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| A fun and ultimately uplifting story about staying true to your dreams. | There are two things in life that Keisha gets completely head-over-heels-excited about: science facts, and her favourite band. Incredibly, there’s a chance the band might visit her school, if she and her friends can raise the money. But there’s also a science competition that has just been announced, in which the winner gets to visit NASA - and there’s not enough time to do both! Faced with choosing between her friends and her passion, what is Keisha going to do?  
**Key themes:**  
- Women in STEM careers; positive female role-models  
- Caring friendships, supporting friends and dealing with conflict  
- Showing courage and perseverance; finding strengths  
- Change and transition to Secondary school  |
| A story that is both brimming with humour and extremely moving.       | Have you ever noticed that nearly everyone has an exciting anecdote about something terrible that happened to them at school? Science accidents, play disasters, broken limbs... well, not Andrew. He's got nothing, not even dog-chewed homework or a forgotten PE kit. He knows it's nice to have such an untroubled life, but he does wish he had some kind of tale to tell...  
**Key themes:**  
- Interactions between generations; understanding the experiences of others and the significance of historical events such as World War Two on people's lives  
- Families and respectful relationships within families  
- Showing resilience, honesty and respect |
| A humorous, inspiring and poignant story set in Wales about 10-year-old Ethan, whose dream is to play football for Liverpool.     | “Hi! I'm Ethan, and I want to tell you about my greatest adventure so far. It all started with me on my scooter (I've got cerebral palsy, so scooting is quicker than walking) and my best friend Nerys running along beside me. We were off to find some angry swans for her newspaper story. And it ended up with bobbing ducks, a sheep challenge and... well, you’ll have to wait and see!”  
**Key themes:**  
- Supporting friends and respectful relationships – empathising with others’ experience, understanding diverse perspectives  
- Learning about farming and the production of food  
- Dealing with disappointment and finding our strengths |
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| A comforting and lyrical story about a young girl with friendship troubles, who longs, more than anything, for a pet dog. | Have you ever wanted something so much that you wished, begged and pleaded every chance you got? That’s how much Abi wants a dog – and then one day Georgie comes bounding into her life, all golden fur and tail-wags. But Abi will need Georgie more than she knows, as she and her best friend start to drift apart… | • Supporting friends and respectful relationships  
• Responsibly caring for a pet  
• Adapting to change |
| A unique, beautifully-written story with a humorous touch about a young boy called Martin who is a keen photographer. | Martin loves taking photos, especially of birds, and so a big photography competition at school should be a dream come true. However, he has Sophia for a partner, who is aloof and spiky and would rather take a photo of a bin than a bird. But as Martin learns more about her life, and her role as a carer for her mum, he discovers they can find a way to work together and begin to see things from a different angle. | • Respectful relationships; working together despite different points of view  
• Being a chid carer  
• Photography |
| An adventurous and touching story about family dynamics, set against the beautiful and sunny backdrop of Goa. | ‘The man who makes elephants’ is the only clue that twins Anita and Vikram have to help them find their secret family treasure. But with the whole of Goa to search, how will they ever find it? They both know their gran often gets things mixed up these days, and forgets names and faces and even who her family is – so is the treasure she talks about even real? Join the twins as they set out to solve the mystery and embark on a treasure hunt like no other. | • Interactions between generations; respectful relationships within families  
• The value of families; moving past materialism  
• Life and family dynamics in another culture (Goa, India)  
• Coping with change in the family and dementia in a grandparent |
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| **A sparkling historical novel about the adventures of a maid called** Gravity Sparrow and what it really means to be a good person. | In Georgian England, in a very fine house, live two quite different girls. Marianne is always careful and quiet, whereas Gravity the chambermaid is clumsy and cheerful. But Gravity is suddenly sent away, and being cheerful is a lot trickier when you have to sleep in a cowshed or sing for your supper. Will Gravity ever find a proper home again? **Key themes:**  
  - Society in 18th Century England  
  - Work in 18th Century England  
  - ‘Good’ and ‘bad’ behaviour; passive complicity; standing up for what’s right  
  - Women’s roles in the past |
| **A hilarious and insightful story about a chaotic family holiday.** | “My dad says we’re going on a holiday that will be unforgettable. It may well be - but not for the reasons he thinks. I’m going to be crammed into an ugly old van with three infuriating brothers, and driven around Europe by a dad who doesn’t think things through and a mum who doesn’t stop him. This had better be a once-in-a-lifetime holiday – there’s no way I’m doing it twice!” Join budding writer Izzy as the Travises set out looking for adventure, and instead find what it means to be a family. **Key themes:**  
  - Interactions between generations; respectful relationships within families  
  - The value of families; resolving sibling conflict  
  - The effect of mood and attitude on experience; appreciating opportunities |
| **A lively, comforting friendship story with plenty of girl-appeal.**  | Parnita couldn’t be more excited about the end-of-term play. She loves acting, and it’s the last play she’ll be in with her best friend before they go to different secondary schools. But when she’s cast as the narrator, Parnita feels like she’s losing her chance to shine – and then finds she might be losing her best friend too… Can they find a way of moving forward together? **Key themes:**  
  - Adapting to change, especially transition to Secondary school  
  - Drama and being involved with school productions  
  - Coping with nerves; top tips for performance  
  - Caring friendships, supporting friends and dealing with conflict |
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<th><strong>A fascinating and unusual story set in China about a girl who resolves an intriguing mystery.</strong></th>
<th>Paulina has loved living in Beijing ever since her family moved from England five years ago. But when Xia the box turtle finds Paulina in her favourite city park, she's feeling lost: uncertain about how to improve her written Chinese, confused about why no-one at school will talk to her and unsure how to go about finding new friends. Then, as Xia’s arrival begins to answer some of her questions, it also brings a new mystery – the mystery of Weiting’s grandfather and the turtle’s wish.</th>
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| **Key themes:** | • Life in another culture (China)  
• Adapting to change; respectful friendships; resolving conflict  
• Art, calligraphy and the Chinese language  
• Change and resolution |

