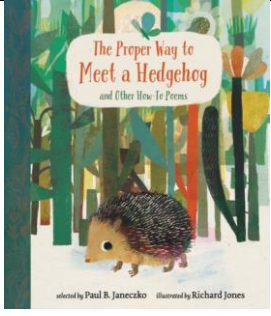


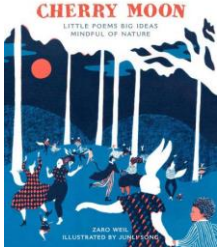

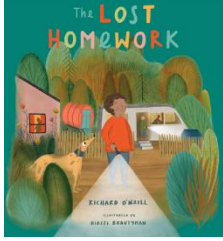
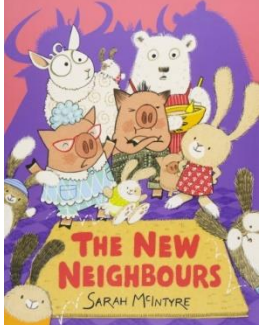
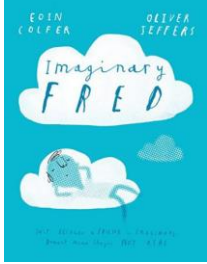


## Brookland Infant and Nursery School

### Recommended Booklist for KS1 (Year 1 and Year 2)

	<p>The Pet Potato</p> <p>By Josh Lacey</p>	<p>Albert is so desperate to get a pet, he'll take anything - a cat, a dog, giraffe... he's not fussy, so he's super excited when Dad finally brings a pet home. There's just one problem: it's a potato. Potatoes can't do anything a proper pet does... can they?!</p> <p>Branford Boase Award shortlisted Josh Lacey and World Illustration Award shortlisted Momoko Abe bring warmth and humour in perfect measure to this story, perfect for any child who's desperate for a pet.</p>
	<p>Nikhil and Jay Save the Day</p> <p>By Chitra Soundar</p>	<p>Early readers from all backgrounds will love these four lively stories about two young brothers in a British Asian family.</p> <p>In these four interlinked stories about Nikhil and Jay and their family, there's always fun and mischief. Jay wants to do things by himself on his birthday, but sharing with Nikhil turns out to be more fun. They all go to visit Grandad and Nana, but where is the story dragon? Then it's Pancake Day, the day when Amma makes yummy dosa, Indian pancakes. And last but not least, Nikhil and Jay help to lead a campaign to save their local library from closing.</p>
	<p>The great paint</p> <p>By Alex Willmore</p>	<p>Frog is an artist who is prepared to try many techniques, including painting, sculpting, performance art. He feels that the swamp where he lives is rather dull so he sets out with his materials to make improvements to his friends' homes. However, they just do not appreciate his art. Frog is downcast but then he realises that there is one place where he can display his talents and no-one will object!</p>

