St John's Catholic Primary School

Berry Lane, Rickmansworth, Herts, WD3 7HG ~ T: 01923 774004 E: admin@stjohns705.herts.sch.uk

Executive Headteacher: Ms Patricia O'Donnell

Year 5 Suggested Texts: A Guide For Parents

We know that choosing books for your Year 5 reader can be very tricky. When on the hunt for challenging texts it can be all too easy to direct them to young adult fiction – where the themes may not be appropriate.

On the other hand, all too often children become 'stuck' in a book series, which, although they enjoy, no longer offers a suitable challenge. The Wimpy Kid book series (and other like it) which may have suited the younger lower KS2 reader or really got them interested in books, no longer suits the pitch of Year 5 language acquisition.

Some children also work their way through only one type of story (Jacqueline Wilson real life and tragedy or diary style books) without being exposed to a wide variety of other genres. Books from many different genres expose them to wider variety of language and book structures too!

The books below have also been chosen to support the English curriculum of Year 5/6. Many of the books below are held within our class book corners, however you may want to purchase one or two (or loan them from our local libraries) to support your child's reading development at home too!

The Book of Stolen Dreams – David Farr
Julia And The Shark – Kiran Millwood Hargrave
The Story of Robin Hood – R. Leeson
Arthur, High King of Britain – Michael Morpurgo
The Tale of Tales – Tony Mitton
Myths and Legends – Anthony Horowitz
Arion and the Dolphin – Vikram Seth
Just So Stories – Rudyard Kipling
Snow horse and other stories – Joan Aiken
Snaggletooth's mystery – Gene Kemp
Shock Forest and other stories – Margaret Mahy
Room 13 – Robert Swindells
No Such Thing as Dragons - Written and illustrated by Philip Reeve
Cosmic- Written by Frank Cottrell Boyce
Millions – Written by Frank Cottrell Boyce
Noah's Gold – Written by Frank Cottrell Boyce
Flood Child - Written by Emily Diamand
Narnia Stories – CS Lewis

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Harry Potter series – JK Rowling
Billy The Kid – Michael Morpurgo
Why the Whales Came – Michael Morpurgo
Oliver Twist – Charles Dickens
A Christmas Carol – Charles Dickens
Stig of the Dump – Clive King
Snow Spider – Jenny Nimmo
Macbeth for Kids - Louis Burdett
The Wolves of Willoughby Chase – Joan Aiken
Peter Pan – J. M. Barrie
A Christmas Carol (Eyewitness classics) – Charles Dickens
The Hound of the Baskervilles – Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (adapted by Chris Mould)
The Wind in the Willows – Kenneth Grahame
The Jungle Book – Rudyard Kipling
Mary Poppins – P.L. Travers
Stories from Shakespeare (ed. Geraldine McCaughrean)

If you want to ensure that other books your child may select at bookshops are suitable for your child, we recommend the website 'Common Sense Media'

A not for profit website that reviews and provides ratings for all forms of media and technology with the goal of providing information on their suitability for children and young people.