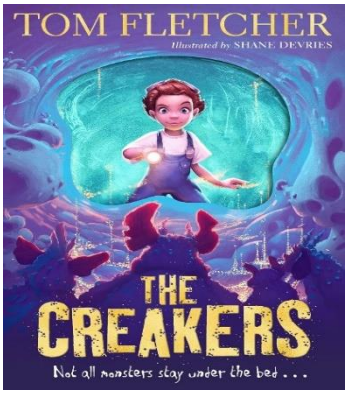
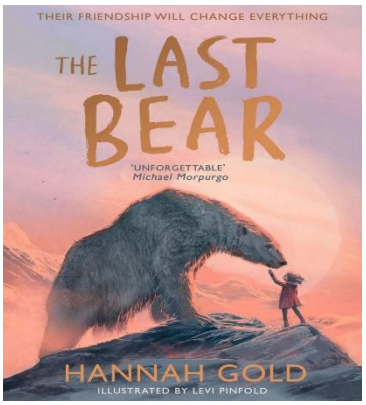
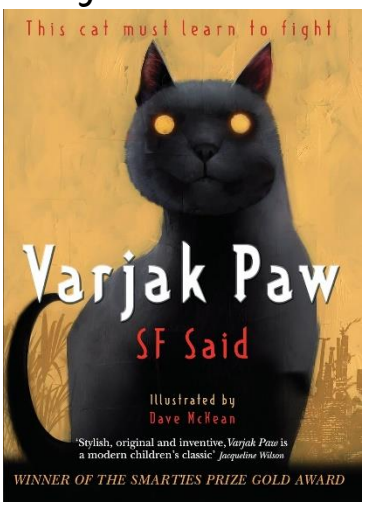
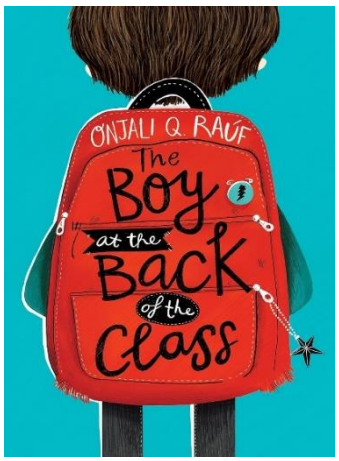
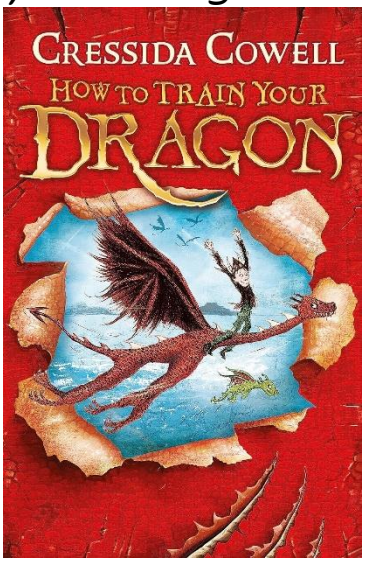
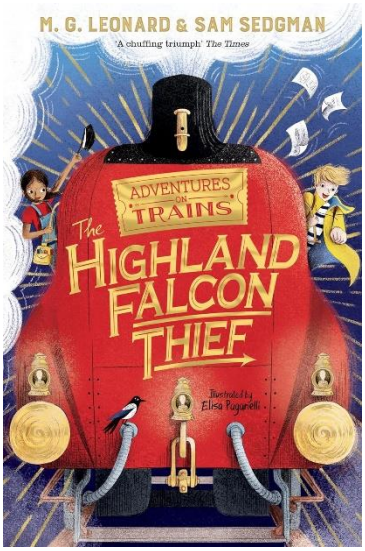
Lawn Primary & Nursery School

Reading Spine

Year 4

Term	Book	Synopsis	Reasoning
Autumn 1	The Creakers 	Lucy wakes up one morning to discover something very strange indeed. All the grown-ups in her town have disappeared. All the other kids in Whiffington are so excited! No more grown-ups means no more school! No more bedtime! No more rules! But Lucy wants her mum back - and nothing is going to stop her. So - along with her friends Norman and Ella - Lucy sets off on an unbelievable adventure into a topsy-turvy, back-to-front and inside-out new world . . . The world underneath her bed. The world of . . . The Creakers!	A magical, mischievous adventure into an incredible new world, from Tom Fletcher, number-one-bestselling author of *The Danger Gang* and *The Christmasaurus*. It also celebrates friendships and families whilst being hilariously funny with snippets of disgusting thrown in too. A perfect recipe for Year 4 children. It brings a new version to what monsters lay underneath our beds.
Autumn 2	The Last Bear 	There are no polar bears left on Bear Island. At least, that's what April's father tells her when his scientific research takes them to this remote Arctic outpost for six months. But one endless summer night, April meets one. He is starving, lonely and a long way from home. Determined to save him, April begins the most important journey of her life...	Imagine making friends with a polar bear! *The Last Bear* is a heartwarming adventure about friendship between a young girl and a polar bear, showing that even the smallest person can make a big difference. This moving story explores courage, kindness and the importance of protecting our planet and its wildlife. Inspired by the real Bear Island, it raises awareness of the challenges polar bears face due to climate change. Beautiful black-and-white illustrations bring this