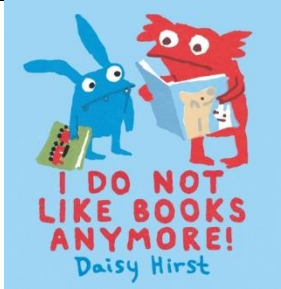
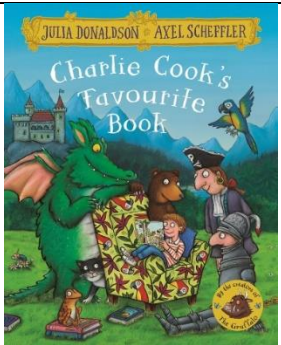
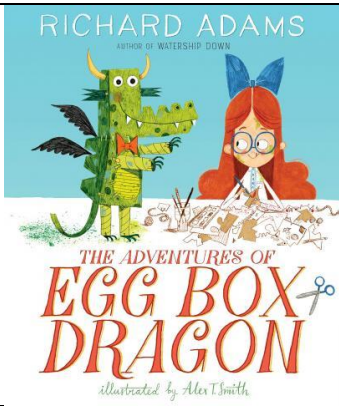
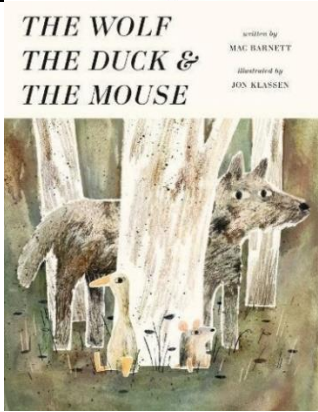
	<p>Rabbit and Bear: Pest in the Nest</p> <p>By Julian Gough</p>	<p>Rabbit and Bear's second adventure begins in Spring. Rabbit is as bad-tempered as ever. All he wants is some peace and quiet but his friend Bear is still snoring and then there's this green blur way up in a tree making a terrible banging noise. Bear is delighted to discover that there is a woodpecker in the valley but Rabbit thinks it is just a pest. Will Bear and Woodpecker be able to make Rabbit see the world differently?</p>
	<p>Clean Up!</p> <p>By Nathan Bryon</p>	<p>In this second picture book about young activist Rocket, she and her mum and her mobile phone toting brother Jamal travel to the small Caribbean island where her grandparents run an animal sanctuary. When she realises the damage plastic is doing to wildlife, she makes sure everyone on the beach knows about it and organises a Clean-Up Crew to do something about it.</p>
	<p>The Proudest Blue</p> <p>By Ibtihaj Muhammad and S.K. Ali</p>	<p>Faizah is proud of her older sister Asiya who is wearing her hijab to school for the first time and looks forward to the day when she will do the same. Asiya has chosen a blue hijab that is 'like the sky on a sunny day' and 'like the ocean waving to the sky', words and pictures complementing each other and reflecting positive images. Both sisters gain strength from their Muslim faith, symbolised for them by the hijab, and from each other, and this helps them to cope with prejudice and hurtful words.</p>
	<p>My Island</p> <p>By Stephanie Demasse-Pottier</p>	<p>A young girl dwells on a lovely island populated by thousands of birds, where she picnics with the animals, plays games, reads, tames snails and tends the flowers. Others are welcome on this island too, if they know how to dream.</p>
	<p>The Proper Way to Meet a Hedgehog and Other How-To Poems</p>	<p>A wonderfully varied collection of poems that will speak directly to young children, full of beautiful examples of the craft of poetry. From the practical (how to mix a pancake or how to bird-watch) to the fanciful (how to scare monsters or how to be a snowflake), the poems share a sense of joy. Soft, evocative illustrations will encourage readers to look at the world with an eye to its countless possibilities. Poets past and present that are featured include Kwame Alexander, Nikki Grimes, Christina Rossetti and Robert Louis Stevenson.</p>

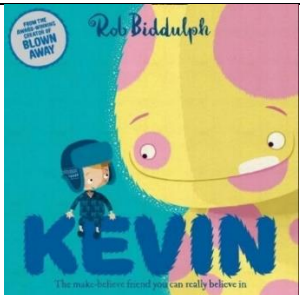

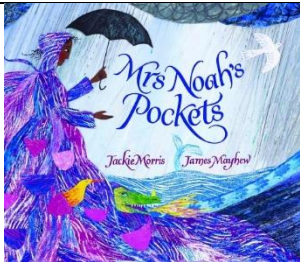
	<p>Cherry Moon</p> <p>By Zaro Weil</p>	<p>In this meditative and nicely paced poetry collection subtitled 'Little Poems Big Ideas Mindful of Nature', the poet presents beautiful snapshots of the natural world and has thought carefully about the form for each. The poems, which are both contemplative and playful, are complemented by gently humorous illustrations that use an unusual and effective muted limited palette and are sometimes surreal in their personification of animals and insects.</p>
	<p>Between Tick and Tock</p> <p>By Louise Greig</p>	<p>Liesel notices the things that everyone else is too busy to see. When she hears a stray whimper and watches a lonely boy on a roundabout, she decides it's time to pause the clock and lend a helping hand. While the city freezes, Liesel quietly carries out little acts of kindness and breathes colour, life and happiness back into the city.</p>
	<p>The Lost Homework</p> <p>By Richard O'Neill</p>	<p>Sonny devotes his weekend to helping his neighbours and fellow Travellers with a variety of tasks. He uses many skills, from calculating the amount of fuel needed for a journey, to restoring a caravan. In fact, the only thing he doesn't do over the weekend is his homework – his workbook is missing! What will his teacher say?</p>
	<p>The New Neighbours</p> <p>By Sarah McIntyre</p>	<p>Some rats have moved into one of the flats in a tower block at Pickle Rye. What will the neighbours think and what will they do? Will they welcome the new inhabitants or will they cling to prejudices about what they will be like?</p>
	<p>Imaginary Fred</p> <p>By Eoin Colfer</p>	<p>Fred is an imaginary friend, poised in the ether, waiting for the magic moment when a lonely child will need him. Eventually, though, each child makes a real friend and Fred finds himself fading. When Fred meets Sam and they discover how much they have in common, everything seems perfect. What will happen when Sam makes a real friend?</p>

