



# Cockshut Hill School

## SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

### Recommended Reads for Year 5/6/7

#### Action, Adventure & Mystery

***The Middler*** by Kristy Applebaum. A thriller set in a dark future – middle children especially will love it!

***Airman*** by Eoin Colfer. A fast-paced action book, perfect for anyone fascinated by adventure/flight.

***Warrior Boy*** by Virginia Clay. From London to Kenya: Will Ben fit in with his Maasai family?

***The Lightning Girl*** (& sequels) by Alesha Dixon. Aurora discovers she is a superhero. What next?

***The Girl Who Stole An Elephant*** by Nizrana Farouk. Will Chaya be captured in the Sri Lankan jungle?

***High Rise Mystery & Mic Drop*** by Sharna Jackson. A tech-savvy detective duo fight crime in London.

***From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs Basil E Frankweiler*** by EL Konigsburg. Classic unforgettable adventure.

***Beetle Boy*** by MG Leonard. A mystery adventure with a boy and beetle in search of a missing dad.

***Kensuke's Kingdom*** by Michael Morpurgo. Michael is stranded on an island – but is he alone?

***Spylark*** by Danny Rurlander. Tom discovers a terrorist plot with his drone. Can he stop it?

***The Explorer*** by Katherine Rundell. Stranded in the Amazon jungle, will Fred survive?

***Slick*** by M.M. Vaughan. A science fiction mystery about advertising, androids & humans + friendship.

***H.I.V.E.*** by Mark Walden. A Hogwarts of sorts but for villains. Filled with action and humour.

***The 1000-Year-Old Boy*** by Ross Welford. You'll laugh and cry with this 1000-year-old teenager.

#### Fantasy or Magic Realism

***The Girl Who Drank the Moon*** by K Barnhill. A witch & a poetic swamp monster. Newbery winner.

***Cogheart*** by Peter Bunzl. Murder, mayhem – and a mechanical fox – in a Victorian-style world.

***Artemis Fowl*** (and sequels) by Eoin Colfer. A 12 yo criminal mastermind attacks high-tech fairies.

***Skellig*** or ***Kit's Wilderness*** by David Almond. Beautifully written books. A Carnegie winner.

***King of Shadows*** by Susan Cooper. Time-travel back to Shakespeare's Globe. Superb writing.

***Sky Song*** by Abi Elphinstone. A magical tale about a snowy kingdom controlled by an evil Ice Queen.

***Who Let the Gods Out*** (& sequel) by Maz Evans. A zodiac goddess, a death daemon & Greek gods!

***Ranger's Apprentice: Ruins of Gorlan*** by J Flanagan. Will must protect the kingdom from evil magic.

***Inkheart*** (& sequels) by C. Funke. A fantasy adventure about the power of words and stories.

***Girl of Ink and Stars*** by KM Hargrave. A map-maker's daughter, a missing friend & a fire demon!

***The Whispers*** by Greg Howard. A powerful family drama with creatures who can grant wishes.

***The Legend of Podkin One-Ear*** by K Larwood. Destruction, magic, evil, adventure – and rabbits!

***Wolf Brother*** (& series) by Michelle Paver. Only Torak - and a wolf cub - can save the world.

***Eragon (& sequels)*** by Christopher Paolini. Dragons, elves, monsters and magic; great for able readers.

***Mortal Engines*** (& sequels) by Phillip Reeve. Predator cities on wheels feed on smaller towns.

***Edge Chronicles*** series) by P Stewart & C Riddell. An extraordinary meld between text and illustration.

***Malamander*** by Thomas Taylor. Mystery, mermonkeys, monsters & magic in Eerie-on-Sea!

***The Lost Magician*** by Piers Torday. Step through the Narnia-esque library door for an adventure.

#### Fun

***Little Badman and the Invasion of the Killer***

***Aunties*** by H Arshad. Killer bees, microwaved pants, embarrassing relatives & an 11-year-old rapper!

***Runaway Robot*** by FC Boyce. A fun, moving story of a boy with a prosthetic hand & a one-legged robot.

***Fenway and Hattie*** by Victoria Cole. Written from the point-of-view of Fenway, the dog. Hysterical!

***Flora and Ulysses*** by Kate DiCamillo. A squirrel with superpowers, a self-described 'cynic' and comics.

***Enginerds*** by Jarret Lerner. Super-smart boys vs farting robots – a funny, action-packed novel.

***The Accidental Billionaire*** by Tom McLaughlan.

Jasper creates the world's first talking cat.

