

2026

50 FICTION PICKS Years 5 & 6

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NATURE & ANIMALS

Calling The Whales, Jasbinder Bilan

Global, Eoin Colfer, Andrew Donkin & Giovanni Rigano (Graphic Novel)

My Own Lightning, Lauren Wolk

My Friend the Octopus, Lindsay Galvin

Small Wonder, Ross Montgomery

The Lone Husky, Hannah Gold

The Promise, Nicola Davies & Laura Carlin (Picture Book)

Tyger, S.F. Said

Twitch, M.G. Leonard



THRILLS & MYSTERY

Ajay and the Jaipur Moon, Varsha Shah

Floodland, Marcus Sedgwick

The Arrowhead Moor Adventure, Fleur Hitchcock

The Black Crow Conspiracy, Christopher Edge

The Clockwork Conspiracy, Sam Sedgman

The Explorer, Katherine Rundell

The Good Turn, Sharna Jackson

FANTASY & HORROR

Brightstorm, Vashti Hardy

Reek, Alastair Chisholm

Onyeka and the Academy of the Sun, Tolá Okogwu

Rune: The Tale of a Thousand Faces, Carlos Sanchez (Graphic Novel)

Skandar and the Unicorn Thief, A.F. Steadman

The Girl Who Speaks Bear, Sophie Anderson

The Island at the Edge of Night, Lucy Strange

The Last Kids on Earth, Max Brallier

The Monkey Who Fell from the Future, Ross Welford

The Witch in the Woods, Jennifer Killick



SET IN THE PAST

Aventure Calling, Sufiya Ahmed

Arctic Star, Tom Palmer

Dance of Resistance: The Josephine Baker Story, Catherine Johnson

Now or Never: A Dunkirk Story, Bali Rai

My Friend the Enemy, Dan Smith

The Way to Impossible Island, Sophie Kirtley

When the Sky Falls, Phil Earle

Where the River Takes Us, Lesley Parr

EMPATHY & KINDNESS

Boy, Everywhere, A.M. Dassu

Fablehouse, E.L. Norry

The Boy in the Suit, James Fox

The Final Year, Matt Goodfellow (Verse Novel)

The Island, Armin Greder (Picture Book)

The Letter with the Golden Stamp, Onjali Q. Rauf

The Small Things, Lisa Thompson

The Storm Swimmer, Clare Weze

Zak Monroe is (Not) My Friend, Simon Packham



SMILE & LAUGH

Cookie!...and the Most Annoying Boy in the World, Konnie Huq

Kofi and the Rap Battle Summer, Jeffrey Boakye

Shoe Wars, Liz Pichon

The Extremely Embarrassing Life of Lottie Brooks, Katie Kirby (Diary)

The Funniest Boy in the World, Helen Rutter

The Last Bard, Maz Evans

Zombierella, Joseph Coelho (Verse Novel)