	<p><b>Stardust</b> By Jeanne Willis</p>	<p>This picture book may appear at first glance to be about sibling rivalry but it's really about gaining self-esteem, as a girl is encouraged to believe in herself by her grandfather when her sister seems to be getting all the plaudits and consistently called a 'star'. This use of language is a clue to what the girl eventually becomes, and this is also signalled in the details in the warm pictures which convey excitement and wonder at this world and others beyond.</p>
	<p><b>Mr. Penguin and the Fortress of Secrets</b> By Alex T Smith</p>	<p>A humorous illustrated novel featuring Mr. Penguin (who has a relish for fish fingers sandwiches and is fond of fishy phrases) and his band of Adventurers, including Colin the spider (who is a kung fu master who communicates by writing messages on a notepad). What begins as a mission to retrieve a briefcase with mysterious contents quickly turns into a madcap, non-stop action caper involving a hypnotist intent on world domination.</p>
	<p><b>Clem and Crab</b> By Fiona Lumbers</p>	<p>Clem's encounter with a crab whose claw is caught in twisted plastic leads to the realisation for her and her classmates that everyone can play a part in protecting sea and shore and the wildlife that inhabits them. 'Lots of small actions added together can make a big difference.'</p>
	<p><b>A Mouse Called Julian</b> By Joe Todd-Stanton</p>	<p>Julian is a mouse who is perfectly happy avoiding other animals. They seem to just get in the way, and sometimes even try to eat him! But one day, Julian has an unexpected dinner guest... When the fox tries to sneak into Julian's burrow for a tasty bite of mouse, it finds itself stuck headfirst in Julian's front door! At first alarmed and wary, they soon find themselves having a lovely dinner together, and it's not long before each realises that they have found a lifelong friend.</p>
	<p><b>Look Up!</b> By Nathan Bryon</p>	<p>Rocket is a small black girl who is always looking up at the sky planning for the day when she will become an 'astronaut, star-catcher, space-traveller' like African-American astronaut Mae Jemison. Rocket isn't just a dreamer – she's a doer, organising people to go to the park to witness 'The Amazing Phoenix Meteor Shower'. Her mum says that her big brother Jamal must accompany her, but will he ever stop looking down at his mobile phone and</p>

		look up and see the wonders of the sky that Rocket sees?
	<p>A Bear Called Paddington</p> <p>By Michael Bond</p>	<p>"The Browns first met Paddington on a railway station - Paddington station, in fact. He had travelled all the way from Darkest Peru with only a jar of marmalade, a suitcase and his hat. The Browns soon found that Paddington was a very unusual bear. ...</p>
	<p>Home in the Rain</p> <p>By Bob Graham</p>	<p>As Francie and her mum travel home from Grandma's in their little red car they are caught in a downpour convincingly illustrated in Bob Graham's pictures which always combine realism with a touch of humour. Readers can smell and hear as well as see the surroundings and the effects on the people, the traffic and the general environment while the focus is firmly on Francie and her mum. They are not alone in the car as Francie's little sister will soon be born and, by the end of the journey, they will have decided on a name with which they will greet her.</p>
	<p>How To Be a Lion</p> <p>By Ed Vere</p>	<p>Leonard does not conform to the stereotype of how a lion should behave. He is gentle, writes and reads poems and, most disconcertingly in the opinion of other lions, has no intention of chomping his duck friend Marianne with whom he has much in common. Leonard and Marianne go to their thinking hill and come up with an idea to show the other lions they are wrong and that there is more than one way to be, although the ending implies that there no easy answers to these questions.</p>
	<p>The Last Wolf</p> <p>By Mini Grey</p>	<p>Little Red's mother is sanguine when her daughter declares that she is off to the forest to catch a wolf. After all, none has been seen for a hundred years or more. As Little Red wends her way through the Autumnal wood she happens upon the home of the Last Wolf in the land who introduces her to the Last Lynx and the Last Bear. Together they tell her about the days when there were miles of verdant forest to run through and food to eat. Once she understands the planet's plight, Little Red comes up with a solution although she knows it will take a long time to come to fruition.</p>

