

Christchurch City
Libraries
Ngā Kete Wānanga-o-Ōtautahi

Holiday Reading 2009

*A selection of children's
and young adults' books*



Holiday Reading 2009 is only a small selection of the many new titles added to Christchurch City Libraries during the year. We hope you will find something here to excite, enthuse, enthrall and inform you. Any title may be reserved online or at one of our libraries.

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Picture Books

Toymaker and the Bird – Pamela Allen (NZ)

In a little house in a dark forest, a toymaker lives all alone. One day, a small brown bird hears the magic sounds of the toymaker's violin, and flies down to him. Together they make music so enchanting that even the trees shiver and murmur in wonder. But as the seasons change, the little bird dreams of the wide open sky and a life beyond the tops of the trees ...

Our Daft Dog Danny – Pamela Allen (NZ)

When visiting Uncle Peter, the children love to go to the beach with his dog Millie. But the day they took their dog Danny with them, everything went wrong, until Toby had a good idea!

Babies Love Books – Laurence Anholt

Discover all the places books can be read, from a plane to a coconut tree, and all the special people they can be shared with, in this delightful picture book from a renowned author-illustrator team. A perfect book for introducing a lifetime's love of reading to the very young, and for encouraging parents to read to their children any time of the day, not just at bedtime.

There was a Crooked Man

– Gavin Bishop (NZ)

Gavin Bishop beautifully illustrates the old English rhyme in a vertical board book for very young children.

Quentin Blake's Ten Frogs – Quentin Blake

One crow, two goats, three dogs, and four cats! Featuring a fun die-cut cover, the quizzical animal friends in this early counting book help young readers get to 10.

The Wrong Book – Nick Bland

A young boy is trying to tell his story, but his book keeps being invaded by characters from other stories.

Sparrow and the Feather

– Benjamin Brown (NZ)

When sparrow finds a rather wonderful and exotic feather he feels sure it must be owned by a very lucky bird. He sets out to return the feather to its rightful owner but learns along the way that owning something so magnificent doesn't necessarily make you lucky.

It's a Secret! – John Burningham

One night Marie Elaine finds her cat Malcolm dressed to go to a party. On condition she keep his secret, Malcolm agrees to let her come with him, and they set off through the streets - a dangerous journey, for Marie Elaine is now as small as her cat! At the party there are cats and more cats, and they are all very excited... the Queen of the Cats is on her way!

Eric Carle's 123 – Eric Carle

Readers count all the way up to ten as each page has a corresponding number of animals to point out. Has some great paper engineering at the end.

Sarah's Heavy Heart – Peter Carnavas

"Sarah knew the heart would always be hers to carry. She just wished it wasn't so heavy." A magical story about a little girl's search for friendship and love.

Box of Tricks: A Magical Story

– Kate Cleminson

For her birthday, Eva is given a very special present - a box of tricks! She soon discovers that she is a master magician and for her first trick conjures up a rather large pet from within ... Monty the polar bear. With her new friend she produces rabbits from hats, and a magical party with delicious food, the best musicians and lots of dancing.

Princess Smartypants Breaks the Rules!

– Babette Cole

When the Queen packs off Princess Smartypants to finishing school, it seems that our favourite royal might become a perfect princess after all ... huh, no chance! Instead, PS makes her own school rules and teaches those other do-goody princesses just exactly how to have fun.

Cowshed Christmas – Joy Cowley (NZ)

The classic Christmas story is given a New Zealand twist in this warm and evocative retelling, with gorgeous illustrations by Gavin Bishop. All the farmyard animals - the jersey cow, the collie, bantam hens, sheep and lambs, ducks, kune kune, and the ginger cat - come to the cowshed door. They all come mooing, baaing, clucking, barking, quacking and meowing and they all come bearing gifts, true kiwi gifts like a rugby ball, a pavlova, jandals, a kiwi toy. And who do you think they saw? Little Baby Jesus by the cowshed door.

Hairy Maclary, Shoo! – Lynley Dodd (NZ)

When Hairy Maclary decides to snoop inside a delivery van, he's in for a chaotic adventure. Has Hairy ever created such havoc?

The Troll – Julia Donaldson

The Troll longs for a goat - but has to make do with fish for supper instead. Meanwhile, Hank Chief and his pirate crew are digging for treasure - but it seems they've sailed to the wrong island. Again. Watch the fun unfold as these two worlds collide in a richly inventive, gloriously comic tale.

