

Rosedale Core Text Overview

2023/24



Rosedale
Primary School

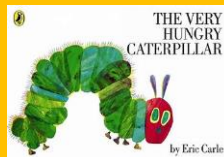
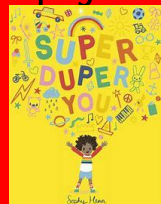
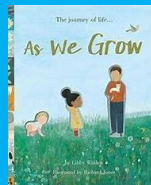
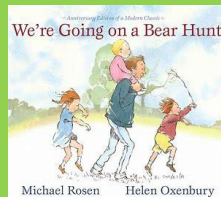

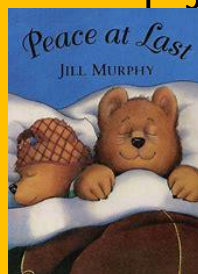
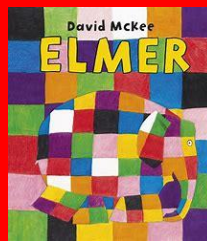
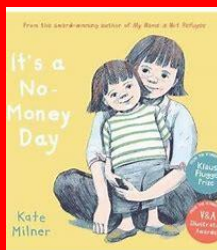
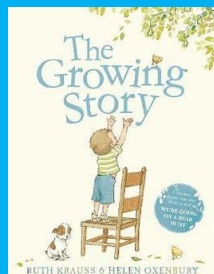
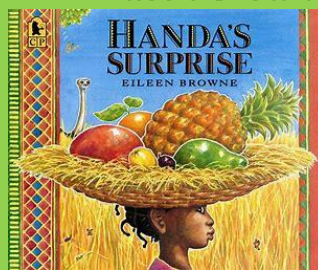
These are the core texts used in each class for the year 2023/2024.

We have carefully selected each text for a specific reason. We believe that all children should read these books by the time they leave Rosedale. By the end of Y6 we aim for Rosedale pupils to have read a large breath of texts which have supported vocabulary development, understanding of the world, awareness of current world themes, and an understanding of much-loved authors.

Each text supports a carefully organised and progressive plan for writing, where the children can enjoy texts and develop as readers, but then also write as authors. Through this we are supporting even the most disadvantaged pupils to become creative and literate, whilst also demonstrating and expressing themselves through their writing.

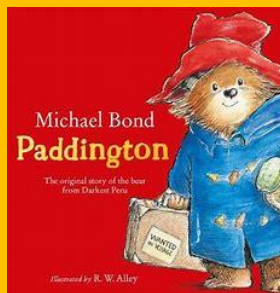
There are 4 stands of core texts as we progress through the year. These are:

Classic books/ Classic Authors	Diversity
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to words that people don't use in everyday speech• Exposure to proper sentence structure and correct grammar• More detailed writing that strengthens reading comprehension• A poignant glimpse into mankind's history• A deeper understanding of Biblical history• Rich language and depth of thought• Improved ability to analyse texts• Expanded vocabulary• A glimpse into the past• Hidden meanings and messages that teach the importance of obedience, hard work, and respecting others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Helps children learn about themselves and feel like they have a valid place in the world.• Offers a powerful opportunity to build community, increase students' empathy, and push back against bias and prejudice.• Supports social-emotional learning, and discussion in the classroom.• Has significant impacts for readers, especially given how they influence the way in which young come to make sense of themselves and the world around them.
Historical Fiction	Geographical Fiction
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creates a context for current events and how they have been shaped by the past.• Provides for exploration of human interaction and behaviour in extreme circumstances.• Educates about history in a more compelling and memorable way.• Helps bridge generational divides by bringing to life formative periods of older relatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It's so important to read good children's books about geography so that our children understand small concepts such as communities to big concepts like a global perspective• Provides students with an opportunity to think critically about the world around them.• Helps them to understand how humans interact with the environment and the impact of their actions.• Encourages a holistic appreciation of how the world works and of the interconnections between concepts such as scale, community, cultural diversity.• Develops children's awareness of relationships between people and the environment.• Helps students with spatial awareness on the globe.• Children develop a better understanding of the world, its cultures, and its places.• Children learn facts in an engaging and memorable way through stories.• These texts can inspire children's curiosity and interest in travelling and exploring.• These texts can reduce children's feelings of loneliness and increase their social connectedness

