



Reading at Longwick - Class Text Overview 2026-2027

At Longwick, we choose class texts linked to our topics because they deepen understanding, build meaningful connections across the curriculum and give children rich, purposeful contexts for their learning. Selected texts are chosen not only inspire a love of reading, but also help children understand how to stay safe, how to care for the world around them and to find opportunities for spiritual awareness. Each story offers opportunities to talk about wellbeing, safe choices and environmental responsibility in an age-appropriate way.

Whole-School Safeguarding progression

Children move from truthfulness and emergency safety → safe risk-taking and stranger awareness → understanding power and emotional safety → peer pressure and consequences.

Whole-School Environmental Theme Progression

Children move from caring for themselves → local environments → respecting natural resources → protecting animals and habitats → ethical resource use, sustainability and global responsibility.

Whole-School Spiritual awareness

Children move from enjoying calm moments in stories → finding stillness away from distraction → reflecting on themselves and others → experiencing awe, wonder and deeper questions about the world.

At Longwick, children learn that books can enrich our experiences, develop our creativity, allow us to explore new ideas, deepen our understanding of the world, and learn safely through characters, events and real information.

Reading provides our children with precious opportunities to 'get lost' in stories, find calm away from the distractions of today's busy world, and enjoy quiet moments to reflect. This learning supports our vision for children to **Grow, Flourish and Fly** by nurturing their **curiosity**, strengthening their **perseverance**, and developing **respectful, responsible** attitudes towards themselves, others and the world around them.

By the time they leave us, the children understand safe choices, kindness to others and how small actions can make a big difference to the planet, and they carry with them a deeper sense of reflection, calm and connection with the world around them.

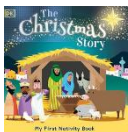
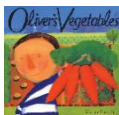
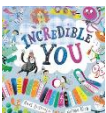
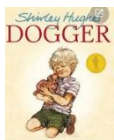


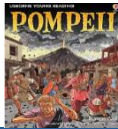
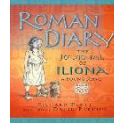
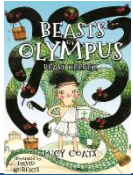
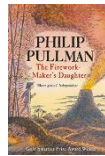
Reading Progression Map – Theme, Safeguarding, Environmental Issues and Spiritual Awareness

In the Reading Progression Map, in addition to the main texts each term, additional high-quality texts are also read to provide wider enrichment, broaden cultural and historical understanding, and strengthen pupils' reading fluency and enjoyment. In addition, carefully chosen multi-cultural and non-fiction texts are read to build secure subject knowledge, deepen curiosity and support children in making responsible, well-informed connections across the curriculum while also offering quiet moments for spiritual awareness through reflection, calm and a sense of wonder.

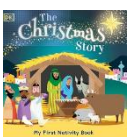
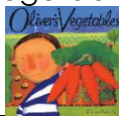
One main class text is shown below in the year group overviews, however, many more texts are studied each term in KS1 and 2 each term in KS2.

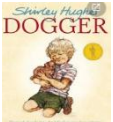
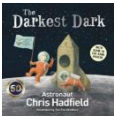
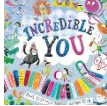
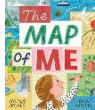
Class Text Overview 2026-2027

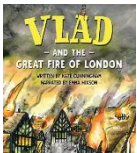
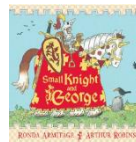
	Reception and Key Stage 1 Class Texts 2026-2027					
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Reception	All About Me	Let's Celebrate	Superheroes	In The Garden	Once Upon A Time	Explorers
Class Text	Meesha Makes Friends Tom Percival 	The Christmas Story 	What's My Superpower? Aviaq Johnstone 	Oliver's Vegetables Viven French 	Worldwide Fairytails 	Going on a Bear Hunt Michael Rosen 
Year 1	Toys Old and New	Our Cold World	3..2..1..Blastoff	Marvellous Me	Land Ahoy!!	Our Big Wide World
Class Text	Incredible You Rhys Brisenden 	Dogger Shirley Hughes 	Lost and Found Oliver Jeffers 	The Darkest Dark Chris Hadfield 	The Pirates are Coming John Condon 	The Boy who Loved Maps - Karli Allen 
Year 2	Fire! Fire	Bright Lights Big City	Our Hot World	Roots Shoots Welly Boots	Turrets & Towers	Captivating coastlines
Class Text	Vlad and the Great Fire of London Kate Cunningham 	Katie in London James Mayhew 	Pattan's Pumpkin Chitra Sounder 	The Extraordinary Gardener Sam Boughton 	Small Knight and George Ronda Armitage 	Clean Up Nathan Bryan 