Toddle Waddle – Julia Donaldson

A wobbly toddler takes a walk and is soon joined by a joyful troop of human and animal friends. They wander happily along with a clip clop, hurry scurry, flip flop, toddle waddle, but where will they go and who else will they meet along the way?

Tabby McTat – Julia Donaldson

Tabby McTat was a busker's cat with a miaow that was loud and strong. The two of them sang of this and that, and people threw coins in the checked hat. Fred, the busker, and his cat, Tabby McTat, are purr-fectly happy, singing together all day long. But when Fred gives chase to a thief, the two are separated. Will they ever find each other again?

Girl with the Bird's-Nest Hair – Sarah Dyer

No one really likes brushing their hair, but the girl in this delightfully anarchic tale finds out the hard way just what it means to ignore your mother's pleading to 'brush your hair'! First there is one little bird making the hair hard to brush, then another and another, and soon the girl and her mother find their day becomes an avian nightmare.

Finn Throws a Fit – David Elliott

Finn likes peaches. Usually. But not today. Today Finn doesn't like anything. Uh-oh. Is Finn going to throw a fit?

A Child's Garden: (A Story of Hope) – Michael Foreman

A boy's world is in ruin and rubble, with a wire fence and soldiers separating him from the cool hills where his father used to take him as a small child. Can a tiny, green plant shoot give him hope in a bleak landscape?

Hello Baby! – Mem Fox

A baby encounters a variety of young animals, including a clever monkey, a hairy warthog, and a dusty lion cub, before discovering the most precious creature of all.

When No-Ones Looking at the Zoo – Zana Fraillon

The animals at the zoo can stretch, growl and roar. But when no-one is looking, they get up to lots more!

Crazy Hair – Neil Gaiman

In my hair gorillas leap, tigers stalk and ground sloths sleep. Prides of lions make their lair somewhere in my crazy hair.

Toot Toot Beep Beep – Emma Garcia

Toot Toot Beep Beep is a fun, bright book for young children. Colourful cars zoom across the page, each making their own special noise. Little ones will love joining in with the sounds, making this book perfect for reading aloud.

The Grump – Sarah Garson

Do you have a grump in your house? The Grump is very scary - he leaves a mess wherever he goes, gobbles up everything in the fridge, and growls very loudly. But despite all this, the Grump might turn out not to be so scary after all...

When Stella was very, very small – Marie-Louise Gay

Ever-inquisitive, carrot-top Stella takes a peek at her early days when she couldn't read but, now that she's grown, she can read to her little brother.

Dogs – Emily Gravett

Gorgeous canines of every shape, size and colour are bounding through this irresistible book. Can you choose one dog to love best of all? With playful pencil and watercolour illustrations to delight children and adults alike, everyone will long to bark along with the Chihuahua and tickle the Dalmatian's tummy. This is a wonderfully satisfying book with a twist in the tail.

The Rabbit Problem – Emily Gravett

A family of rabbits soon supplies the answer in this funny story! Hop along to Fibonacci's Field and follow Lonely and Chalk Rabbit through a year as they try to cope with their fast expanding brood and handle a different seasonal challenge each month, from the cold of February to the wet of April and the heat of July. This extraordinary picture book is packed with gorgeous details and novelty elements including a baby rabbit record book, a carrot recipe book and a surprise pop-up ending. It can also be used as a calendar.

Birds – Kevin Henkes

Fascinated by the colours, shapes, sounds, and movements of the many different birds she sees through her window, a little girl is happy to discover that she and they have something in common.

Elephant – Petr Horáček

A young boy spends his day playing games with his imaginary friend, the Elephant. Real or not, when Grandma and Grandpa are busy, the Elephant proves to be the perfect playmate.

Olly and Me 123 – Shirley Hughes

Learning to count is fun and easy with Katie and her baby brother, Olly. At the seaside, on the bus, playing with friends or just home with Mum - anytime, anywhere, there's always a chance to practice numbers.

This is My Book – Mick Inkpen

The Snapdragon is up to his tricks again - eating the letters from the words in the book. It really is very naughty. How will Bookmouse stop Snapdragon? And is there anything the Woollywolves can do to help?

