



Dear parents/guardians,

Did you know that children who read regularly have wider vocabularies, longer attention spans and perform better in school? Yes, reading is one of the most powerful tools we have to give children the best chance in life. Not only that, but it is really fun too!

Here at Aldborough, we recommend that every child reads every day and that children are also read to every day by their parents. However, we know that it can be hard to find a good book, so we have put together lists of recommended books for each year group at school.

Of course, all children develop at different rates, so if the books in their age group list aren't suitable, choose from a different list which can be found on our website in the curriculum overview section. If you're choosing a book to read to your child(ren), why not choose a book from the next age group up, which they wouldn't be able to read alone? You can search the books online to read a synopsis and most of these will be available in a library; don't forget that Seven Kings, Redbridge and Goodmayes all have great libraries!

We realise that it can sometimes be especially tricky to get boys to read, which is why we have added a special section with some books especially recommended for boys, although of course all the books are suitable for boys and girls!

We hope that these lists help you and your child(ren) choose some amazing books to read and explore together; why not see how many you can tick off this year?

To find further book recommendations, please visit: [www.lovereadng4kids.co.uk](http://www.lovereadng4kids.co.uk)

Thank you so much, and happy reading!

Mrs Light

Reading Leader

Headteacher Mr Tom Hart BA (Hons)

---

Aldborough Primary School • Aldborough Road South, Redbridge, Essex IG3 8HZ • 020 8166 8348 • [info@aldborough.net](mailto:info@aldborough.net) • [www.aldborough.net](http://www.aldborough.net)



**Recommended reads for Reception children:**

Chris Haughton – A Bit Lost

Oh No, George!

Shh! We Have a Plan

Michael Rosen – A Great Big Cuddle

We're Going on a Beat Hunt

Shirley Hughes – Dogger

Alfie and Annie-Rose

Out and About A First Book of Poems

Anthony Browne – Frida and Bear

Willy's Stories

Lauren Child – Charlie & Lola

Sophie Fatus – My Big Barefoot Book of Wonderful Words

Oliver Jeffers – Once Upon an Alphabet

How to Catch a Star!

Mac Barnett – Sam and Dave Dig a Hole

Julia Donaldson – The Gruffalo

What the Ladybird Heard

Mini Grey – Traction Man is Here

Mark Sperring – Captain McGrew Wants You for His Crew!

David McKee – Elmer the Elephant

Eoin Colfer – Imaginary Fred

Roald Dahl – The Enormous Crocodile

**Especially recommended for boys:**

Andy Stanton – Danny McGee Drinks the Sea

Jane Clarke – I Saw Anaconda

Ross Montgomery – The Building Boy

Shirley Hughes – Alfie Outdoors

Richard Collingridge – Lionheart

Drew Daywalt – The Day the Crayons Quit

Anthony Browne – Willy the Wimp

Alex T. Smith - Hector and the Big Bad Knight

Alison Ritchie – Jack's Mega Machines

**Recommended reads for Year 1 children:**

John Burningham – Avocado Baby  
Levi Pinfold – Black Dog  
Allan Ahlberg – Cops and Robbers  
Dr. Seuss – The Cat in the Hat  
Alexis Deacon – I am Henry Finch  
John Foster – I Can Read! Oxford Poetry for 5 Year Olds  
Aaron Becker – Journey  
Alex t. Smith – Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion  
Quentin Blake – Mister Magnolia  
Roald Dahl – Fantastic Mr. Fox  
Anne Fine – Out for the Count  
Lemony Snicket – The Dark  
Levi Pinfold – The Django  
Chris Riddell – Emperor of Absurdia  
Simon Bartram – Man on the Moon  
Louise Borden – The Little Ships: A Story of the Heroic Rescue at Dunkirk  
Julia Donaldson – The Paper Dolls  
Maurice Sendak – Where the Wild Things are  
A.A. Milne – Winne the Pooh  
Michael Bond – Paddington  
The Complete Works of Beatrix Potter

**Especially recommended for boys:**

Jim Eldridge – The Giant Rumble Wrestling Trolls  
E.T. Harper – Dylan’s Amazing Dinosaurs – The Stegosaurus  
Tim Nicoll – There’s a Dragon in my Dinner  
Felix Massie – George Pearce and His Huge Massive Ears  
Tom McLaughlin – Up, Up and Away  
Tim Hopgood – The Truth According to Arthur  
Camila de le Bedoyere – Would You Rather: Dine with a Dung Beetle or Lunch with a Maggot?  
Steve Jenkins – Prehistoric Actual Size  
Maggie Li – The Amazing Dinosaur Detectives!  
Michael Rosen – Choosing Crumble

**Recommended reads for Year 2 children:**

Harry Oulton – A Pig called Heather

Alexis Deacon – Beegu

Sally Nicholls – Billy Button, Telegram Bot

Michael Rosen – Choosing Crumble

Alex T. Smith – Claude at the Circus

Jeff Brown – Flat Stanley

Hilary Robinson – Flo of the Somme

Raymond Briggs – Fungus the Bogeyman

Jon Klassen – I Want My Hat Back!