	Autumn Classical Fiction		Spring Diversity	Summer A Historical Fiction	Summer B Geographical Fiction	
Nursery	The Very Hungry Caterpillar -Eric Carle 		Super Duper You -Sophy Henn 	As We Grow -Libby Walden and Richard Jones 	We're Going on a Bear Hunt -Michael Rosen 	
	Eric Carle's The Very Hungry Caterpillar is a perennial favourite with children and adults alike. Its imaginative illustration and clever cut-out detail charts the progress of a very hungry caterpillar as he eats his way through the week. (Links to UTW/literacy/maths/PSED)		Sophy Henn celebrates all the different, extraordinary and sometimes contradictory things we are in this joyful and colourful rhyming picture book. Whatever you are, let's be proud of you being you! This bright and colourful picture book is a joyful celebration of the uniqueness of each individual. (Links to PSED/C&L/literacy)	No one knows what lies ahead or who they'll grow to be, It's all a part of growing up – the journey to be me! In this stunning picture book, Richard Jones' enchanting illustrations sensitively depict each stage of life and the journey of transformation that we undergo as we grow up. (Links to UTW/maths/C&L/literacy)	This book is for brave hunters and bear-lovers everywhere! Children follow and join in the family's excitement as they wade through the grass, splash through the river, squelch through the mud and brave their way through the swirling, whirling snowstorm in search of a bear. What a surprise awaits them in the cave on the other side of the dark forest! (Links to PSED/maths/literacy/UTW)	
Reception	Whatever Next -Jill Murphy 	Peace at Last -Jill Murphy 	Elmer -David McKee 	It's a No Money Day -Kate Milner 	The Growing Story -Ruth Krauss and Helen Oxenbury 	Handa's Surprise • Eileen Browne 
	Jill Murphy's bestselling classic Whatever Next and Peace at Last has delighted young children for almost forty years. With a snoring Mrs Bear, an excitable Baby Bear and a house full of tapping and dripping and ticking, peace is hard to come by The familiar noises, repetition and beautiful illustrations make Jill Murphy's delightful stories an all-time favourite. These are beautiful refreshed editions of a much-loved picture book classic. (Links to PSED/ literacy/ C&L/ maths)		Elmer is different. Elmer is patchwork. Elmer's subtle message, that it is OK to be different, resonates with children across the world. (Links to PSED/literacy)	A moving insight into the sad rise and necessity of foodbanks from the perspective of society's most vulnerable on the poverty line, and an essential book that develops empathy in younger readers. (Links to PSED/literacy)	The Growing Story is an enchanting story about a boy who watched living things grow and change through the seasons. Just as he begins to think that he will be small forever, he learns to see the signs that he is growing and changing too. (Links to nursery 'As We Grow'/ UTW/maths/ literacy/ PSED/Y1 science- seasonal changes)	One of the best culturally diverse picture books in the UK, this is the story of Handa, who's part of the Luo tribe in south-west Kenya. Handa decides to take seven pieces of delicious fruit to her friend, Akeyo, who lives in the neighbouring village. (Links to PSED/UTW- farms in England farms in Africa/literacy/ maths/ Y1/2 geography)

Year 1

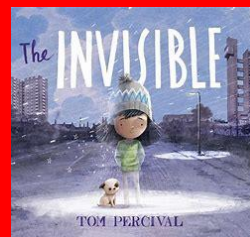
Paddington -Michael Bond



The classic story of everyone's favourite bear, Paddington. Mr and Mrs Brown welcomed the adventurous bear into their family, and in honour of their meeting place they named him Paddington. Ordinary things – like having a bath – become quite extraordinary when a bear called Paddington is around!