Don't Lose Pigley, Wibbly Pig! – Mick Inkpen

Wibbly Pig has been to a party. He leaves with his party bag, his balloon, and his favourite toy, Pigley. But what is in the party bag. Can Wibbly Pig find out, or is he carrying too many things!

It's Useful to have a Duck – Isol

A continuous folding story depicts a child's relationship with his duck, and on the reverse side, the duck's perspective on life with his boy.

Millie's Marvellous Hat – Satoshi Kitamura

Millie loves hats, but she has no money and she can't afford to buy any of the lovely hats in town. But the man in the hat shop has an idea. He produces a box containing a hat too fine and beautiful to behold, but with the most perfect shape and colour imaginable, if Millie dares to imagine it. Millie does dare, and soon she can not only see her own beautiful hat, but everyone else's hats as well.

Ghosts in the House! – Kazuno Kohara

Tired of living in a haunted house, a young witch captures, washes, and turns her pesky ghosts into curtains and a tablecloth.

Jack Frost – Kazuno Kohara

If you lived in a house in the woods and all your friends were hibernating you'd probably hate winter, just like this little boy. But one day a strange spiky figure appears and transforms the boy's world into a winter wonderland! How long will the magic spell last?

Who's That Knocking? – Alison Lester

Visitors to Ted's house cast mysterious shadows on the door. The reader opens a flap to discover the identity of the visitor. Re-release.

I'm Green and Grumpy – Alison Lester

Children are invited to guess what character is behind the dress-up cupboard door. Re-release.

Not Last Night but the Night Before

– Colin McNaughton

Not last night but the night before, everyone knocked at the little boy's door, they knocked him down when he let them in, but was there a big surprise for him?

Call Me Gorgeous – Giles Milton

What kind of animal has a porcupine's spines and a crocodile's teeth; a flamingo's neck and a toucan's beak; a chameleon's tail and a rooster's feet? Has such a strange thing ever been seen?

Piggity-Wiggity-Jiggity-Jig Goes to Dad's Café – Diana Neild (NZ)

Piggity-Wiggity is on a very special visit with his Mum with a very special menu designed by his Dad.

Higher! Higher! – Leslie Patricelli

One child. One swing. An obliging dad. The inevitable plea to go "Higher! Higher!" How high can it go? Higher than a giraffe? Taller than a mountain? Is Earth the final frontier?

Small Mouse, Big City – Simon Prescott

Country Mouse is going on an adventure! He's leaving his quiet countryside to stay with his friend in the Big City. The city is amazing! The city is magnificent! But when Country Mouse looks across the rooftops and sees the green hills of his home, he begins to feel sad.

On a Rabbit Hunt – Elizabeth Pulford (NZ)

There is a rogue rabbit on the loose, and young Sam, Mum and Sara are on its trail!

Harris Finds his Feet – Catherine Rayner

Harris was a very small hare with very big feet. 'Why do I have such enormous feet, Grandad?' Harris sighed. So Grandad shows Harris how to hop high into the sky, to climb to the tops of the mountains, and to run very fast. Harris not only learns about the world around him but also the importance of finding his own feet.

Dog and Bird Follow a Butterfly

– Toby Riddle

One day Dog and Bird follow a butterfly in this board book. It goes up and down, and round and round ... as it leads them to a magical moment!

I'm Number One – Michael Rosen

Little wind-up soldier A-One is in charge. At least that's what he tells the other toys. When he tells them to turn his key, they do it. When he tells them they're no good, they feel bad. He calls them all kinds of things: no good, hopeless, the worst. Or was that hope-use, good-no, and less-less? Somehow, stringing all those mean words together makes them start to sound, well, silly...

Bear Flies High – Michael Rosen

Bear is playing on the beach and, seeing the seagulls wheeling above him, decides that he would love to learn how to fly. An exhilarating story about friends helping each other to realise their dreams - and have great fun doing it!

Duck Rabbit – Amy Krouse Rosenthal

Two unseen characters argue about whether the creature they are looking at is a rabbit or a duck.

Waddle! – Rufus Seder

All animals move, but how they move - whether they waddle, stomp, or fly, is a source of endless fascination for children. This title uses 'scanimation' technology to simulate movement by the simple turning of a page. Leaping green frogs, flapping red hummingbirds, slithering yellow snakes, these animals are truly amazing to see.

