



Year 4's Recommended Reads!

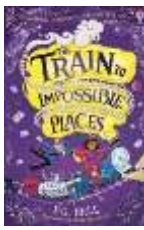
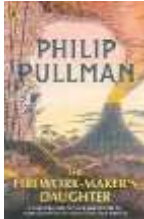



"There is no such thing as a child who hates to read; there are only children who have not found the right book."






UPDATED: September 2020



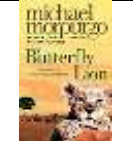
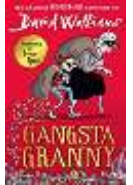
The following list includes books that we have personally read and would **fully** recommend. They all fall into the age range perfect for Year 4. We, the school library or the Essex libraries have copies of practically all of these books so if you would like to borrow one, ask and we will see what we can do! Happy reading...

Book Cover	Title	Author	A Brief Guide...
	Operation Gadgetman	Malorie Blackman	Beans calls her dad 'Gadgetman' because of the weird and wonderful gadgets he comes up with - everything from exploding biscuits to Spy Kits. But when Gadgetman accidentally invents a device that could be used to steal millions of pounds, the wrong people find out and Gadgetman is kidnapped! With the help of her friends - and her special Gadgetman Spy Kit - Beans is determined to track down the kidnappers and rescue her dad. But can she find Gadgetman before he is forced to hand over the details of his invention...?
	The Land of Roar (Return to Roar)	Jenny McLachlan	When Arthur and Rose were little, they were heroes in the Land of Roar, an imaginary world that they found by climbing through the folding bed in their grandad's attic. Roar was filled with things they loved - dragons, mermaids, ninja wizards and adventure - as well as things that scared them (including a very creepy scarecrow. . .). Now the twins are eleven, Roar is just a memory. But when they help Grandad clean out the attic, Arthur is horrified as Grandad is pulled into the folding bed and vanishes. Is he playing a joke? Or is Roar . . . real?
	We Won An Island	Charlotte Lo	When Luna's family win an island, Luna thinks it will solve everything AND she can finally get a donkey! But things don't go entirely to plan - no one expects Luna's younger brother to win a Sheep Pageant, for example - and the secret festival they hold soon spirals out of control. But the island is beautiful, and the family are happy, and maybe Luna will get her donkey after all...

	<p align="center">The Train to Impossible Places (The Great Brain Robbery)</p>	<p align="center">P.G. Bell</p>	<p>When Suzy hears a strange noise in the middle of the night, she creeps downstairs to find a train roaring through her house. But this is no ordinary train. This is the magical delivery express for the Union of Impossible Places. Whisked on board by a troll-boy, Suzy's world is turned upside down when she's asked to deliver a cursed package to a fearsome sorceress. And quite suddenly, Suzy realizes the fate of the Impossible Places is in her hands...</p>
	<p align="center">The Firework-Maker's Daughter</p>	<p align="center">Philip Pullman</p>	<p>Lila doesn't just want to be a Firework-Maker's daughter, she wants to be a Firework Maker herself. But although she's learned a lot she still must get through the most difficult and dangerous part of her apprenticeship - and her father won't tell her what it is. In search of this final Firework-Making secret, Lila heads off alone on a journey. It is a journey filled with dangers beyond anything she could have imagined, a journey on which she will learn so much more than the one secret she set out to find</p>
	<p align="center">One Dog and his Boy</p>	<p align="center">Eva Ibbotson</p>	<p>But a dog would damage the expensive carpets in Hal's glamorous home, and his wealthy parents refuse to consider one. Then they discover Easy Pets, a convenient dog-rental agency. Terrier Fleck arrives on Hal's birthday, but when Hal discovers that his dog must be returned, he runs away. Hal and Fleck are joined by a group of pedigree breeds joyfully escaping from Easy Pets - among them is Otto, the wise and sombre St Bernard, and the fierce and excitable Pekinese Li-Chee. A large reward is offered for the missing boy, and soon Hal and his dogs are being chased across the country by ruthless pursuers. Helped by a travelling circus, and the sympathetic children from an orphanage, they race for their freedom.</p>
	<p align="center">The Secret Dragon (Summer of Dragons)</p>	<p align="center">Ed Clarke</p>	<p>Mari Jones is desperate to be a real scientist, even though she's only eleven. So when she discovers a tiny dragon while fossil hunting on the beach, she's sure she can find a good scientific explanation - as long as she can keep it hidden long enough to study it. Unfortunately for Mari, this is one secret that doesn't want to be kept. And as she starts to form a deeper bond with the mischievous dragon, she might have to admit that, when it comes to friendship, science might not have all the answers...</p>
	<p align="center">The Accidental Prime Minister</p>	<p align="center">Tom Mclaughlin</p>	<p>When Joe tells a local news reporter exactly what he would do if he were leader of the country, the video goes viral and Joe's speech becomes famous all over the world! Before long, people are calling for the current leader to resign and give someone else a go ...and that's how an ordinary boy like Joe ended up with the most extraordinary job. Now the fun can really start ...Hats for cats! Pet pigs for all! Banana shaped buses! Swimming pools on trains! A hilarious story of one boy's meteoric rise to power!</p>