(Links to EYFS PSSED/UTW/Y1 geography/community links to Paddington factory in Doncaster/ links to diversity- refugees)

The Invisible -Tom Percival



A family are forced to leave their home due to poverty. Feeling alone and invisible to the world, Isabel begins to notice the many other people living in similar circumstances – in fact, there are other 'invisible' people everywhere. Isabel is stirred to action and decides to make a difference to her new community in the little ways she can. By gradually improving small things that cost nothing, she starts a community movement. This story links to whole school values of tolerance, kindness and caring and can be used for developing a sense of belonging and community. It shows how anyone can make a positive impact on those around them, regardless of how little they have.

(Links to Y1 PSHE/ British Values)

Our Tower -Joseph Coelho & Richard Johnson



Our Tower tells the story of three children living in a tower block. Viewing their environment as “concrete and grey”, they decide to seek out the glimpse of green they can see high up from their window. This book illustrates the diversity and the incredible sense of community that living in a tower block provides, showing how they are more magical than the boring, hard and grey high-rise flats that dominate urban skylines. The tale brings a message about urbanisation, where there's a perceived distinction between countryside and urban spaces.

(Links to Y1 PSHE/history)

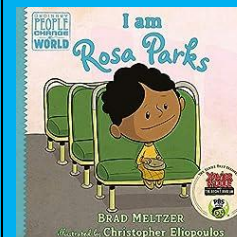
The Queens Hat -Steve Antony



A sudden gust of wind sets off a marvellous London adventure for the Queen, the Queen's men and one very special hat. So let's follow one determined, dare-devil queen through London Zoo, over Tower Bridge and up Big Ben ... just where will that hat land?

Featuring favourite London landmarks, including Tower Bridge, Big Ben and London Zoo.

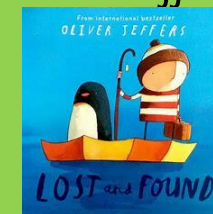
I am Rosa Parks - Brad Meltzer



This book focuses on Rosa Parks' strength in the face of adversity and prejudice. We see Rosa's life as a young girl, and how she stood her ground when a local boy picked on her. That same strength is highlighted when Mrs. Parks refuses to give up her seat to a white man on a public bus. The message of this book is not just that Rosa Parks was strong, but also that readers can be strong like her as well, because anyone can be a hero.

(Links to history-significant individuals/ Rosedale Dreamers- Queen Elizabeth/ King Charles/ Rosa Parks/Y2 history)

Lost and Found- Oliver Jeffers



The boy decides to take the penguin home himself, and they set out in his row boat on a journey to the South Pole.

(Links to Y1 geography)

One Day on our Blue Planet: In the Savannah -Ella Bailey

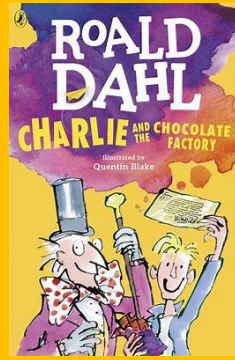


This beautifully illustrated picture book charts the wildlife in the Savannah across the course of a whole day. Informative and visually appealing with accessible text.

(Links to Y1/2 geography/ Y2 history)

Year 2

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory -Roald Dahl



Charlie and the Chocolate Factory is a 1964 children's novel by British author Roald Dahl. The story features the adventures of young Charlie Bucket inside the chocolate factory of eccentric chocolatier Willy Wonka.

[\(Links to Y1/Y2 PSHE- families/ poverty/first chapter book\)](#)

Flat Stanley -Jeff Brown

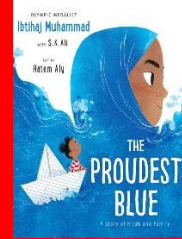


Stanley Lambchop was just an ordinary boy – until a noticeboard fell on him. Now he's flat as a pancake!

Being flat is fantastic – he can be rolled up, sent in the post and even fly like a kite.