Red Sings from Treetops: A Year in Colours – Joyce Sidman

In spring, Red sings from tree-tops: cheer-cheer-cheer, each note dropping like a cherry into my ear. The colours of the seasons come to life in a fresh light, combining the senses of sight, sound, smell and taste.

The Wonky Donkey – Craig Smith (NZ)

In this very funny, cumulative song, each page tells us something new about the donkey until we end up with a spunky, hanky-panky cranky stinky dinky lanky honky-tonky winky wonky donkey, which will have children in fits of laughter! There is much fun to be had by listening to the song and trying to predict the new word for each clue given.

Vroom!/Toot!/Brum! – Leo Timmers

Different vehicles, with an endearing animal inside, cause quite a racket by making different noises. Children will learn to associate each sound with the appropriate vehicle and, at the same time, be highly amused by these eye-catching and engaging board books.

Simm's Taback's City Animals – Simm Taback

The reader is invited to guess which animal is hiding beneath fold-outs that reveal a succession of clues.

Piglet and Granny – Margaret Wild

Piglet is waiting for Granny. While she waits she plays all sorts of games - balancing, chasey and hide-and seek. And when Granny arrives she has a brand new game for Piglet to play.

Itsy-Bitsy Babies – Margaret Wild

This classic picture book for the very young, by two leading creative talents, is a must have for every baby's bookshelf. The rhyming text is perfect for reading aloud, and the charming illustrations will inspire endless fun and imitations.

Naked Mole Rat gets Dressed – Mo Willems

Wilbur, a naked mole rat who likes to wear clothes, is forced to go before the wise community elder, who surprises the other naked mole rats with his pronouncement.

Big Bad Bun – Jeanne Willis

There never was a rabbit as bad as Big Bad Bun. Or so you'd think if you read the letter which he left on his bed after school one day... but it turns out Big Bad Bun (whose real name is actually Fluff) might not be as bad as he makes out. His school report aside, that is!

Flabby Cat and Slobby Dog – Jeanne Willis

Flabby Cat and Slobby Dog were very lazy. They ate and ate and ate. They drank and drank and drank. And they slept and slept and slept. But when they woke up, they were most uncomfortable. The sofa had shrunk! Or so they liked to think ...

Younger Fiction

Hooray for Fly Guy – Tedd Arnold

Fly Guy joins Buzz's football team, despite Coach's misgivings, and hits the field for a special, secret play.

Saffron – Victoria Azaro

Meet Saffron and her family. Her mum is an artist who says 'darling' all the time, her little sister Sage has an unquenchable appetite for asking annoying questions, and her dad is always travelling on business to bring home the bacon. Saffron has an uncanny knack for getting into difficult situations.

Bob and the Disappearing Moon – Simon Bartram

When the Stupendous Alacazamo makes the moon disappear, it looks like Bob might be out of a job! Join Bob and his dog Barry as they race to uncover the truth, with a little alien assistance.

Friends: Snake and Lizard – Joy Cowley and Gavin Bishop (NZ)

A new book of stories about the daily adventures of the popular Snake and Lizard. Snake is elegant and calm, and a little self-centred; Lizard is exuberant and irrepressible. Even though they're opposites, they are good friends. With its wisdom, acceptance and good humour, Snake and Lizard captures the essence of friendship. The stories are beautifully illustrated by Gavin Bishop in the warm and clear colours of the desert.

Wyrm king – Tony DiTerlizzi

Nick, Julie, Laurie, and their friends try to prevent a hydra from destroying Florida.

Gauge – Chris D'Lacey

Second title in a new series about the dragons made by Elizabeth Pennykettle. The stories set the scene for Chris D'Lacey's epic dragon series, being set in the time just before David Rain arrives in the Pennykettle household.

Fearsome five – Wolf Erlbruch

Story of five social outcasts who win back their street cred by hanging out together at the beach

Killer cat's Christmas – Anne Fine

So go on, ask me. 'Dear, dear Tuffy. Why was your Christmas so horrible?' Well. I couldn't climb the tree. I couldn't touch the dangly decorations. And Ellie made me part of her sing-along Christmas performance. Horrible. But I showed them. I was Tuffy the Acting Cat, superstar. How was I supposed to know things would get so ... messy?

Asterix and Obelix's birthday – Goscinny

The 34th story - the first for four years - is the highlight of Asterix's 50th anniversary celebrations in 2009. A collection of 12 new stories - all linked by the theme of Asterix's anniversary celebration.