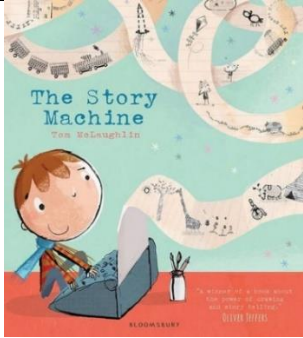
	<p>If All the World Were...</p> <p>Author: Joseph Coelho</p>	<p>A child describes her relationship with her Indian grandfather – the activities they share, the stories he tells her and the way he encourages her to write and draw by giving her a notebook he has made himself. When he dies she finds a new notebook on his empty chair that she can use to record her memories of him and feel that he remains with her as she cultivates her own creativity.</p>
	<p>Thinker: My Puppy Poet and Me</p> <p>By Eloise Greenfield</p>	<p>A puppy who is a poet knows he has joined the right human family when they choose to name him Thinker. Seven-year-old Jace is a poet too and these appealing poems detail their dialogue as they share 'word-music' through their poetry.</p>
	<p>The Secret Sky Garden</p> <p>By Linda Sarah</p>	<p>Funni loves hearing the planes and watching the sights from the abandoned airport car park, but she feels that something is missing. Over the course of the book, she transforms the abandoned area into a beautiful garden and with it, discovers a new friend. A wonderful story sharing the impact small actions can make on a community and on ourselves and one that could be used to encourage children to value and consider how to improve their own environment.</p>
	<p>Emily Brown and the Elephant Emergency</p> <p>By Cressida Cowell</p>	<p>Emily Brown and her toy rabbit Stanley are on an adventure with their friend Matilda the elephant, but Matilda's mummy will keep calling on the emergency telephones that crop up with surprising frequency and variety wherever they are as she is so anxious about her child. Matilda always answers tells her in no uncertain terms that her fears are unfounded. Then comes the moment when Matilda actually wants to speak to her mummy but she doesn't answer...</p>
	<p>The Secret of Black Rock</p> <p>By Joe Todd-Stanton</p>	<p>There are several legends about the nature of the Black Rock in the fishing community where Erin Pike lives with her mum and their dog. What is the secret of Black Rock? One day Erin sneaks onto her mum's fishing boat which leads to her finding out. Her adventure in the underwater world encompasses an environmental message within the framework of a story set out in a graphic novel format.</p>

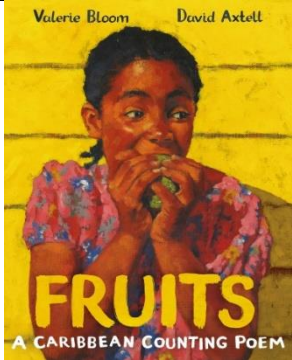
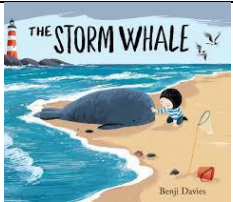
	<p>I Do Not Like Books Anymore!</p> <p>By Daisy Hirst</p>	<p>Natalie loves the books and stories her parents read aloud and she looks forward to being able to read to herself and her little brother Alphonse joyfully anticipates her reading to him too. But when she starts school she is disappointed to discover that letters and words look like 'prickles or birds' feet' and 'scuttling insects'. What's more, the reading books she's given don't seem to have stories in them... This picture book about how Natalie learns to love books again with the help of her family and her own imagination demonstrates with great humour that learning to read is about so much more than decoding print.</p>
	<p>Charlie Cook's Favourite Book</p> <p>By Julia Donaldson</p>	<p>A love song to the enjoyment of reading and a feast full of intertextual links. Charlie Cook has a favourite book – in fact he has a whole shelf of them – and the characters within also love to read. Goldilocks is snuggled in Baby Bear's bed with his favourite book, a bold and fearless knight fends off a dragon by reading aloud jokes to him. The design of each spread mimics the opening of a different kind of book reflected in small details such as water stains on the pages of a story about a pirate.</p>
	<p>The Adventures of Egg Box Dragon</p> <p>By Richard Adams</p>	<p>Arts and crafts literally come to life when Emma brings home a dragon she has constructed from a range of materials – shiny bicycle reflectors, black bin liners, thick wire and, predominantly, cut up egg boxes. A night under the moon awakens the Egg Box Dragon who quickly becomes famous for his ability to find lost objects, eventually coming to the notice of the Queen.</p>
	<p>The Wolf, the Duck and the Mouse</p> <p>By Mac Barnett</p>	<p>A mouse and a wolf have an inauspicious encounter in the woods and it's not giving away the plot to reveal that the mouse gets gobbled up. However, once inside the wolf's belly, the mouse soon discovers that he is not alone. Will the mouse and his new companion be able to escape? Do they want to?</p> <p>An unusual story with deep philosophical implications about what it means to feel safe and secure. It is told in carefully chosen language with a humorous dark edge, often employing the vocative - "Oh woe! said the hunter. "Oh death! These woods are full of evil and wraiths!" -</p>