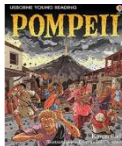
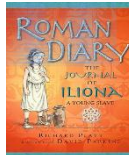
	Key Stage 2 Class Texts 2026-2027		
	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year 3	Stoneage / Ironage	Our Angry World	Roaming Romans
Class Text	Stoneage Boy Satoshi Kitamura 	Pompeii Karen Ball 	Roman Diary Richard Platt 
Year 4/5	Ground-breaking Greeks	Our Watery World	Travels to the East
Class Text	Beasts of Olympus by Lucy Coates 	The Wind in the Willows Kenneth Graham 	The Firework Maker's Daughter Philip Pullman 
Year 5/6	Ancient Baghdad	Our Changing World	Britain at War
Class Text	The Golden Horsemen of Baghdad Saviour Pirotta 	The Last Bear Hannah Gold 	Goodnight Mr Tom Michelle Magorian 

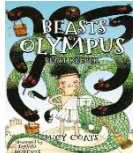
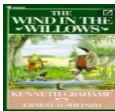
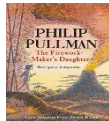
Reception – several books are read across each term

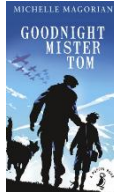
Curriculum	All About Me	Let's Celebrate	Superheroes	In the Garden	Once Upon a Time	Explorers
Class Text	Meesha Makes Friends 	The Christmas Story 	What's My Super Power? 	Oliver's Vegetables 	Worldwide Fairytales 	Going on a Bear Hunt 
Main theme	A story about a little girl who finds creative ways to make friends, exploring confidence, communication and the joy of connecting with others.	A gentle retelling of the Nativity, following Mary and Joseph's journey, the birth of baby Jesus, and the visitors who come to welcome him. Plus other faith festival stories.	Nalvana tries to discover her superpower by watching the amazing things others can do, eventually learning that her true power is kindness and helping people feel good about themselves.	Oliver learns where real food comes from and discovers new vegetables through exploration and tasting.	Stories from many cultures showing bravery, cleverness, kindness and imagination, helping children explore characters and traditions from across the globe.	A family adventure through different landscapes, exploring bravery, curiosity and imaginative play.
Safeguarding	Naming feelings; seeking help from trusted adults; safe social interactions and friendship boundaries.	Staying close to trusted adults; understanding journeys and safe shelter; recognising kindness from others.	Understanding personal boundaries; recognising feelings; seeking help from trusted adults; celebrating differences safely.	Understanding boundaries in gardens, safe handling of tools, and trying new foods with adult guidance.	Understanding safe choices in stories; recognising trusted adults; exploring consequences in a gentle, age-appropriate way.	Staying close to trusted adults; safe exploration; managing fear.
Environmental Impact	Caring for shared spaces and resources during play.	Caring for animals in the stable; respecting shared space.	Caring for shared spaces and respecting the environment during play.	Noticing how vegetables grow, valuing local produce, reducing waste and appreciating seasonal eating.	Respect for nature, animals and environments often found in traditional tales.	Landscapes, weather, natural environments.
Spiritual Awareness	Gentle reflection on connection, calm creativity and feeling part of a community.	Awe, wonder, peace, kindness, and the sense of a special new beginning.	Reflection on kindness, empathy and recognising the good in oneself and others.	Recognising the wonder of growth, enjoying nature's variety and reflecting on care for living things.	Wonder, reflection, moral lessons and appreciation of cultural diversity and shared human values.	Wonder, reflection on bravery, connection to nature.