Where's Wally? : The Incredible Paper Chase – Martin Hanford

A new "Where's Wally?" Adventure that includes fold-out game and a press-out circus. As Wally travels through worlds of dinosaurs, soldiers, clowns and so much more he leaves a tiny piece of paper to look for in every scene.

Tollins: Explosive Tales for Children – Conn Iggulden

In these three tales, Conn Iggulden introduces the explosive, magical and adventurous world of the Tollins, all beautifully illustrated in full colour by Lizzy Duncan. Complete with thrilling stories of danger and derring-do, glorious drawings, maps and diagrams, this is more than a fantastic fiction debut for children - it's also the definitive guide to these remarkable little flying creatures. Just don't ever call them fairies!

Gnome with the Knobbly Knees – Rebecca Lisle

If only Clinky Monkey the dog could speak - he'd tell everyone about the garden gnome creeping round the house. But he can't. It's not until they catch the gnome sneaking into Laurie's bedroom that the three brothers find out about the amazing Great Gnome Robbery masterminded by tiny Mr. Gribble, the strange man next door. Using clever disguises, the boys devise a cunning plan to foil Gribble's plot.

The Best of Times – Michael Morpurgo

A story can bring love and laughter, sorrow and tears. But to save a life ... that will require the greatest story of all. When the Prince and the Princess marry, joy rings out across the land. But all too soon it fades away and a shadow hangs over the royal palace. As Christmas approaches, Prince Frederico must find a way to warm his new bride's aching heart.

Hero of Little Street – Gregory Rogers

A graphic novel for younger readers. To hide from a group of bully boys, the Boy slips into the London National Gallery where he makes an unexpected friend - a dog - and is introduced to the magic of painting. He and his new friend step through a portal into the world of a famous Vermeer painting and soon find themselves transported to Little Street, Delft in 17th Century Holland. But the streets of Delft are a dangerous place for a dog and the Boy must again set his hand to rescue before his canine mate meets an untimely fate in a butcher's shop. Book three in the Boy Bear series.

The Big Elephant in the Room – Lane Smith

When one donkey tells his friend that they need to talk about “the big elephant in the room,” his friend wonders what this embarrassing issue could possibly be.

Elephants Cannot Dance/Watch me throw the Ball – Mo Willems

Elephant and Piggie have more adventures in friendship in this early reader series.

Older Fiction

The Underneath – Kathi Appelt

An old hound that has been chained up at his hateful owner's run-down shack, and two kittens born underneath the house, endure separation, danger, and many other tribulations in their quest to be reunited and free.

Poppy and Ereth – Avi

After a long, hard winter in Dimwood forest, Poppy the deer mouse finds new adventure thrust upon her while rescuing Ereth the porcupine from the mud.

Anything But Typical – Nora Raleigh Baskin

Jason, a twelve-year-old autistic boy who wants to become a writer, relates what his life is like as he tries to make sense of his world.

The Time Quake – Linda Archer-Buckley

Abducted to 1763, Peter Schock and Kate Dyer begin to understand that history has reached a tipping point. The antigravity machine is in the hands of the cruel and ambitious Lord Luxon - who has set his sights on the most valuable prize of all: America. He is determined to manipulate time to his advantage, no matter what the cost. And the cost is great indeed. As Lord Luxon changes more and more of the past for his own gain, terrible time quakes begin to sweep through all of history. Book three in the Enlightenment of Peter Schock series.

The Black Circle – Patrick Carman

Where are Amy and Dan Cahill? The two kids were last seen in Egypt, hunting for one of the 39 Clues that could make them the most powerful people on earth. But no one has seen the siblings since. Has the ruthless Irina Spasky finally tracked them down? Or worse ... the Madrigals? Book five in the 39 Clues series.

The Unfinished Angel – Sharon Creech

In a tiny village in the Swiss Alps, an angel meets an American girl named Zola who has come with her father to open a school, and together Zola and the angel rescue a group of homeless orphans, who gradually change everything.

The Magician's Elephant – Kate DiCamillo

When ten-year-old orphan Peter Augustus Duchene encounters a fortune teller in the marketplace one day and she tells him that his sister, who is presumed dead, is in fact alive, he embarks on a remarkable series of adventures as he desperately tries to find her.