***Planet Omar*** series by Zanib Mian. Omar will keep you laughing and reading (better than Wimpy Kid!)

***My Brother is a Superhero*** (& sequels)- D Solomon. It's unfair that Luke's brother gets superpowers!

### Ghosts and Horror

***The Savage*** by David Almond. What if your writing became reality – and you have created a savage?

***Doll Bones*** by Holly Black. Eleanor Black died in 1895 – and now she wants to play.

***The Graveyard Book*** by Neil Gaiman. Possibly the best opening to a story ever! Carnegie & Newbery.

***Crater Lake*** by Jennifer Killick. A Year 6 school trip from hell: Lance and his friend must NOT fall asleep.

***Uncle Montague's Tales of Terror*** by C. Priestley. A collection of intertwined, spine-tingling stories.

### Relationships & Tough Situations

***Cyborg Cat: Rise of the Parsons Road Gang*** (& sequels)- A. Adepitan. Explores racism & disability– but also funny! Celebrates football & friendship.

***The One and Only Ivan*** by K Applegate. Story 'told' by an exploited gorilla. Newbery winner.

***Boy Under Water*** by Adam Baron. A funny and poignant book sensitively exploring depression.

***Cloud Busting*** or ***Pig-Heart Boy*** by Malorie Blackman. Inspiring and heart-warming books.

***Running on the Roof of the World*** - J Butterworth. A dangerous journey across the mountains of Tibet.

***The Dog Who Lost His Bark*** by Eoin Colfer. An extraordinary story of loneliness, pain & friendship.

***Walk Two Moons*** by Sharon Creech. A moving Newbery medal winner about grief and love.

***Apple and Rain*** by Sarah Crossan. Apple's mother has returned after 11 years away...

***Because of Winn Dixie*** by Kate DiCamillo. Opal's mother is gone – will a stray dog help?

***Running on Empty*** by SE Durrant. AJ's grandfather has died and he is trying to keep his family together by doing what he does best – running.

***The Many Worlds of Albie Bright*** by C Edge. Can Albie bring his mum back using quantum physics?

***The Bubble Boy*** by Stewart Foster. Because of his health, 11-year-old Joe is stuck in hospital. And yet...

***The Bone Sparrow*** by Z Fraillion. Subhi is a refugee camp child – a story of friendship and resilience.

***Tall Story*** by Candy Gourlay. Andi loves basketball, but she is short--unlike her just arrived Filipino half-brother Bernardo, who is 8 feet tall. Funny & sad!

***Boy in the Tower*** by Polly Ho-Yen. Ade is trapped in a tower block with bizarre attacking plants.

***Hello, Universe*** by EE Kelly. A story of unusual friendships from 4 points of view. Newbery winner.

***Red Sky in the Morning*** by Elizabeth Laird. Anna's brother Ben is severely disabled. Will she cope?

***A Story Like the Wind*** by Gill Lewis. Refugees in a boat sharing a story, hoping for freedom.

***A Monster Calls*** by Patrick Ness. A harrowing and beautiful book about family, fear and illness.

***Wonder*** by R.J. Palacio. A heart-warming story of a boy with a severe facial deformity.

***Pax*** by Sara Pennypacker. A beautifully written story of a boy and his fox, who struggle to reunite.

***The Boy at the Back of the Class*** by Onjali Rauf. A refugee boy & his classmates fight against the odds.

***As Brave As You*** by Jason Reynolds. What does it mean to be brave? Disability, diversity and truth.

Also try the ***Track*** series and ***Look Both Ways***

***Ghost*** by JP Rhodes. Jerome is 12—and dead, killed by a policeman. A poignant story told by his ghost.

***Wonderstruck*** by Brian Selznick. Two stories: Ben's is in words from 1977, and Rose's is in pictures from 1927. Extraordinary mix of image and language.

***The Great Blue Yonder*** by Alex Shearer. This is the story about Harry's afterlife. Poignant yet funny.

***Clean Getaway*** by Nic Stone. 11 year-old Scoob goes on a road trip with Grandma in the South.

Disturbing but heartwarming, with lots of history!

***The Goldfish Boy*** by Lisa Thompson. Matthew has OCD and stays in his room—but his help is needed.

***How I Became a Ghost*** (& sequels) by Tim Tingle. A Choctaw Trail of Tears story – stunning.

### War & History

***Soldier Dog*** by Sam Angus. Stanley is a dog-handler in WWI. Will his dog save countless lives?

***The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*** by John Boyne. A shocking story of friendship during the Holocaust.

***Letters from the Lighthouse*** by Emma Carroll. It's WWII & Olive has been evacuated to a lighthouse.

***Under a War-Torn Sky*** by L.M. Elliott. Pilot Henry is shot down over Nazi-occupied Europe...

***Once*** (&sequels) by Morris Gleitzman. A Jewish boy trying to find his parents in Nazi-occupied Poland.

***Race to the Frozen North*** by Catherine Johnson.

Based on M. Henson's life, a story of a pioneer.

***Diver's Daughter: A Tudor Story*** by P Lawrence. A

'voices' adventure with African divers in England.

***Number the Stars*** by Lois Lowry. Why did most  
Jews in Nazi Denmark survive? Newbery winner.

***Armistice Runner*** by Tom Palmer. Lily's gran has  
Alzheimer's – but will the WWI diaries of her brave  
great-great-granddad reconnect them?