	Year 1					
Curriculum	Toys Old and New	Our Cold World	3..2..1..Blastoff	Marvellous Me	Land Ahoy!!	Our Big Wide World
Class Text	Dogger by Shirley Hughes 	Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers 	The Darkest Dark by Chris Hadfield 	Incredible You by Rhys Brisenden 	The Pirates are Coming by John Condon 	The Boy who Loved Maps by Karli Allen 
Main theme	A heartfelt story about losing something precious and the kindness shown by others to help restore what matters most.	A boy discovers a lonely penguin and sets off on a journey to return him home, learning about friendship and loyalty along the way.	Inspired by Chris Hadfield's childhood, a boy overcomes his fear of the dark and discovers the vast beauty of space.	A celebration of individuality, encouraging children to recognise their strengths, feelings and potential.	A humorous twist on the classic "warning cry" tale: Tom raises the alarm each day as pirates approach, only to discover they are friendly visitors — a story about community, courage and not judging others too quickly.	A young cartographer sets out to map the world, discovering that the best maps capture imagination, friendship and adventure.
Safeguarding	Moments of reflection on fear, bravery and seeing goodness in others; gentle wonder at community and connection.	Staying safe near water; safe travel; trusting safe adults	Night-time safety; managing fear safely	Emotional safety; recognising feelings; self-advocacy	Stranger awareness; safe responses to perceived danger; understanding trusted adults; managing fear safely.	Safe exploration; stranger awareness; safe movement outdoors.
Environmental Issues	Caring for personal belongings; valuing what we have.	Polar environments; caring for wildlife; understanding remote habitats.	Space, Earth, light pollution; human impact on the night sky	Emotional safety; recognising feelings; self-advocacy.	Coastal environments; caring for seaside communities; human impact on coastal spaces.	Understanding places, landscapes and human environments.
Spiritual Awareness	Gentle reflection on kindness, gratitude and human connection.	Wonder, companionship and quiet reflection on belonging.	Awe, wonder, courage and inner reflection	Stillness, self-reflection and inner confidence	Moments of reflection on fear, bravery and seeing goodness in others; gentle wonder at community and connection.	Curiosity, wonder and appreciation of the wider world

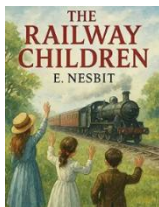
	Year 2					
Curriculum	Fire! Fire	Bright Lights Big City	Our Hot World	Roots Shoots and Welly Boots	Turrets & Towers	Captivating Coastlines
Class Text	Vlad and the Great Fire of London by Kate Cunningham 	Katie in London by James Mayhew 	Pattan's Pumpkin by Chitra Sounder 	The Extraordinary Gardener Sam Boughton 	Small Knight and George Ronda Armitage 	Clean Up Nathan Bryan 
Main theme	Vlad the flea explores London during the Great Fire, giving children a gentle, story-based view of a key historical event.	Katie and her cousin explore London's famous landmarks with a friendly lion, introducing geography through adventure.	An Indian flood story based on an Indian folktale. Pattan saves his village using a giant pumpkin, celebrating courage and community.	A boy transforms a grey world into a vibrant garden, discovering how imagination and care can change everything.	A timid knight and a friendly dragon learn that bravery comes from kindness, friendship and understanding.	Rocket visits her grandparents and leads a beach clean-up, inspiring others to protect the ocean.
Safeguarding	Staying close to trusted adults; understanding danger (fire); safe evacuation.	Staying safe in busy places; recognising trusted adults; safe movement in crowds.	Helping others; staying safe during natural events; trusting adults.	Safe exploration outdoors; understanding natural hazards.	Understanding fear; seeking help; safe problem-solving.	Safe behaviour near water; recognising hazards; helping responsibly.
Environmental Issues	Fire safety; impact of disasters on homes and environments	Caring for shared city spaces.	Flooding; farming; caring for land and animals.	Plant growth; caring for green spaces; biodiversity.	Respect for animals and habitats.	Pollution; recycling; protecting oceans and animals.
Spiritual Awareness	Reflection on bravery, community support and rebuilding.	Wonder, curiosity and appreciation of cultural heritage	Gratitude, bravery and connection to nature.	Awe, creativity and appreciation of natural beauty.	Courage, kindness and peaceful solutions	Care, stewardship and appreciation of the natural world.