			unforgettable adventure to life.
Spring 1	Varjak Paw 	Mesopotamian Blue cat, Varjak Paw, has never been Outside before; he and his family have always lived in the isolated house at the top of the hill. But Varjak is forced out into the city when the sinister Gentleman and his two menacing cats take over his home. With help from his mystical ancestor, Jalal, Varjak manages to overcome challenges such as self-survival and a threat from the gangland cats, and he ultimately discovers the terrifying secrets behind the Vanishings. But can he save his own family from their fate?	Beautifully written and illustrated, this book appeals to all readers in KS2. A book full of adventure and mystery, it is superb for reading aloud- therefore bringing all that wonder and mystery to life. It also is a great conversation starter when discussing feelings. It focuses on how one needs to be brave at times and we all must face dangers but it's how we do it is what is important. The book concludes with a challenge to the reader to decide whether the way a character chooses to live their life should be based on family commitments, or personal choice.
Spring 2	The Boy at the Back of the Class 	There used to be an empty chair at the back of my class, but now a new boy called Ahmet is sitting in it. He's eight years old (just like me), but he's very strange. He never talks and never smiles and doesn't like sweets - not even lemon sherbets, which are my favourite! But the truth is, Ahmet really isn't very strange at all. He's a refugee who's run away from a War. A real one. With bombs and fires and bullies that hurt people. And the more I find out about him, the more I want to be his friend.	This is Onjali Q Rauf's first novel. It is a very topical book that addresses refugee issues in a way in which children can understand. It is compulsory reading for all children which focuses on many important issues such as kindness, friendship and bullying. **"Sometimes I think everyone likes to believe a lie even when they know it's a lie because it's more exciting than the truth."**

		That's where my best friends Josie, Michael and Tom come in. Because you see, together we've come up with a plan.	
Summer 1	How to Train your Dragon 	Hiccup Horrendous Haddock the Third is a smallish Viking with a longish name. Hiccup's father is chief of the Hairy Hooligan tribe which means Hiccup is the Hope and the Heir to the Hairy Hooligan throne - but most of the time Hiccup feels like a very ordinary boy, finding it hard to be a Hero. In the first How to Train Your Dragon book Hiccup must lead ten novices in their initiation into the Hairy Hooligan Tribe. They have to train their dragons or be BANISHED from the tribe FOR EVER! But what if Hiccup's dragon resembles an ickle brown bunny with wings? And has NO TEETH? The Seadragonus Giganticus Maximus is stirring and wants to devour every Viking on the Isle of Berk . . .Can Hiccup save the tribe - and become a Hero?	Read the HILARIOUS book that inspired the HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON films! This book is now a major DreamWorks franchise. This is the first in a brilliant series of books. It is a funny and entertaining read that will capture the imaginations of Y3. There are many books in this series for those children who wish to continue reading about Hiccup's adventures.
Summer 2	The Highland Falcon Thief 	When eleven-year-old Harrison 'Hal' Beck is forced to accompany his travel-writer uncle on the last journey of a royal train, he expects a boring trip spent away from video games and children his age. But then Hal spots a girl who should not be on board, and he quickly makes friends with the stowaway, Lenny. Things get even more interesting when the royal prince and princess board for the last leg of the journey-because the princess's diamond necklace	What a series of books-each book focuses on a train journey across various countries. This is the first of that series. Starting off the book is a map showcasing the train's route as well as a synopsis of the characters in the books. As Hal is a budding artist, Sam Sedgman has provided some great illustrations showcasing Hal's

		is soon stolen and replaced with a fake! Suspicion falls on the one person who isn't supposed to be there: Lenny. It's up to Hal, his keen observation, and his skill as a budding sketch artist to uncover the real jewel thief, clear his friend's name, and return the diamond necklace before *The Highland Falcon* makes its last stop.	drawing. What is also clear from this series of books is how cool trains and train journeys can be. MG Leonard + Sam Sedgman both travel the same route that the train does to fully immerse themselves in their stories. It is a junior version of Murder on the Orient Express.