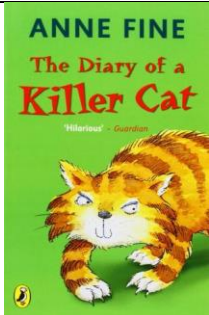
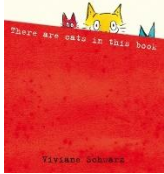
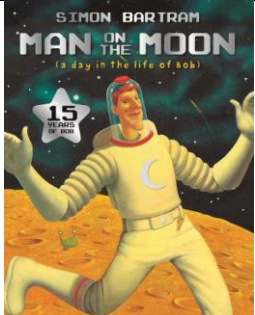
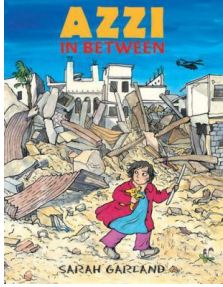
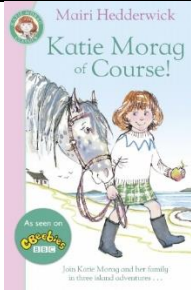
		switching between this and more everyday expressions.
	<p>Rapunzel</p> <p>By Bethan Woollvin</p>	<p>A pared back and twisted take on the traditional tale told with humour to be gleaned from reading the pictures. It begins with Rapunzel, here portrayed as a child, already encased in the tower without the back story explaining how she came to be there and reaches a conclusion in which she makes a joyful escape without the aid of a prince. As in her previous book <i>Little Red</i>, Bethan Woollvin uses a colour palette which incorporates only one standout colour amongst black, white and grey – in this case, a golden yellow used to highlight Rapunzel's hair.</p>
	<p>Kevin</p> <p>By Rob Biddulph</p>	<p>Sid Gibbons is always blaming his friend Kevin for messes of his own making. His mum is fed up because Kevin is only make-believe as far as she is aware. Is Sid just making excuses or does Kevin really exist? His discoveries about Kevin, the world he inhabits and his own behaviour lead Sid to mend his ways in a story told in rhyming couplets which has a moral conveyed in a way that does not seem didactic and encourages empathy. A tribute to imaginary friends everywhere.</p>
	<p>Ossiri and the Bala Mengro</p> <p>By Richard O'Neill Katharine Quarmby</p>	<p>Ossiri's family is adept at recycling to support themselves. Her love of music leads her to fashion her own instrument using these skills and she creates what she calls a Tattin Django. The sounds she makes with it are not pleasing to the ears of her community at first but Ossiri perseveres and her music awakes the ogre known as the Bala Mengro, with unexpected consequences.</p>
	<p>Mrs Noah's Pockets</p> <p>By Jackie Morris</p>	<p>As the rain falls with increasing intensity and the water rises, Mr Noah makes a list of all the animals he believes should sail in the ark he is building. He also has another list of all those creatures he thinks are troublesome and not worth saving. Mrs Noah watches what is happening and pursues her own agenda as poetic language and mixed media illustrations work together to create understanding in this new slant on a very old tale.</p>

	<p>Pattan's Pumpkin</p> <p>By Chitra Soundar</p>	<p>Storyteller Chitra Soundar has adapted this flood story from one told in Kerala in southern India. Pattan and his wife Kanni grow food which they share with all living creatures. An ailing plant that he nurtures becomes a huge and splendid pumpkin which provides rescue and shelter when dark clouds gather and a flood threatens human, animal and plant life.</p>
	<p>Leaf</p> <p>By Sandra Dieckmann</p>	<p>One day a large white creature floats to shore and tries to find shelter and safety in an old cave. The animals of the Wild Wood fear him at first and name him Leaf because they observe him gathering leaves and because they want him to leave. They are divided by what they regard as Leaf's strange behaviour but gradually come to understand that this bewildered polar bear (for that is what he is, although this is not stated until the story nears its close) just wants to get home.</p>
	<p>Rabbit &amp; Bear: Rabbit's Bad Habits</p> <p>By Julian Gough</p>	<p>Bear wakes up from her hibernation early to find snow on the ground and meets the grumpy and rather self-important although apparently very knowledgeable Rabbit. Bear soon starts to learn about gravity, avalanches, why rabbits eat their own poo... Rabbit has surreptitiously stolen Bear's Winter food hoard but his survival instincts don't extend to easy escape when a wolf appears. Bear's intervention and generous nature lead to a lasting friendship between the pair as they contemplate the snowy landscape from the mouth of a cave and consider creating a companion for their Snow Man.</p>
	<p>Olga da Polga</p> <p>By Michael Bond</p>	<p>Life from a guinea pig's viewpoint. These stories are charming but also enable deeper thinking and enquiry; for example, the chapter 'Olga Starts a Rumour' encourages questioning about science and the environment. Olga is an imaginative storyteller – she has a tale about why guinea pigs have no tails.</p>

