

## **Recommended Reads Year 6 2019-20**



### **Anderson, Sophie – The House with Chicken Legs**

Marinka's grandmother is Baba Yaga and guides the deceased into the next world from the sentient House with Chicken Legs. Together they listen to the stories of the dead and celebrate their lives. Marinka enjoys the work and is expected to take over but what if Marinka herself seeks a different destiny? Stunning debut novel that fleshes out traditional Russian folk tales and has already been shortlisted for the Carnegie and Blue Peter Book Awards.

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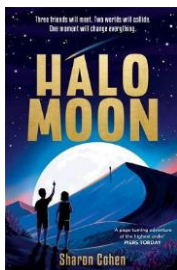
Available  
as a  
Group Set



### **Applegate, Katherine – The Last**

Epic fantasy tale, as Bryx, the last of her species, uncovers a sinister secret. Will she be able to protect the creatures under threat? Who can she trust in this uncertain time? Gripping read. Second in series to follow.

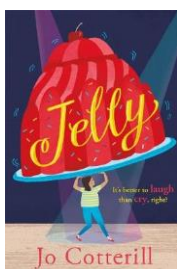
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### **Cohen, Sharon – Halo Moon**

An incredible read full of kindness and bravery. This story is told from the perspectives of 2 characters, an Ethiopian boy, Ageze, and Halo Moon from near Leeds. Ageze has learnt of a disaster which will strike the village where Halo Moon lives, and he travels to the UK to warn her. A mesmerising read.

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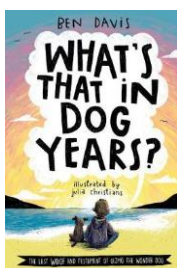


### **Cotterill, Jo – Jelly**

Jelly is overweight and self-conscious about it but hides her feelings by being the class clown. Has troubling issues at home too, all of which she conveys and attempts to understand through writing poetry. A chance meeting with a songwriter proves to be a turning point as Jelly is encouraged to express herself honestly at the school talent show.

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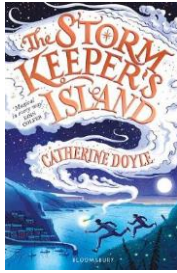
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### **Davis, Ben – What's that in Dog Years?**

No-one could love Gizmo more than George, and when he discovers his dog does not have long to live he draws up a bucket list. Hilarious and poignant moments pepper the text which is also interspersed with Gizmo's autobiography.

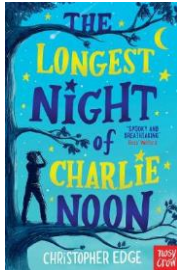
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**Doyle, Catherine – The Storm Keeper's Island**

This hardly allows the reader time to turn the page. A dull holiday on a remote island is transformed into a battle against good V evil, as Fionn discovers his family secret and the expectations set for him.

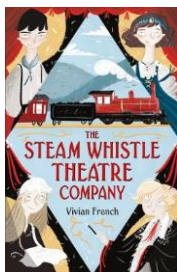
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**Edge, Christopher – The Longest Night of Charlie Noon**

A gripping read following three children who become lost in the woods overnight. Full of suspense, the children worry that they will never find their way out or see a new day. A great read for anyone interested in codes, time and science.

**CF**



**French, Vivian – The Steam Whistle Theatre Company**

Rollicking tale about a family of performers, set in Victorian times, who leave London for the provinces to earn some money. Lots of lively, engaging characters and all manner of dastardly intrigue that gets sorted in the end. A light and lively read.

**CF**



**Harrison, Michelle – A Pinch of Magic**

Cursed never to leave the small island they live on, the three sisters in this story are determined to change their future. This is a pacy fantasy read with great characters and settings, the 1st in the Widdershins Adventures.

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**Hitchcock, Fleur – Murder at Twilight**

Viv hates Noah, but when he goes missing after an argument she feels guilty and starts to retrace their steps. What she does not fully understand is that his life is in real danger and time is running out. 2nd in this series.