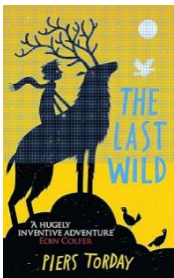
	Year 3		
Curriculum	Stoneage	Our Angry World	Roaming Romans
Class Text	Stoneage Boy by Satoshi Kitamura 	Pompeii by Karen Ball 	Roman Diary by Richard Platt 
Main theme	The main character falls into an unfamiliar place and meets new people.	A dramatic, child-friendly retelling of the eruption of Mount Vesuvius following characters as they try to escape the falling ash, smoke and chaos. It blends adventure with real historical detail about life in Pompeii.	Iliona, a young Greek girl captured by pirates becomes a slave in Rome. Through her diary she describes daily life, Roman customs, buildings, people and the bustling world of the Roman Empire.
Safeguarding	Safe risk taking. Stranger awareness; what to do if separated from adults; recognising unsafe situations; recognising safe adults.	Staying calm in emergencies; recognising danger; fire safety; following safe adults; understanding evacuation behaviour; knowing when to seek help.	Stranger awareness; safe travel; understanding unsafe power dynamics; knowing when and how to seek protection; emotional safety in unfamiliar places.
Environmental Issues	Using only what you need; natural resource use; respectful interaction with nature	Natural disasters; volcanoes and earth systems; human settlement near risk zones; respecting natural forces; impact of environment on communities.	Urban living; resource use in ancient cities; water systems (aqueducts); waste, hygiene and public health; human impact on built environments.
Spiritual Awareness	Early human wonder; connection to nature; beginnings of belief and meaning-making.	Awe and wonder at nature's power; reflection on fragility, loss and community.	Reflection, ritual, belief systems; personal spiritual voice through diary form.

	Year 4/5 (2026-2027)		
Curriculum	Ground-breaking Greeks	Our Watery World	Travels to the East
Class Text	Beasts of Olympus by Lucy Coates 	The Wind in the Willows Kenneth Graham 	The Firework Maker's Daughter Philip Pullman 
Main theme	Pandora's son Demon is chosen to care for the magical beasts of Olympus. He must solve problems, calm dangerous creatures, and prove he can be trusted in a world full of mythical challenges.	Mole, Rat, Badger and Toad explore rivers, forests and adventures together. The story follows their friendships, mishaps and rescues, set in a peaceful natural world.	Lila dreams of becoming a firework maker. She sets off on a dangerous journey to find the secret of firework magic, facing challenges, bravery tests and natural dangers along the way.
Safeguarding	Power dynamics; asking for help; emotional safety around anger/conflict; dealing safely with injured or dangerous creatures; knowing when a situation is unsafe.	Friendship safety; trusting safe adults; recognising risky behaviour (Toad's recklessness); staying safe near water; understanding consequences of unsafe choices.	Safe risk-taking; fire safety; knowing when danger is too great; perseverance with support; seeking help from trusted adults; emotional safety during challenge.
Environmental Issues	Animal care; protecting habitats; understanding human impact on wildlife; respectful treatment of living creatures.	River habitats; woodland ecosystems; caring for natural spaces; respecting wildlife; human disruption of peaceful environments.	Fire safety and environmental impact; smoke and air quality; respectful use of natural resources; understanding how human actions affect landscapes.
Spiritual Awareness	Mythology, gods, duty, caring for creation; moral reflection on responsibility	Peace, belonging, friendship, awe in nature; quiet spiritual reflection.	Courage, calling, perseverance; symbolic transformation through fire and journey.