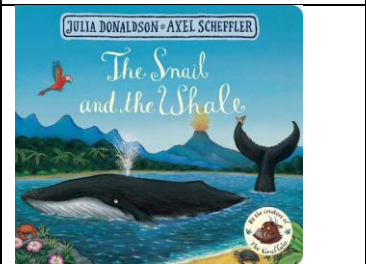

	<p>Here I Am</p> <p>By Patti Kim</p>	<p>A young boy's experience of the initial alienation and confusion is eloquently expressed in pictures placed on pages carefully designed in terms of layout and colour. The only words are jumbled up on signs or heard as a wall of incomprehensible sound to a child who has just arrived in a new country with a different language and culture from what he is used to. Planting a seed brought from his country leads to the nurturing of friendship and feeling at ease with his identity in his new home.</p>
	<p>The Journey Home</p> <p>By Frann Preston-Gannon</p>	<p>A polar bear realises that he needs to leave his Arctic home as the ice melts and his food supply dwindles. So he climbs into a little boat and sets sail. Along the way he is joined by other animals whose habitat is threatened. The story ends on a note that combines a mixture of hope and uncertainty about whether they will ever be able to return to their original home.</p>
	<p>The Robot and the Bluebird</p> <p>By David Lucas</p>	<p>A broken-hearted robot is left on the scrapheap. Day turns into night, Autumn into Winter, as he lies there, and this is beautifully and simply portrayed in four consecutive pictures. It seems he will never move again until a Bluebird arrives who needs help to get to a warmer place.</p>
	<p>Grandad's Island</p> <p>By Benji Davies</p>	<p>Syd has a very close relationship with his Grandad, whose house and garden back onto his own. On one of his regular visits, he finds Grandad in the attic. Grandad appears to be ready to make a journey and the pair set out on a voyage, entering onto the deck of a ship by passing through a large metal door that Syd has never noticed before. They spend a wonderful time together on a beautiful tropical island before Grandad reveals that he will be staying there and Syd has to make the journey home alone.</p>
	<p>How to Find Gold</p> <p>By Viviane Schwarz</p>	<p>A story of imaginative play and of two friends, Anna and Crocodile, who are on the hunt for gold. But finding gold isn't easy. Oh no! It's dangerous and difficult... Just what will the two friends discover? Teeming with adventurous spirit and boasting wonderfully funny dialogue, this story introduces two unforgettable characters in a gorgeous, classic new art style.</p>

	<p>The Story Machine</p> <p>By Tom McLaughlin</p>	<p>Elliott is a curious boy who finds a mysterious machine. He can't figure out what to do with it. Then one day he makes it work by accident and discovers that it is a story machine with letters that make words. However, Elliott finds letters hard to contend with until, the aid of his imagination and a magnifying glass, he notices a picture amongst them. This sets him off on the path to a world of his own storymaking. His enthusiasm means that the machine eventually 'malfunctions'. Initially made despondent by this, Elliott soon realises that he is the true creator of his stories not the machine.</p>
	<p>Goldilocks and Just the One Bear</p> <p>By Leigh Hodgkinson</p>	<p>A solitary bear stumbles into the city and is as lost as a little girl might be in the woods. He enters a flat in a tower block where he finds food that's just right after tasting some that's all wrong, breaks a bean bag after trying some less pleasant places to sit and falls asleep in a comfy bed. When the family finally return the bear and the mummy person feel that the situation and each other seem somehow familiar...</p>
	<p>A Place To Call Home</p> <p>By Alexis Deacon</p>	<p>Seven furry brothers emerge from the warm womblike home they have outgrown and travel in search of a new place in the wider world. The trials and tribulations they face along the way are depicted in comic strip format. These small creatures believe they are traversing a mountain, a desert and a sea and that they have reached the edge of the world where they find at last their wondrous new home.</p>
	<p>Anna Hibiscus</p> <p>By Atinuke</p>	<p>Stories about the life of a small girl who lives in Africa with her African dad and Canadian mum and a large extended family. The country is not named but the author has drawn on experiences from her own Nigerian childhood. Modern and traditional aspects of African life are an integral part of the stories. Atinuke maintains a light tone throughout but there are some thought-provoking episodes, particularly when Anna sells oranges and later comes to understand that she has deprived some poorer children of their income.</p>