[\(Links to PSHE\)](#)

The Proudest Blue - Ibtihaj Muhammed



It's Faizah's first day of school, and her older sister Asiya's first day of hijab – made of a beautiful blue fabric. But not everyone sees hijab as beautiful. In the face of hurtful, confusing words, Faizah finds ways to be strong. This is an uplifting, universal story of new experiences, the unbreakable bond shared by siblings and of being proud of who you are, from Olympic medallist Ibtihaj Muhammad.

[\(Links to Y1/Y2 RE-Islam/ PSHE\)](#)

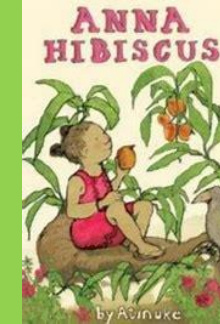
Toby and the Great Fire of London - Margaret Nash



Toby and The Great Fire of London tells the story of Toby's experiences of the Great Fire of London with detailed cartoon-style images that bring the events of the Great Fire to life. Perfect for children who are building up their reading confidence, This carefully controlled text interacts with stunning artwork to help develop visual literacy.

[\(Links to Y2 history/ Y1 History/ short chapter book for children\)](#)

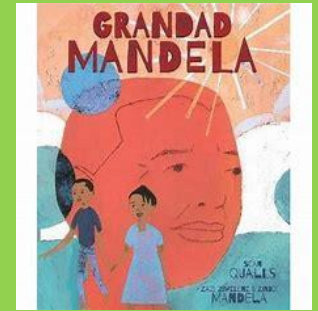
Anna Hibiscus -Atinuke



Anna Hibiscus is a young girl who lives in an African city with her family. This early chapter book is an excellent choice for KS1 and the story collection offers a window into what everyday life might look like for one child growing up in one part of amazing Africa.

[\(Links to Y1 history/ Y2 geography/ Rosedale Dreamers- Nelson Mandela and African heritage\)](#)

Grandad Mandela - Ambassador Zindzi Mandela



Seen through a child's perspective, Nelson Mandela, the global icon of peace and forgiveness who spent 27 years in prison. They learn that he was a freedom fighter who put down his weapons for the sake of peace, and who then became the President of South Africa and a Nobel Peace Prize-winner. The children realise that they can continue his legacy in the world today.

[\(Links to Y1 history/ Y2 geography/ Rosedale Dreamers- Nelson Mandela and African heritage\)](#)

Year 3

Kings of a Cloud Forest
-Michael Morpurgo



This story, from the popular children's author Michael Morpurgo, recounts the perilous journey of Ashley and his Uncle Sung across the Himalayan Mountains as they battle for survival. Escaping from China as the Japanese invade, Ashley and Uncle Sung embark on a perilous journey across the Himalayas. Then Ashley finds himself alone in the hostile mountains, battling for his life.

[\(Links to geography\)](#)

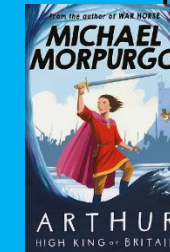
When Stars are Scattered
-Victoria Jamieson/Omar Mohamed



Through a different style of storytelling, this heart-wrenching true story about life in a Kenyan refugee camp that will restore faith in real-life happy endings. Omar and his brother Hassan, two Somali boys, have spent a long time in the Dadaab refugee camp. Separated from their mother, they are looked after by a friendly stranger. Life in the camp isn't always easy. The hunger is constant . . . But there's football to look forward to, and now there's a chance Omar will get to go to school. With a heart-wrenching fairytale ending, this incredible true story is brought to life by Victoria's stunning illustrations. This book perfectly depicts life in a refugee camp for 8-12 year olds.

[\(Links to diversity\)](#)

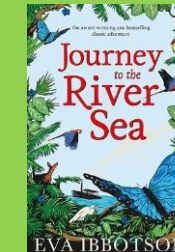
Arthur, High King of Britain.
Michael Morpurgo



Arthur, High King of Britain is a gripping historical adventure. An enchanting take on the legend of King Arthur from Michael Morpurgo.