Dark Fire – Chris D'Lacey

With the Earth on the brink of recolonisation by dragons, David Rain is sent on an important mission: to seek out and destroy a trace of dark fire, the deadliest force in the universe. But with success could come a terrible price, the sacrifice of a beloved clay dragon. How much does the life of one small dragon count, when the alternative is the birth of a darkling...?

The Crossing of Ingo – Helen Dunmore

Sapphire, Conor and their Mer friends Faro and Elvira are ready to make the Crossing of Ingo - a long and dangerous journey that only the strongest young Mer are called upon to make. No human being has ever attempted this thrilling voyage to the bottom of the world. Ervys, his followers and new recruits, the sharks, are determined that Sapphire and Conor must be stopped - dead or alive!

Eating Things on Sticks – Anne Fine

Harry is in trouble. He's burned down the family kitchen so now has to spend a week of his summer hols with his uncle Tristram - who's heading off to stay with a new girlfriend - Morning Glory - on a tiny British island. Harry doesn't expect it to be a lot of fun - with just a wacky competition at the end of the week to look forward to. He certainly didn't expect to discover all the beards. Or the angel on the mountain. Or the helicopters circling overhead all week. And he definitely didn't think it would be so wet.

Odd and the Frost Giants – Neil Gaiman

An unlucky twelve-year-old Norwegian boy named Odd leads the Norse gods Loki, Thor, and Odin in an attempt to outwit evil Frost Giants who have taken over Asgard.

The Silver Blade – Sally Gardner

The second of two novels set in France and England during the French Revolution.

Grace – Morris Gleitzman

In the beginning there was me and Mum and Dad and the twins, and talk about happy families, we were bountiful. But it came to pass that I started doing sins. And lo, that was when all our problems began.

Then – Morris Gleitzman

I had a plan for me and Zelda, pretend to be someone else, find new parents, be safe forever. Then the Nazis came.

Boom! (or 70,000 Light Years) – Mark Haddon

From the moment that Jim and his best friend Charlie bug the staffroom and overhear two of their teachers speaking to each other in a secret language, they know there's an adventure on its way. But what does 'spudvetch' mean, and why do Mr Kidd's eyes flicker with fluorescent blue light when Charlie says it to him? Perhaps they're spies. Perhaps they're aliens. Whatever it is, Jimbo and Charlie are determined to find out. This is a nuclear-powered, one hundred-ton adventure with reclining seats and a buffet car. And as it gathers speed and begins to spin out of control, it can only end in one way... with a Boom!

Salt River – Elizabeth Hagarty (NZ)

Novel based on the lives of the Pook family who lived in a remote area of the Kaipara Harbour during the 1920's. Describes the family life of Tom Pook and his younger sister who are left in charge and must complete all the daily tasks as well as take care of their younger siblings.

The Eyeball Collector – F.E. Higgins

When his butterfly-collector father is swindled to within an inch of his life, a vengeful Hector leaves the city of Urbs Umida in pursuit of a fiendish villain with a glass eye. The trail leads to Withypitts Hall, a forbidding Gothic mansion as warped as its inhabitants and their secret schemes. Soon Hector finds himself embroiled in mysterious deeds more poisonous than his worst imaginings, but every twist and turn brings him closer to his revenge ... The third dark and diabolical book from a devilishly talented author.

Whale Pot Bay – Des Hunt (NZ)

Jake lives with his father in a remote part of the Wairarapa, where he can surf and watch the whales. But then Jake's dad begins a relationship with a new partner, who moves in with her daughter Stephanie, and at the same time a local photographer starts stalking their next door neighbour Milton Summer, an international rock celebrity - and Jake's peaceful life erupts into violence and deceit. And when a whale and her calf get into trouble on the treacherous coast, the history of Whale Pot Bay seems doomed to repeat itself unless Jake, Milton and Stephanie can survive the deadly tide.

Secret of Jelly Mountain – Des Hunt (NZ)

Jelly Mountain is a mysterious place. Its straight sides mean the top has never been explored and there are many rumours about strange creatures inhabiting it. Then a light plane tries to land on top, and the action really starts.

Tough Enough – Tania Hutley (NZ)

Matt and his mother have gone to a small seaside camping ground for a holiday. Matt has been warned the area is 'tough' and the local news has announced that a murder has taken place in the week before their arrival. Matt enjoys hanging out with the other kids at the camping ground and all is fine until they dare him to sneak into the house where it is rumoured the suspected murderer lives.