	<p>Fruits</p> <p>By Valerie Bloom</p>	<p>A wryly amusing Caribbean counting poem enumerated in Jamaican Creole. The warm vibrant pictures extend the story of the young narrator and her voracious appetite for the many delicious fruits that careless adults leave around for her to sample as well as share with her little sister.</p>
	<p>The Jolly Postman</p> <p>By Janet &amp; Allan Ahlberg</p>	<p>Sub-titled 'Other People's Letters', this is a stupendous and original picture book. As the Postman delivers his letters to the Wicked Witch, the giant (Mr. V. Bigg in Beanstalk Gardens) and B(ig) B(ad) Wolf, Esq., c/o Grandma's Cottage, Horner's Corner, the child reader can actually open the envelopes, take out the letters or cards and read them.</p>
	<p>The Storm Whale</p> <p>By Benji Davies</p>	<p>Noi lives a self-sufficient life with his dad by the sea in an isolated home reminiscent of the fishing huts at Hastings. One day he finds a little whale washed up on the sand and takes tender care of it until his dad persuades him that they need to return it to its aquatic home. The picture where they do this is especially striking. Two small figures are side by side clad in yellow coats and sou'westers in a tiny fishing boat on a wide and choppy sea, with the whale's tail seemingly waving farewell to them.</p>
	<p>That Rabbit Belongs to Emily Brown</p> <p>By Cressida Cowell</p>	<p>The Queen is determined to have Emily Brown's toy rabbit at any price and when Emily refuses to give in, she has him kidnapped. Emily stomps to the palace to rescue Stanley and is able to show the Queen how to establish a good relationship with her very own toy.</p>
	<p>The Man Who Wore All His Clothes</p> <p>By Allan Ahlberg</p>	<p>In a book which crosses the divide between picture books and first chapter books, readers are introduced to the Gaskitt family. There is a storyline for each member of the family: Mr Gaskitt in his car with an eccentric radio, Mrs Gaskitt answering a mysterious call to her taxi service, the children on the school bus, until all become intertwined in a twisting and turning car chase. In the penultimate chapter, the reason for Mr Gaskitt wearing so many clothes is finally revealed.</p>

	<p>Toys in Space</p> <p>By Mini Grey</p>	<p>Seven toys are left out in the garden one summer night and WonderDoll tells them a story to help the hours of darkness pass. In her tale, they are taken up into a spaceship where they meet an alien who has been scooping up toys from gardens in search of his own lost toy. WonderDoll and her companions help him return the toys to their true owners but will the Hootopize get his Cuddles back?</p>
	<p>The Diary of a Killer Cat</p> <p>By Anne Fine</p>	<p>A cat's eye view of a week in which his family fail to appreciate the results of his hunting - and blame him for killing next door's rabbit when all he has done is to dig up the corpse. Hilarious human consequences result. An entertaining read-alone for the unsqueamish.</p>
	<p>There Are Cats in This Book</p> <p>By Viviane Schwarz</p>	<p>An inventive interactive book in which three playful cats directly address the readers, imploring them to keep turning the pages to make new discoveries, winding them in like a strand of a ball of wool which is a strong motif in the book.</p>
	<p>Man on the Moon (A Day in the Life of Bob)</p> <p>By Simon Bartram</p>	<p>It's Bob's job to keep the Moon clean and tidy. He also welcomes tourist spaceships and gives guided tours. Bob's daily routine is described in a matter of fact tone, and his disbelief in aliens is frequently referred to. However, the detailed, period pictures, tell a different story and readers will soon spot the little green men lurking in the background.</p>
	<p>Azzi in Between</p> <p>By Sarah Garland</p>	<p>Sarah Garland uses a comic strip format to tell the story of Azzi who has to flee her own country with her parents, leaving her grandmother behind, and settle as a refugee in a new country. At school she shares her knowledge of growing beans by planting and harvesting some brought from her home country and this helps her to grow into her new life.</p>
	<p>Katie Morag, Of Course!</p> <p>By Mairi Hedderwick</p>	<p>A short chapter book containing three episodes in the lives of Katie Morag and her family and friends who live on the Scottish island of Struay. First Katie and her brother decide what to give their Granny for her birthday. Then she learns to look after and ride a pony that was neglected by his previous owners. Finally, Katie embarks on a camping trip that nearly ends in disaster.</p>

	<p>The Magic Finger</p> <p>By Roald Dahl</p>	<p>The narrator of this tale is a young girl whose finger has magic powers which become active when she is angry. She causes her hunt-loving neighbours to change places with the ducks they have been shooting at and as a result they mend their ways.</p>
	<p>The Pirates Next Door</p> <p>By Jonny Duddle</p>	<p>Matilda is delighted when her new neighbours turn out to be a pirate family, the Jolley-Rogers. The rest of the inhabitants of the dull seaside town where she lives are less than thrilled and band together to have the pirates removed. However, the pirates never planned a permanent stay anyhow...</p>
	<p>Traction Man is Here!</p> <p>By Mini Grey</p>	<p>A boy receives an action figure as a Christmas present and the first half of this inventive picture book shows Traction Man's exciting adventures in house and garden, sink and bath. Then comes the visit to Granny who has knitted a green romper suit with matching bonnet for our hero. Will Traction Man be able to overcome the embarrassment of this inappropriate costume and put it to good use with the aid of his trusty pet, Scrubbing Brush?</p>
	<p>Mr Wolf's Pancakes</p> <p>By Jan Fearnley</p>	<p>Hungry Mr Wolf fancies some pancakes. He tries to enlist the help of other fairytale characters such as Chicken Licken, the Gingerbread Man, Little Red Riding Hood and the Three Little Pigs with various aspects of this task. Like the Little Red Hen's companions, they all refuse but, once they smell the delicious aroma of the cooked pancakes, they all come running to eat them. What will Mr Wolf do?</p>
	<p>Lila and the Secret of Rain</p> <p>By David Conway</p>	<p>There has been no rain in Lila's Kenyan village for many weeks and "Without water there can be no life", her mother says. Lila's grandfather reveals to her the secret of rain and she climbs the mountain to tell the sky the saddest thing she knows. Will the sky listen to her plea?</p>
	<p>The Incredible Book Eating Boy</p> <p>By Oliver Jeffers</p>	<p>Henry loves to consume books, quite literally. By an amazing quirk of his digestive system, he absorbs the information from them into his brain. Ultimately, however, the number and speed with which he scoffs the books, leads to indigestion and Henry needs to change his culinary habits.</p>