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">The Chocolate Factory Ghost</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">(First of a three book series)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">David O'Connell</p>	<p>Archie McBudge knows his lucky underpants must really work, because when he and his mum are summoned to Honeystone Hall in the remote Scottish village of Dundoodle, they find Archie has inherited not only the enormous hall, but the whole of the world-famous McBudge Confectionery Company from Great-Uncle Archibald.</p> <p>That's a new home, a fortune and a lifetime's supply of treats rolled into one! But all is not well in Dundoodle, and when Archie reads the mysterious letter his great-uncle left him, he finds himself on a quest to save his family's company from ruin. With the help of his new friends Fliss and Billy, Archie has to try to figure out the puzzles of Honeystone before his sweet future melts away like an ice lolly in the sun!</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">The Dragon in the Library</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">(Monster in the Lake)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Louie Stowell</p>	<p>Kit can't STAND reading, She'd MUCH rather be outside, playing games and getting muddy, than stuck inside with a book. But when she's dragged along to the library one day by her two best friends, she makes an incredible discovery - and soon it's up to Kit and her friends to save the library ... and the world</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Charlie and The Chocolate Factory</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">(Matilda, James + The Giant Peach, The B.F.G, Danny Champion of the World)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Roald Dahl</p>	<p>One miraculous moment changes Charlie Bucket's life forever. A boy who only gets to eat cabbage soup for breakfast, lunch and dinner finds a Golden Ticket that will take him into Willy Wonka's magical chocolate factory.</p> <p>Joining him on the tour are four horrible blighters:</p> <p>Augustus Gloop - a great big greedy nincompoop, Veruca Salt - a spoiled brat, Violet Beauregarde - a repulsive little gum-chewer and Mike Teavee - a TV addict.</p> <p>With a chocolate river, crafty squirrels and mysterious Oompa Loompas, Mr Wonka's chocolate factory is the strangest, most magnificent place Charlie has ever seen.</p> <p>What other surprises are in store for the lucky ticket winners?</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Julius Zebra, Rumble with the Romans</h2>	<p style="text-align: center;">Gary Northfield</p>	<p>From a smelly watering hole deep in the heart of the Serengeti to the ferocious clamour of the Colosseum, join Julius Zebra and his motley menagerie of friends as they gear up to be ... <i>gladiators</i>! Only if they win the love of the Roman crowds will they win back their freedom. But do Julius and his pals have what it takes to succeed in a world where only the meanest and toughest survive? <i>Madagascar</i> meets <i>Gladiator</i> in this exciting, action-packed and hysterically funny story brimming with entertaining Romans.</p>

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Martin's Mice</h2>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dick King Smith</p>	<p>Unlike most kittens, Martin doesn't like eating mice - let alone catching them. When he catches one by mistake he decides to keep it as a pet and soon Drusilla the mouse is established in an old bath tub in the attic. Martin is kept busy getting food, water, and bedding - and then Drusilla's babies start to arrive. How can Martin cope with all his mice?</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">How to Train Your Dragon</h2>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cressida Cowell</p>	<p>In the first <i>How to Train Your Dragon</i> 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 forever!</p> <p>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 . . .</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">The Peppermint Pig</h2>	<p style="text-align: center;">Nina Baldwin</p>	<p>It is a difficult year for the Greengrasses. Poll's father has lost his job and gone overseas, the family are living off the charity of two aunts, and Poll and her brother Theo just can't seem to keep out of trouble. It takes a tiny, mischievous pig to bring laughter back into their lives.</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Charlotte's Web</h2>	<p style="text-align: center;">E.B White</p>	<p>Wilbur the pig's life has already been saved by Fern, but when he is sold to her uncle, he realises his life is in even more danger.</p> <p>Enter Charlotte A. Cavatica, a beautiful large grey spider. Charlotte is determined to keep Wilbur from the chopping block, and comes up with an ingenious way to do just that.</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Pages + Co- Tilly and the Book Wanderers.</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">(Tilly and the Lost Fairy Tales)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Anna James</p>	<p>Eleven year-old Tilly has lived above her grandparents' bookshop ever since her mother disappeared shortly after she was born. Like the rest of her family, Tilly loves nothing more than to escape into the pages of her favourite stories.</p> <p>One day Tilly realises that classic children's characters are appearing in the shop through the magic of 'book wandering' – crossing over from the page into real life. With the help of Anne of Green Gables and Alice in Wonderland. Tilly is determined to solve the mystery of what happened to her mother all those years ago, so she bravely steps into the unknown, unsure of what adventure lies ahead and what dangers she may face.</p>

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">The Highland Falcon Thief</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">(Kidnap on the California Comet)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">M.G Leonard</p>	<p>Harrison Beck is reluctantly joining his travel-writer Uncle Nat for the last journey of the royal train, The Highland Falcon. But as the train makes its way to Scotland, a priceless brooch goes missing, and things are suddenly a lot more interesting. As suspicions and accusations run high among the passengers, Harrison begins to investigate and uncovers a few surprises along the way. Can he solve the mystery of the jewel thief and catch the culprit before they reach the end of the line?</p> <p>Hear whispers in the dining car, find notes in the library, and unknown passengers among the luggage as you help Harrison to solve the mystery aboard one of the world's grandest trains.</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Cliff Toppers</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">(First of four books in this series)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Fleur Hitchcock</p>	<p>For Aiden, Chloe, Ava and Josh, holidays at their grandparents' cottage mean wild beaches, no curfew, Bella the dog, and most of all – adventure!</p> <p>A picnic at a stately home takes a suspicious turn when the cousins discover a jewel heist unfolding around them. But how can they take down a gang of clever thieves when all they've got is their bikes and a very risky plan? By being braver, smarter, and sneakier than the villains they're chasing. . .</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Butterfly Lion</h2>	<p style="text-align: center;">Michael Morpurgo</p>	<p>Bertie rescues an orphaned white lion cub from the African veld. They are inseparable until Bertie is sent to boarding school far away in England and the lion is sold to a circus. Bertie swears that one day they will see one another again, but it is the butterfly lion which ensures that their friendship will never be forgotten.</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Gangsta Granny</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">(Many other great David Walliams books)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">David Walliams</p>	<p>Our hero Ben is bored beyond belief after he is made to stay at his grandma s house. She is the boringest grandma ever: all she wants to do is to play Scrabble, and eat cabbage soup. But there are two things Ben doesn't know about his grandma.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) She was once an international jewel thief. 2) All her life, she has been plotting to steal the Crown Jewels, and now she needs Ben s help