Brother Sister Soldier Cousin – Phyllis Johnston (NZ)

It's war time and a challenging year lies ahead for Helen. Her brother Harry is fighting in Egypt, her sister Jess treats her with unreasonable contempt and her Dad hasn't told anyone his heart is wonky. Also, Ginger, Helen's faithful old friend, is wearing out, and her friend Barbara is keeping secrets from her. Then Helen discovers that all is not as she has been led to believe.

The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate – Jacqueline Kelly

In central Texas in 1899, eleven-year-old Callie Vee Tate is instructed to be a lady by her mother, learns about love from the older three of her six brothers, and studies the natural world with her grandfather, the latter of which leads to an important discovery.

Wilma Tenderfoot and the Case of the Frozen Hearts – Emma Kennedy

A stolen jewel. Some frozen hearts. And a fish scale. Sounds like a case for Wilma Tenderfoot! Wilma Tenderfoot dreams of one day becoming assistant to the world-famous and very serious detective Theodore P. Goodman. But the last thing Mr Goodman wants is a small and slightly accident-prone sidekick - especially one with an over-friendly beagle called Pickle who keeps eating all the clues. Still, be warned - Wilma Tenderfoot may be small, but she is very determined!

Diary of a Wimpy Kid : The Last Straw – Jeff Kinney

Middle-schooler Greg Heffley nimbly sidesteps his father's attempts to change Greg's wimpy ways until his father threatens to send him to military school.

Love Aubrey – Suzanne LaFleur

Something terrible has happened. Eleven-year-old Aubrey is on her own. 'It was fun at first, playing house. Nothing to think about but T.V and cheese. A perfect world'. She's determined to hide away and take care of herself, because facing the truth is too much to bear. 'I couldn't let anyone know that I was alone. I was staying right here'. But with the love of her grandmother and the letters she writes, can Aubrey begin to see that even though she's lost everything - all is not lost?

The Witching Hour – Elizabeth Laird

In seventeenth-century Scotland, everyone knows the devil is real. Everyone knows that witches exist. Everyone knows that saying the wrong thing can get you hanged...When fourteen-year-old Maggie's grandmother is accused of witchcraft, Maggie has to run for her life. With English soldiers on the march, nowhere is safe - certainly not Ladymuir, where her uncle is determined to defy the king. And wherever Maggie goes, disaster follows... A gripping historical novel about a young girl's journey through the Killing Time.

Dark Angels – Katherine Langrish

A gripping and wonderfully spooky standalone adventure from critically acclaimed author Katherine Langrish. When Wolf runs away from the monastery where he grew up, he finds himself lost on Devil's Edge - a hill riddled with old mine shafts, said to be infested with ghosts, boggarts, elves, and perhaps even the Devil himself. Wolf meets a local knight out hunting, who offers him work and shelter in his castle - a place inhabited by a host of unexpected characters - a hearth hob, a ghostly white lady and a mysterious wandering juggler... Together Wolf and Nest, the knight's daughter, become embroiled in a mystery which leads Wolf into the very darkest depths of Devil's Edge...

The Silver Door – Holly Lisle

When Genna is chosen as the Sunrider of prophecy, her destiny is to unite the magic of the sun and the moon for the good of both Nightlings and humans. Book two in the Moon and Sun cycle.

The Well Between The Worlds

– Sam Llewellyn

Eleven-year-old Idris Limpet, living with his family in the once noble but now evil and corrupt island country of Lyonesse, finds his life taking a dramatic turn when, after a near-drowning incident, he is accused of being allied to the feared sea monsters and is rescued from a death sentence by a mysterious and fearsome stranger.

The Death-Defying Pepper Roux

– Geraldine McCaughrean

When Pepper wakes up on his 14th birthday he knows this will be the day that he'll die. But as the day wears on, and Pepper finds himself still alive, he decides to set off to sea in an attempt to try and avoid death for as long as possible. As time goes on Pepper steps into many roles and personas and has numerous outrageous adventures. But can he stay one step ahead of death? Or will fate catch up with him? And, if he does live, which of his many lives will he choose to adopt? This riot of a story is a wonderful adventure, and Pepper is an unforgettable character who stays with you long after his story has been told.