		<p>I Am Henry Finch</p> <p>By Alexis Deacon</p>	<p>Bravery plays out in surprising ways when a little finch starts having big thoughts. The finches live in a big flock that makes such a racket nobody can hear themselves think. But one day a small bird wakes up in quiet darkness and has a thought, and he hears it: I am Henry Finch. . . . I could be great. ...</p>
		<p>Wild</p> <p>By Emily Hughes</p>	<p>In this beautiful picture book we meet a little girl who has known nothing but nature from birth she was taught to talk by birds, to eat by bears and to play by foxes she is unashamedly, irrefutably, irrepressibly wild. That is, until she is snared by some very strange animals that look oddly like her, but they don't talk right, eat right, or play correctly, she's puzzled by their behaviour and their insistence to live in these strange concrete structures known as 'apartments' there's no green here, no animals, no trees, no rivers. Now she lives in the comfort of civilization. But will civilization get comfortable with her?</p>
		<p>The Snail and the Whale</p> <p>By Julia Donaldson</p>	<p>A tiny sea snail 'with an itchy foot' has a great desire to see the world and hitches a ride on the tail of a humpback whale. They travel the seas together and see many wonderful sights, until one day the whale is 'beached in a bay', and the snail finds her own special way of saving her companion.</p>
		<p>Orion and the Dark</p> <p>By Emma Yarlett</p>	<p>Orion has a whole list of things he is scared of which are comically mapped out on the page. But the one thing that scares him more than anything else is... the Dark! Then, one night, the Dark drops arrives in person for a visit and takes Orion on a journey which enables him to see the sources of his fears and conquer them.</p>
		<p>The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark</p> <p>By Jill Tomlinson</p>	<p>A cunning story that will help children who are afraid of the dark to appreciate it and be unafraid. Plop the owlet is a special case, of course, because he is a nightbird but even he has to be persuaded by a boy with fireworks, an old woman with memories, an astronomer with a telescope among others that dark is exciting, dark is kind, dark is wonderful. A witty, easy-to-read text with a splendid ending.</p>

	<p>Bears Don't Read!</p> <p>By Emma Chichester Clark</p>	<p>Bears don't read but George is a bear who desperately desires to do so. Finding a book beneath a tree in the forest, he heads for the town, determined to find someone who will teach him. At first he encounters fear and prejudice, but eventually he finds the perfect person. The dénouement is very satisfying, with its feeling of having come full circle, as George claims ownership of his story, suggested by a bookplate at the beginning of the book.</p>
	<p>The Magic Bojabi Tree</p> <p>By Dianne Hofmeyr</p>	<p>There is a drought on the plains of Africa and the animals are hungry. A tempting tree is covered in red, ripe fruit but it is closely guarded by a large python who will only uncoil to release it if they can remember its true name. Many try and fail until Tiny Tortoise enters the frame.</p>
	<p>Foxy and Egg</p> <p>By Alex T Smith</p>	<p>Egg rolls up at Foxy DuBois' door and she anticipates a feast in store. First she tries to fatten him up but what finally hatches out of the egg is no chickenfeed!</p>
	<p>Claude in the City</p> <p>By Alex T Smith</p>	<p>Claude is a small plump dog with a penchant for snazzy berets and a bent for problem solving. Accompanied by his sidekick Sir Bobblysock, he ventures into the city.</p>
	<p>Blue Balloons and Rabbit Ears</p> <p>By Hilda Offen</p>	<p>An appealing collection for young children, illustrated by the poet. Full of fun and rhyme and rhythm and a variety of verse forms, whether it's a conversation about a naughty girl called Sally McDuff or a meditation on the miseries of being a goalkeeper. It includes thoughtful themes about nature and history too. You can travel back in time to a life in a long ago age by handling an ancient axe head or imagine yourself shrunk to a tiny size and crawling around under a forest canopy of kale.</p>