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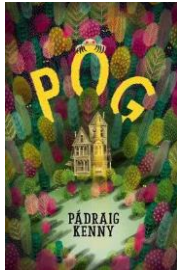


**Johnson, Catherine – Freedom**

Nathaniel travels as a slave from the Caribbean to London with his owners and is determined to change his fortunes. Courageously he escapes and discovers an 'underground' group who are campaigning to end slavery. Brilliantly researched and illuminative, hi-lo novel that won the 2019 Little Rebels Award for Radical Fiction.

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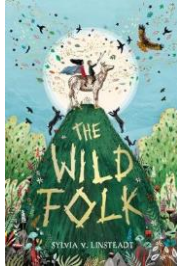
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### **Kenny, Padraig – Pog**

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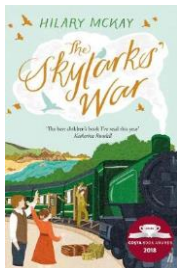
Two children find themselves launched into an adventure just as they are grieving for their mother. In the forest surrounding the house an evil presence can sense a weakness. Despite Pog living in the attic and protecting the house and its occupants, things start to go very wrong.



### **Linsteadt, Sylvia – The Wild Folk**

**CF**

A modern-day parable. This is the start of an epic quest as the children seek to unite the three warring communities who appear to have nothing in common. The 1st in the series.



### **McKay, Hilary – The Skylarks' War**

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Poignant and beautifully crafted book that follows the fortunes of one family through the first years of the 20th century and the first world war. Has an epic, classic feel to it and is full of memorable characters that stay with you. Winner of the Costa Childrens Book Award 2018.

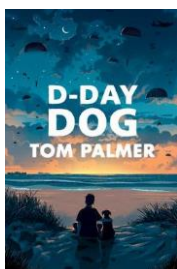
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### **O'Hart, Sinead – The Star-Spun Web**

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Tess is an enterprising amateur scientist who is taken from her beloved, friendly orphanage home by a mysterious stranger claiming to be her guardian. Of course, there is a dastardly plan and it involves parallel worlds and, indeed, world domination. Can Tess, her orphanage friends and the strangely familiar boy that Tess meets through the portal, solve the secret of the star-spun web in time to save the world?



### **Palmer, Tom – D-Day Dog**

**CF**

Jack loves spending time with his dad, who is a reserve soldier, talking about wars. However, this all changes when a girl from Syria joins his class and he learns more about the horrors of war through the D-Day landings. A thought provoking read.



### Renner, Ellen – Storm Witch

Storm is chosen against tradition as the Storm Witch. This is a powerful position in the community, but she feels ostracised by her peers. When the drowned ones attack the island, she must be the one to come up with a plan to save her community. More to follow in this series.

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### Simmons, Anthea – Lightning Mary

Fantastic story based on the early life of fossil hunter Mary Anning. Explores her interest in the rocks, her unlikely friendships and the terrible poverty her family endured. Strong, gritty characterisation. Good author notes too.

**CF**



### St John, Lauren – The Snow Angel

A harrowing tale set in Kenya and Scotland. Makena is from a privileged background but all that changes when her parents die from the Ebola virus and she finds herself homeless in the city. The bravery of the children in the slums keeps her going. A thought-provoking tale.

**CF**



### Standish, Ali – The Secret Summer

Whilst on a summer holiday on an island off Florida, Miranda starts to discover the secrets from her mum's past. A lovely portrayal of family life, with Miranda coming to terms with who she is.

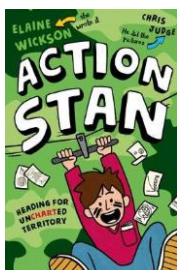
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### Strange, Lucy – Our Castle by the Sea

An idyllic childhood in a lighthouse is cut short by WWII. This perfectly captures the sense of mistrust as the community turns against Petra's family as her mother is German. A story full of excitement with secret tunnels, traitors, dogfights and bombs.

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### Wickson, Elaine – Action Stan

Follow Stan as he finds himself looking after his younger brother on an outdoor adventure camp. What can go wrong? Just about everything, but there are plenty of laughs along the way.

**CF**





### **Woodfine, Katherine – Peril in Paris**

Mystery in the vein of Agatha Christie. Set in 1911, the story travels between London, Germany and Paris. Mystery and intrigue abound as Taylor and Rose unite in solving the case.

**T**  
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CF = Children's Fiction

T = Younger Teen Reads



= Available as an eBook

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