[\(Links to author MM/ history\)](#)

Journey to the River Sea
- Eva Ibbotson



This is a very popular choice for KS2. It tells the story of a small girl called Maia, who journeys down the Amazon River with her strict governess, making friends and enemies along the way. It is rich in descriptive language in both its depiction of the Brazilian jungle and in its descriptions of complex and cruel characters.

[\(Links to geography- rivers/ PSHE\)](#)

Year 4

Alice in Wonderland - Lewis Carroll



Alice in Wonderland is an 1865 novel by English author Lewis Carroll. It tells of a young girl named Alice, who falls through a rabbit hole into a subterranean fantasy world populated by peculiar, anthropomorphic creatures. It is considered to be one of the best examples of the literary nonsense genre.

(Links to power of dreams, the strength of imagination, to question the strange and accept the weird/ explore the unknown and stand up for what you believe in)

A Kind of Spark -Ellie McNicoll



A beautifully written book with a fascinating story behind it, and an insightful exploration of one girl's experiences of autism. The way that the messages of the book about acceptance and self-belief are intertwined with the story of the witches persecuted in Scotland is really clever. This book will help those children who may feel they are 'different', but also challenges all children to think carefully about how they treat those who they see as different to them.

(Links to neurodiversity/ autism)

Beowulf -Michael Morpurgo

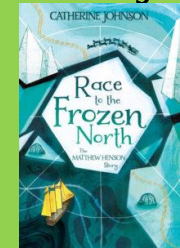


In fifth-century Denmark, a murderous monster stalks the night, and only the great prince of the Geats has the strength and courage to defeat him.

Morpurgo draws on the style of the original text, using rich, alliterative language but mixes it with modern themes as he retells the story of Beowulf's epic quest to destroy the monstrous Grendel. Morpurgo's excellent version of Beowulf is also brought to life with engaging illustrations by Michael Foreman.

(Links to author MM/ anglo-saxons)

Race to the Frozen North -Catherine Johnson and Katie Hickey

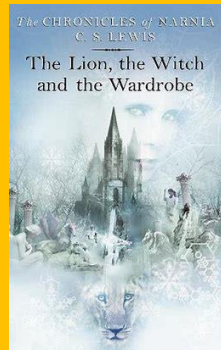


A fictionalised retelling of Matthew Henson's story, including how his achievements were unfairly suppressed for decades because of the colour of his skin.

(Links to diversity)

Year 5

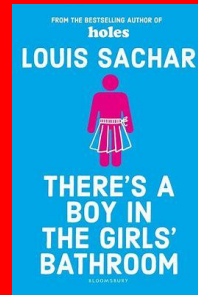
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe -C.S Lewis



C.S Lewis has been drawing children into this magical land with unforgettable characters for over sixty years. In this classic fantasy Four adventurous siblings-Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy Pevensie- step through a wardrobe door and into the land of Narnia, a land frozen in eternal winter and enslaved by the power of the White Witch. But when almost all hope is lost, the return of the Great Lion, Aslan, signals a great change and a great sacrifice.

(Links to evacuees/ London)

Boy in the Girls Bathroom -Louis Sachar



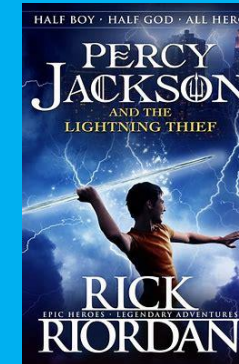
Bradley Chalkers. He's the oldest child in the class. He tells ENORMOUS lies. He picks fights with girls. The teachers say he has 'serious behaviour problems'. And no one likes him ... Except Carla, the new school counsellor. She thinks Bradley is kind and generous, and she even enjoys his far-fetched stories.

Carla knows that Bradley could change, if only he weren't afraid to try. Sometimes the hardest thing in the world is believing in yourself.

A heart-warming story of bravery and acceptance from Louis Sachar.