	Year 5/6 (2026-2027)		
Curriculum	Ancient Baghdad	Our Changing World	Britain at War
Class Text	The Golden Horsemen of Baghdad Saviour Pirotta 	The Last Bear Hannah Gold 	Goodnight Mr Tom Michelle Magorian 
Main theme	An adventure set in ancient Baghdad. When a young boy becomes caught up in a dangerous plot, he must navigate the bustling city, trust new allies and make brave choices to protect himself and others.	April travels with her father to a remote Arctic island where she discovers a lonely polar bear. Their friendship leads her on a mission to help the bear survive in a changing, fragile environment.	During World War II, young Willie is evacuated to the countryside where he is cared for by Mr Tom. Through their growing bond, Willie finds safety, healing and a sense of belonging.
Safeguarding	Consequences of unsafe behaviour; peer pressure; knowing when to seek help; recognising unsafe adults; staying safe in busy public places.	Safe risk-taking; staying safe around wild animals; emotional safety when feeling isolated; asking for help; understanding boundaries in dangerous environments.	Emotional safety; trusted adults; recovery from neglect; recognising safe vs unsafe homes; community protection during crisis.
Environmental Issues	Sustainable materials; craftsmanship; ethical resource use in cities; understanding how ancient cities managed water, trade and natural resources.	Climate change; melting ice; endangered species; human impact on fragile ecosystems; caring for wildlife; environmental responsibility.	Rural environments; countryside habitats; wartime impact on land use; community stewardship of natural spaces.
Spiritual Awareness	Wisdom, justice, ethical behaviour; spirituality rooted in Islamic scholarship and moral codes.	Deep connection to nature; compassion; stewardship of creation; awe and responsibility.	Healing, kindness, hope, human goodness; spiritual growth through safe relationships.

Looking Ahead - Key Stage 2 2027-2028

	Year 4 2027-2028		
Curriculum	Invaders or Settlers?	Our Diverse World	Long Ago in Longwick
Class Text	Beowulf Rosemary Sutcliffe 	The Explorer Katherine Rundell 	The Railway Children E Nesbit 
Main theme	An Anglo-Saxon hero travels to help a distant settlement plagued by monsters, showing how early communities relied on courage, loyalty and shared protection to survive.	After a plane crash, four children must survive in the Amazon rainforest and learn about courage, interdependence and the importance of protecting fragile ecosystems.	A warm, character-driven story of three children adapting to life in a rural village, forming bonds with neighbours and railway workers, and discovering how community support shapes everyday life.
Safeguarding	Understanding danger and bravery; recognising trusted leaders; responding safely to threats; knowing when to seek help.	Staying safe in unfamiliar environments; teamwork; responding to danger; trusting responsible adults.	Understanding safe behaviour near railways; recognising trusted adults; responding safely to emergencies; knowing when and how to seek help.
Environmental Issues	Respect for land and natural surroundings; awareness of how early settlements depended on their environment for survival.	Rainforest destruction; biodiversity; human impact; conservation and stewardship	Respecting countryside environments; noticing human impact on land and transport routes; caring for wildlife and shared spaces.
Spiritual Awareness	Reflection on courage, honour, loyalty and the values that shaped early communities; exploring good vs evil	Awe, respect for nature, and appreciation of interconnected life; moral responsibility for the planet.	Compassion, hope, gratitude and the importance of community kindness; reflection on belonging and family resilience.

	Year 5/6 2027-2028		
Curriculum	Crime and Punishment	Our Fragile World	Children in a Changing World
Class Text	Holes Malorie Blackman 	The Last Wild Piers Torday 	Wonder Louis Sachar 
Main theme	A darkly comic mystery where Stanley Yelnats is sent to a juvenile correction camp and uncovers a web of injustice, family history and buried secrets.	In a future where animals have almost disappeared, a boy discovers he can communicate with the last surviving creatures and must protect them from a powerful organisation controlling the environment.	Auggie Pullman navigates school life while living with facial differences, teaching readers about empathy, kindness and the impact of social change on children.
Safeguarding	Understanding fairness and justice; recognising unsafe authority; knowing when to seek help; resilience in difficult situations.	Staying safe in unfamiliar or dangerous situations; recognising trusted adults; responding to fear and uncertainty; teamwork and resilience.	Anti-bullying; inclusion; recognising trusted adults; emotional safety; respectful relationships.
Environmental Issues	Harsh desert environment; impact of human actions on land; survival in extreme conditions.	Extinction, environmental collapse, human impact on ecosystems, pollution, and the consequences of industrial control.	Urban environment; accessibility; understanding how communities adapt to meet diverse needs.
Spiritual Awareness	Reflection on fate, fairness, moral choices and the importance of doing what is right.	Hope, courage, moral responsibility, and reflection on humanity's duty to protect the natural world.	Compassion, dignity, kindness and reflection on how we treat others; celebrating difference.