Caroline Pitcher – Lord of the Forest

Chris Riddell – Ottoline at Sea

Alex Milway – Pigsticks and Harold and the Tuptown Thief

Jackie Morris – Something About a Bear

Jessica Barrah – Storytime: What’s the Time, Wilfred Wolf?

Dav Pilkey – The Adventures of Captain Underpants

Oliver Jeffers – The Heart and the Bottle

Dick King-Smith – The Hodgehog

Sophie’s Adventures

Jonny Duddle – The Jolley-Rogers and the Ghostly Galleon

Joyce Lankester Brisley – The Milly-Molly-Mandy Storybook

Noel Streatfield – Ballet Shoes

**Especially recommended for boys:**

Judd Winick – Hilo: The Boy Who Crashed to Earth

Maria Farrer – Me and Mister P

Vivian French – The Adventures of Alfie Onion

Chris Hoy – The Best Birthday Bike

Pippa Goodhart – A Dog Called Flow

Alexander McCall Smith – Freddie Mole, Lion Tamer

Michael Morpurgo – Meeting Cezanne

Alan Snow – How Pirates Really Work

Peter Bently – Nightmare! Life Stinks!

Brian Pattern – Monster Slayer

**Recommended reads for Year 3**

Dave Shelton – A Boy and a Bear in a Boat

Wendy Meddour – A Hen in the Wardrobe

Hans Christian Anderson – Fairy Tales

Atinuke – Anna Hibiscus

Jennifer Gray – Atticus Claw Breaks the Law

Sarah Courtauld – Buckle and Squash and the Monstrous Moat-Dragon

Jacqueline Wilson – Tracy Beaker

Tove Jansson – Finn Family Moomintroll

David Almond – Harry Miller’s Run

Claire Taylor-Smith – Hattie B, Magical Vet

Anne Fine – Ivan the Terrible

David Almond – My Dad’s a Birdman

Chris Riddell – Ottoline and the Yellow Cat

Astrid Lindgren – Pippi Longstocking

Allan Ahlberg – Please Mrs. Butler Verses

William Grill – Shackleton’s Journey

Andy Griffiths – 13-Storey Treehouse

Michael Morpurgo – The Butterfly Lion

Elizabeth Laird – The Fastest Boy in the World

David Walliam – The World’s Worst Children

Roald Dahl – The BFG

The Twits

**Especially recommended for boys:**

Simone Lia – They Didn’t Teach This in Worm School

Jon Blake – Thimble Monkey Superstar

Steve Webb – Spangles McNasty and the Fish of Gold

Tony Bradman – The Boy and the Globe

Andy Griffiths – The 52-Storey Treehouse

Vicky Egan – Collection of Curiosities: Bugs

Jeff Kinney – The Diary of a Wimpy Kid

Pete Johnson – My Parents are Driving me Crazy

Joe Friedman – The Secret Dog

**Recommended reads Year 4**

Michael Morpurgo – An Elephant in the Garden

Polly Ho-Yen – Boy in the Tower

E.B. White – Charlotte’s Web

Jeff Kinney – Diary of a Wimpy Kid

Neil Gaiman – Fortunately, the Milk...