(Links to identity and self esteem/ how to overcome struggles)

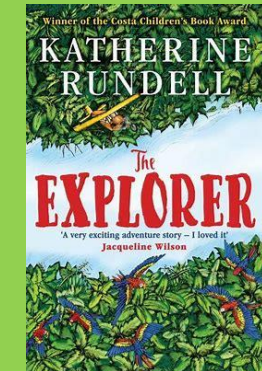
Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief - Rick Riordan



Percy Jackson's modern world is turned upside when he finds out he is descended from Greek gods. What follows is battles with monsters and epic quests in an action-packed series that merges Greek mythology with the modern world.

(Links to Ancient Greece and polytheistic religions- Hinduism)

The Explorer -Katherine Rundell



'The Explorer' is set in the Amazon and follows the story of Fred, whose plane accidentally crashes into the rainforest canopy.

The Explorer is an exciting and gripping adventure that sees four children learning to survive as they journey through unfamiliar and challenging circumstances. This book transports you to a richly drawn land and you will find yourself right there with the children as they follow a map to a lost city, eating tarantulas and swimming with river dolphins.

Katherine Rundell's The Explorer is a perfect class read for children learning about rainforests, the Amazon, friendships, resilience and much more.

(Links to geography- rainforest/ survival and isolation)

Year 6

Oliver Twist -Charles Dickens



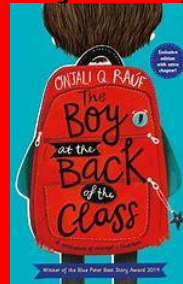
The classic Dickensian tale of a little boy who wanted more. Oliver Twist is orphaned and on the streets of London. Alone and vulnerable, he forms a new kind of family with a group of pickpockets.

At first Oliver's new family provides a sense of hope, but it is not long before the true colours of London's underclass reveals itself: scheming, desperation and greed surround Oliver, making his prospects of happiness seem bleak. But this young boy, who never seems to stop running, is nothing like those he runs from.

Oliver Twist is a mesmerising story of childhood and, ultimately, of success against the odds.

[\(Links to diversity/ homelessness. Introduces children to an orphanage\)](#)

There's a Boy at the Back of the Class -Onjali Rauf



Told with heart and humour, The Boy at the Back of the Class is a child's perspective on the refugee crisis, highlighting the importance of friendship and kindness in a world that doesn't always make sense.

Ahmet is nine years old but he's very strange. He never talks and never smiles and doesn't like sweets – not even lemon sherbets.

But then the class learned the truth: 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.

[\(Links to values/ immigration/ diversity/ refugee crisis\)](#)

The Arrival -Shaun Tan



What drives so many to leave everything behind and journey alone to a mysterious country, a place without family or friends, where everything is nameless and the future is unknown? This silent graphic novel is the story of every migrant, every refugee, every displaced person, and a tribute to all those who have made the journey.

This wordless masterpiece explores how the immigrant must navigate his way through his sense of deep displacement and find a way of connecting with the people he meets. This compelling book captures the brave act of leaving everything behind and searching for a future in another world.

[\(Links to alienation and strangeness of migration, all through pictures\)](#)

Goodnight Mr Tom - Michelle Magorian



Britain, 1940. With World War Two raging all around, young children are being sent from their homes in the city to the countryside for safety. When eight-year-old Willie Beech first arrives on Tom Oakley's doorstep, neither are quite sure what to make of each another.

Brought up in terrible poverty, Willie is terribly shy, and totally unprepared for village life - but the gruff-but-gentle 'Mister Tom' quickly takes him under his wing. Neither he nor Willie could ever have predicted the journey they will go on together - nor the unbreakable bond that will be formed.

A true classic of children's literature, Goodnight Mister Tom is a beautifully told, deeply moving story about the power of friendship, kindness, hope - and love.

[\(Links to World War II/ evacuees\)](#)

Survivors -David Long



Amazing real-life stories about extreme survival.

Beautifully presented and fully illustrated in colour throughout, children will be shocked and amazed by these incredible real-life stories of extreme survival.

Combining classic tales such as Ernest Shackleton's Antarctic voyage, as well as more modern exploits such as the adventurer who inspired the movie 127 Hours, these astonishing stories will be retold by young readers to all of their friends.

[\(Links to geography- natural disasters around the world\)](#)