| **A powerful, uplifting and moving story that puts the reader in the shoes of Adam, a refugee struggling to adapt to his new life in England.** | Ingredients for a new life: rubble, fear, escape, long journey, new country, new school, loneliness, worry… hope?  
Adam is a refugee trying to start his life again in the UK, as his dad works to reunite their family. Adam’s diary will take you into his world, where life will never be the same but a shared meal might be the key to sharing smiles once again. |
|---|---|
| **Key themes:** | • Understanding and empathising with the experiences of refugees  
• Following your passions and finding your strengths  
• Adapting to a new culture  
• Cookery  
• Poetry  
• Respectful relationships |

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<th><strong>A heart-warming story about a girl who just wants to make her family proud – but who takes some time to find her strengths and believe in herself.</strong></th>
<th>Elodie would love to make her parents proud – so proud their faces will light up, like a garden bright with flowers. She thinks it’s going to be tricky though, especially when her spelling is a bit wonky and she’s the clumsiest person she knows. However, Elodie is nothing if not determined and sets to work, making new friends and creating chaos on the way.</th>
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| **Key themes:** | • Finding your strengths  
• The value of kindness  
• Everyday emotional ups and downs; caring friendships  
• Families and interactions between generations  
• Exploration of different types of honesty |
### A contemporary novel with a historical twist with the central themes of friendship, forgiveness and understated bravery.

Making new friends is hard, especially at a new school in a new town. Instead of sitting alone at break time, Jake wishes he could be up in the sky, in the cockpit of one of the old planes he loves. Then he meets someone who actually knows what that’s like – who has actually flown a Spitfire – and suddenly Jake’s days don’t seem quite so empty. Is there blue sky up ahead?

**Key themes:**
- Different types of ‘bravery’
- Male and female pilots in World War Two
- Respectful relationships; interactions between generations
- Showing resilience

### A thrilling historical adventure set in the time of Boudicca’s uprising against the Romans, with a central theme of tolerance and understanding.

A powerful novel about identity and loyalty, and reaching a hand out across cultural divides. Aithne is a twelve-year-old girl – a Briton – who wears the silver moon of a Wise Woman. Castus is a boy the same age, a Roman servant brought up to think of the Britons as barbarians not worth sparing. When Castus is sent to infiltrate the camp of the Britons, these two children from completely different worlds meet and form an unlikely alliance, before being swept into Boudicca’s rebellion.

**Key themes:**
- Learning about history – Romans and Ancient Britons
- Respectful relationships; crossing cultural divides

### A thrilling and magical adventure story set on a remote Scottish island.

It’s Lily's last summer before the big move to high school, but instead of hanging out with her primary-school friends at home in Edinburgh, she’s stuck on an island in a cottage in the pouring rain. Her parents are completely immersed in their archaeological dig, so Lily is alone with her worries about September – until she meets Jess. Soon, while her parents are making discoveries about the island’s ancient past, Lily is discovering a new best friend – and the island transforms from a lonely wet rock into a land of thrilling storms, wide-eyed seals and Viking legends.

**Key themes:**
- Joys and challenges of rural island life
- Archaeology and Viking mysteries
- Coping with change; showing resilience
- Change and transition to Secondary school