Louisa May Alcott – Little Women

Cressida Cowell – How to Train your Dragon

Philip Pullman – I was a Rat

Jeremy Strong – Lost! The Hundred-Mile An-Hour Dog

Chris Hill – Lucky

Marcus Sedgwick – Raven Mysteries 3: Lunatics and Luck

David Almond – Mouse Bird Snake Wolf

David Walliams – Mr Stink

Pamela Butchart – My Head Teacher is a Vampire Rat

Philip Reeve – Oliver and the Seawigs

Clive King – Stig of the Dump

E.B. White – Stuart Little

Bernardo Atxaga – The Adventures of Shola

Eve Garnett – The Family from One End Street

Philip Pullman – The Firework-Maker’s Daughter

Philip Ardagh – The Grunts in Trouble

Lewis Carroll – The Hunting of the Snark

Rudyard Kipling – The Jungle Book

**Especially recommended for boys:**

Guy Bass – The Legend of Frog

Jo Nesbo – Doctor Proctor’s Fart Powder

Matt Brown – The Most Powerful Boy in the Universe

Simon Mayle – How Harry Riddles Made a MEGA-Amazing Zombie Movie

Kate Scott – Spies in Disguise: Boy in a Tutu

James Floyd Kelly – Beat the Game

Cas Lester – Harvey Drew and the Bling Bots

Willard Price – Adventure Series

**Recommended reads for Year 5**

Ross Montgomery – Alex, the Dog and the Unopenable Door

Horatio Clare – Aubrey and the Terrible Yoot

Joan Aiken – Black Hearts in Battersea

Nina Bawden – Carrie’s War

Patrick Modiano – Catherine Certitude

Frank Cottrell Boyce – Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Flies Again

Erich Kastner – Emil and the Detectives

Kate Saunders – Five children on the Western Front

E.L. Konigsburg – From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler

Philip Reeve – Goblins

Salman Rushdie – Haroun and the Sea of Stories

Anne Holm – I am David

Michael Morpurgo – Listen to the Moon

Roald Dahl – Matilda

Morris Gleitzman – Once.

David Almond – The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas

Piers Torday – The Dark Wild

Emma Carroll – The Girl Who Walked on Air

Ted Hughes – The Iron Man

Michael Ende – The Neverending Story

Philippa Pearce – Tom’s Midnight Garden

Shirley Hughes – Whistling in the Dark

**Epecially recommended for boys:**

Rick Riordan – Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief

David Walliams – Ratburger

Brian Jacques – Redwall

Anthony Horowitz – Stormbreaker

Arthur Ransome – Swallows and Amazons

David Solomons – My Brother is a Superhero

Eva Ibbotson – The Ogre of Oglefort

Joan Aiken – The Wolves of Willoughby Chase

Stephan Pastis – Timmy Failure Mistakes Were Made

**Recommended reads for Year 6:**

C.S. Lewis – The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe  
Lewis Carroll – Alice in Wonderland  
Ursula Le Guin – The Wizards of Earthsea  
Madeleine L’Engle – A Wrinkle in Time  
E. Nesbit – Five Children and It  
K. M. Peyton – Flambards  
Anne Fine – Flour Babies  
Michelle Magorian – Goodnight Mister Tom  
Roddy Doyke – A Greyhound of a Girl  
Cathy Cassidy – Looking-glass Girl  
Eva Ibbotson – One Dog and His Boy  
J.K. Rowling – Harry Potter  
Lemony Snicket – The Series of Unfortunate Events  
Emma Carroll – Strange Star  
Tom McLaughlin – The Accidental Prime Minister  
Terry Pratchett – Amazing Maurice and His Educated Rodents  
Brian Jacques - Redwall  
Berlie Doherty – The Company of Ghosts  
Sue Townsend – The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole aged 13 ¾  
Roald Dahl – Boy  
Kenneth Grahame – The Wind in the Willows  
Frances Hodgson Burnett – The Secret Garden  
E. Nesbit – The Railway Children  
L.M. Montgomery – Anne of Green Gables

**Epecially recommended for boys:**

Anthony Horowitz – Alex Rider series  
Michael Morpurgo – Private Peaceful  
David Almond – Skellig  
Shane Hegarty – Chaos Descends  
Eoin Colfer – Artemis Fowl  
Guy Bass – Aidan Abet, Teacher’s Pet  
Richmal Crompton – Just William



**Recommended for Year 6+**

Charles Dickens – Oliver Twist

David Copperfield

Old Curiosity Shop

T.H. White – The Once and Future King

John Masfield – The Midnight Folk

The Box of Delights

Gillian Cross – After Tomorrow

Adeline Yen Mah – Chinese Cinderella

Robert Louis Stevenson – The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr Hyde

Christopher Paolini – Eragon

F.K. Falkner – Moonfleet

Gerald Durrell – My Family and Other Animals

Marcus Sedgwick – My Swordhand is Singing

Malorie Blackman – Noughts and Crosses

Mildred D.Taylor – Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry

Mary Norton – The Borrowers

J. R. R. Tolkein – The Hobbit

Laura Ingalls Wilder – Little House on the Prairie

Robert Louis Stevenson – Treasure Island

Frances Hodgson Burnett – A Little Princess

Little Lord Fauntleroy