Wishing For Tomorrow – Hilary McKay

Hilary McKay revisits Miss Minchin's Select Seminary for Young Ladies after the events of A Little Princess and Sara Crewe's happily ever after. But Sara is much missed - and most acutely by best friend Ermengarde, who laments that 'nothing is the same as it was before'. But life must go on at Miss Minchin's as new friendships are made, rivalries continued, lessons learned and, most importantly, fairytale endings are had.

The Dark Blue 100-Ride Bus Ticket –

Margaret Mahy (NZ)

When Carlo and his mother, Jessica, accept a free bus ticket from a strange old woman in the supermarket, they are really only being polite. Secretly they think she must be slightly batty, with her talk about hundred free bus rides to the supermarket at the end of the world. How absurd! And yet, right outside their supermarket, which is of the most ordinary, everyday kind, a Number 13 bus pulls up ...

dark blue and with gold stars, just like the ticket. Feeling suddenly adventurous, Jessica and Carlo take their seats ... and nothing turns out the way you would expect.

Bute View – Janice Marriott (NZ)

When Arlo goes to SPACE in the northern hemisphere to show his inventions to the clever scientists there, he thinks he had finally made it. At last, fame and fortune will be his. But the Big Boss of SPACE has a more sinister fate planned for Arlo and soon he is a prisoner.

Running Wild – Michael Morpurgo

When 10-year-old Will's father dies in the Iraq war, his mother surprises him with a trip to Indonesia. But little could she have known what awaited them both there. The first Will knows that anything is wrong is when Oona, the elephant he is riding along the beach, begins to spook. Then, suddenly, she takes off into the jungle with Will on her back. And that's when Will sees the wave come crashing in! With his mother almost certainly drowned, with nothing to cling onto but an elephant and nothing to help him but the clothes on his back, Will faces a terrifying future. But maybe the jungle, and Oona the elephant, can help him!

Grip of the Shadow Plague – Brandon Mull

Kendra and Seth along with Grandpa and Grandma Sorenson discover that someone or something has released a plague that is turning the light creatures of Fablehaven into creatures of darkness. And for the first time, Kendra and Warren must visit another magical preserve called Lost Mesa in Arizona and try to recover another hidden artefact. Can the plague be stopped? Can the artefact be found? And most importantly, is the Sphinx a traitor? Part of the Fablehaven Fantasy Series.

Faith, Hope and Ivy June

– Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

During a student exchange programme, seventh-graders Ivy June and Catherine share their lives, homes, and communities, and find that although their lifestyles are total opposites they have a lot in common.

Charlie Bone and the Red Knight

– **Jenny Nimmo**

The eighth and final adventure starring Charlie Bone! The race to find the box containing the secret regarding the Bloors' fortune has become deadly. The Bloors are gathering their evil forces. Charlie is determined to stop them from finding the box and destroying it. But can the Red Knight help Charlie defeat the Bloors?

The Strange and Diverting Story of Loblolly Boy – James Norcliffe (NZ)

The loblolly boy has the gift of flight: he's invisible to most people, apart from a very few who are known as the Sensitives. When the loblolly boy swaps identities with the narrator of this story, we are taken on an exciting, truly imaginative odyssey. We follow the loblolly boy through a chain of transformations and encounters with intriguing, fantastic characters, and travel at a dizzying pace

Starclimber – Kenneth Oppel

Pilot-in-training Matt Cruse and Kate de Vries, expert on high-altitude life-forms, are invited aboard the Starclimber, a vessel that literally climbs its way into the cosmos. Matt and Kate embark on their journey into space, but soon the ship is surrounded by strange and unsettling life-forms, and the crew is forced to combat devastating mechanical failure. For Matt, Kate, and the entire crew of the Starclimber, what began as an exciting race to the stars has now turned into a battle to save their lives.

The Immortal – Michael Panckridge

For Cameron, it looks like the summer holidays at Sea Cottage will be two weeks of boredom, but that quickly changes when he hears a voice calling for help. In the tunnels beneath the sand dunes, Cameron uncovers a secret that will change his life. In the gloom he discovers a man who has been waiting for over 50 years to be rescued - a man who should have been dead long ago.

Ghost Hunter – Michelle Paver

As winter approaches and Souls' Night draws near, the Eagle Owl Mage holds the clans in the grip of terror. To fulfil his destiny, Torak must seek his lair in the Mountain of Ghosts. He must defy demons and tokoroths, and find his way through the Gorge of the Hidden People. