



# Guide to Highwood School

## READING PASSPORT 4

### *Years 5-6*





### Private Peaceful, by Michael Morpurgo

Heroism or cowardice? A stunning story of the First World War from a master storyteller. Told in the voice of a young soldier, the story follows 24 hours in his life at the front during WWI, and captures his memories as he looks back over his life. Full of stunningly researched detail and engrossing atmosphere, the book leads to a dramatic and moving conclusion.

### Once, by Morris Gleitzman

Everybody deserves to have something good in their life. At least Once. Once I escaped from an orphanage to find Mum and Dad. Once I saved a girl called Zelda from a burning house. Once I made a Nazi with a toothache laugh. My name is Felix. This is my story.



### Malamander, by Thomas Taylor

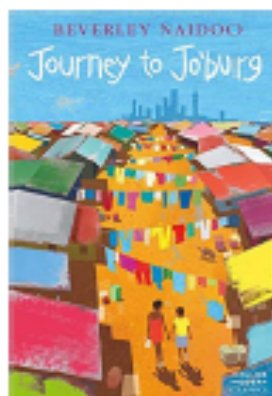
Eerie-on-Sea has always been a mysteriously chilling place, where strange stories seem to wash up. And it just got stranger...

### The Magician's Elephant, by Kate DiCamillo

When a fortune-teller's tent appears in the market square of the city of Baltese, orphan Peter Augustus Duchene knows the questions that he must ask: Does his sister still live? And if so, how can he find her? The fortune-teller's mysterious answer (An elephant! An elephant will lead you there!) sets off a chain of events so remarkable, so impossible, that you will hardly dare to believe it is true.







### Journey to Jo'burg, by Beverley Naidoo

Set in South Africa in the time of apartheid, this book tells the story of two children who decide to run away from their grandmother to find their mother and save their baby brother. Can Tiro and Naledi save their baby brother? Will they be able to find their mother in time? A powerful story of love in difficult times, told in a way suitable for children.

### Montmorency, by Eleanor Updale

In 1875, when an ambitious young doctor rescues a scruffy thief on the point of death, he inadvertently creates Montmorency, whose life is split between the new London sewers and Victorian high society. Macabre, funny and suspenseful, this adventure is a new classic.

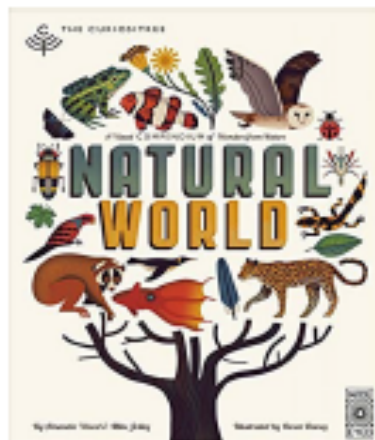


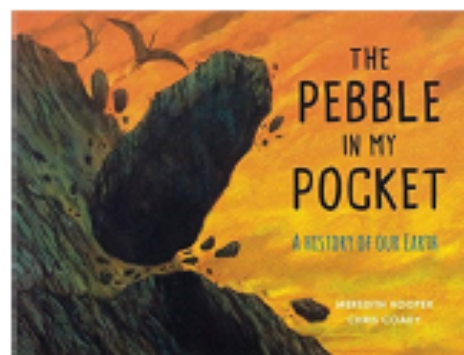
### Stonekeeper, Amulet#1, by Kazu Kibuishi

A graphic novel for children with incredible illustrations. After Navin and Emily's father passes away, they move to their grandfather's abandoned house. A sinister tentacled monster draws their mother into a hidden underground world and of course, with the help of the Amulet, Navin and Emily have to follow. They quickly discover a mechanical rabbit, a giant robot and a house with legs!

### The Natural World: Wonders of Nature, by A.J.Wood

With incredible illustrations by Mike Jolley and fascinating facts, the Natural World explores and explains why living things look and behave the way they do.





The Pebble in my Pocket, by Meredith Hooper and Chris Coady

Where do pebbles come from? How were they made? This book tells the story of a pebble, from its origins in a fiery volcano 480 million years ago to a busy, modern landscape. Readers follow the processes of rock formation and erosion that create new pebbles all over the world.

The Last Wild, by Piers Torday

This is a story about a boy named Kester. He is extraordinary, but he doesn't know that yet. All he knows, at this very moment, is this:

1. There is a flock of excited pigeons in his bedroom.
2. They are talking to him.
3. His life will never be quite the same again...

A captivating animal adventure of hope set in a dark future.



Thirteen Unpredictable Tales, by Paul Jennings

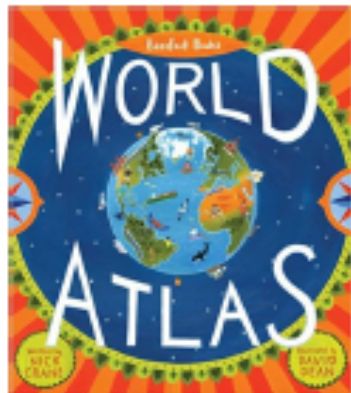
A selection of the best short stories from Paul Jennings. Everyone is entirely different but all are wacky and extraordinary. Subjects range from the longest kiss ever, to a boy who becomes transparent - and the stories are all unpredictable!

Phoenix, by S.F.Said

A BOY WITH THE POWER OF A STAR . . . Lucky thinks he's an ordinary Human boy. But one night, he dreams that the stars are singing to him, and wakes to find an uncontrollable power rising inside him. Now he's on the run, racing through space, searching for answers. In a galaxy at war, where Humans and Aliens are deadly enemies, the only people who can help him are an Alien starship crew - and an Alien warrior girl, with neon needles in her hair . . .





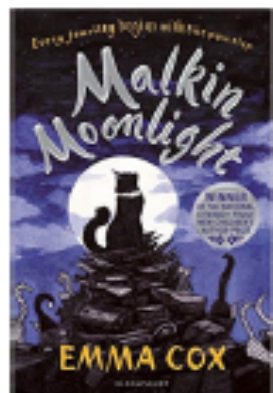


**Barefoot Books World Atlas, by Nick Crane and David Dean**

Embark on a mind-expanding journey across the planet. Your guide is earth enthusiast and TV presenter Nick Crane. Your map-maker is artist David Dean. An atlas for the twenty-first century, it shows how all parts of the planet are interconnected and looks at the challenges which face us all in creating a sustainable future.

**Who Let the Gods Out? By Maz Evans**

Elliot's mum is ill and his home is under threat, but a shooting star crashes to earth and changes his life forever. The star is Virgo - a young Zodiac goddess on a mission. But the pair accidentally release Thanatos, a wicked death daemon, and must then turn to the old Olympian gods for help. After centuries of cushy retirement on earth, are Zeus and his crew up to the task of saving the world?



**Malkin Moonlight, by Emma Cox**

The winner of the National Literacy Trust's inaugural New Children's Author Prize 2015! Malkin Moonlight is an animal adventure story destined to become a classic. Every journey begins with one paw step ... Malkin is a small black cat with a magnificent tail, and he's destined to be a hero. He just doesn't know it yet.

**Wed Wabbit, by Lissa Evans**

Wed Wabbit is an adventure story about friendship, danger and the terror of never being able to get back home again. And it's funny. It's seriously funny!





### The Wizards of Once, by Cressida Cowell

Winner of the Blue Peter Book Award. This is the story of a young boy Wizard and a young girl Warrior who have been taught since birth to hate each other like poison; and the thrilling tale of what happens when their two worlds collide. Perfect for boys and girls who love fantasy adventure. Once there was Magic, and the Magic lived in the dark forests. Until the Warriors came.....

### Beyond the Sky, by Dara O'Briain

People have been dreaming about space travel for centuries - there's something amazing about the idea of leaving our planet behind and setting out to explore the Universe - there's so much we still don't know. UK and Ireland's best-loved comedian Dara O Briain takes you on a journey from the safety of your comfiest chair to the furthest reaches of space (and beyond!).



### Artemis Fowl, by Eoin Colfer

AT JUST TWELVE YEARS OLD, ARTEMIS FOWL IS A CRIMINAL GENIUS. No scheme is too dastardly, no plot too devious. And he's just discovered that fairies are real. Poor fairies. But these are not the cuddly creatures of bedtime stories. They are armed. They are dangerous. And when Artemis captures Captain Holly Short for her fairy gold, he messes with the wrong elf...

### Goodnight Mister Tim, by Michelle Magorian

Goodnight Mister Tom - winner of the Guardian Children's Fiction Award - by Michelle Magorian has delighted generations of children. It's the story of young Willie Beech, evacuated to the country as Britain stands on the brink of the Second World War. A powerful story of loss and learning to love, with vivid description of Britain at that time.





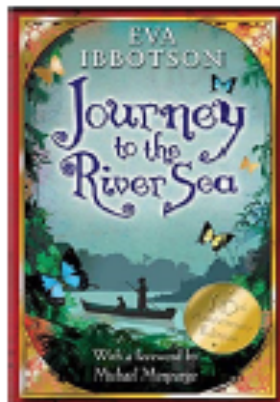


### Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, by J.K. Rowling

Say you've spent the first 10 years of your life sleeping under the stairs of a family who loathes you. Then, in a magical twist of fate you find yourself surrounded by wizards, a caged snowy owl, a phoenix-feather wand and jelly-beans that come in every flavour, including strawberry, curry, grass and sardine. Not only that, but you discover that you are a wizard yourself! This is exactly what happens to young Harry in the first of the Harry Potter series.

### Journey to the River Sea, by Eva Ibbotson

An Amazon adventure set in the wilderness of Brazil, Journey to the River Sea is filled with mystery and memorable characters. It is 1910 and Maia, tragically orphaned at thirteen, has been sent from England to start a new life with distant relatives in Manaus, hundreds of miles up the Amazon. She is accompanied by an eccentric and mysterious governess who has secret reasons of her own for making the journey...



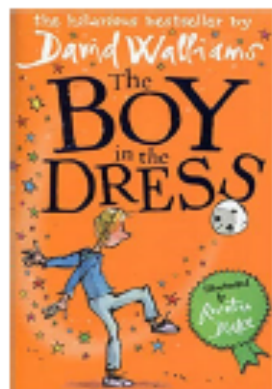
### The Middler, by Kirsty Applebaum

Eleven-year-old Maggie lives in Fennis Wick, protected from the outside world by a boundary, beyond which the Quiet War rages and the dirty, dangerous wanderers roam. Her brother Jed is a hero. Her younger brother is Trig - everyone loves Trig. But Maggie's just a middler; invisible and left behind. Then she meets Una, a hungry wanderer girl in need of help, and everything Maggie has ever known gets turned on its head.

### Millions, by Frank Cottrell Boyce

Frank Cottrell Boyce's Millions is the tale of a not-so-great train robbery. Two brothers, Damian and Anthony, are caught up in a train robbery. Suddenly finding themselves with a vast amount of cash, the boys have just one glorious, appalling dilemma - how to spend it in the few days before it becomes worthless. Pizzas or World Peace - what would you choose?





### The Boy in the Dress, by David Walliams

Dennis was different. Why was he different, you ask? Well, a small clue might be in the title of this book. Charming, surprising and hilarious - The Boy in the Dress is everything you would expect from David Walliams. This novel will touch the hearts (and funny bones) of children and adults alike.

## **How to support your child with becoming a FREE READER**

As your child becomes a sufficiently fluent reader, to develop their reading further the advice is to move away from hearing your child read aloud. Instead, encourage your child to have **Sustained Silent Reading** time at home on a daily basis (10-20 minutes), and then talk about what they have read.

However, your child will also still benefit from being read to, as you can show how to read with fluency and expression with more challenging texts. A perfect opportunity is when they want to read a book, but they are finding it too hard to read by themselves.

### **Try some of these ideas to help your child be a free reader:**

- Sustained Silent Reading time (10-20 minutes a day)
- Book talk time – talk about the text in a conversational, enthusiastic way: what happened? Why did (the character) do that? What did you like? Dislike? What do you think will happen next? Why? Were there any words you didn't understand?
- They could also read aloud their favourite short section of text to you and say why they liked it.
- Check they have noted what they have read in their Reading Diary.
- You could have "Drop Everything And Read" time (DEAR time) as a family every day, perhaps as part of a "bath-book-bed" routine.

**Do continue to encourage and monitor your child's reading**, because sometimes children can stop reading when they leave the Book Bands, and they will miss out on all the amazing children's books on offer for this older age group.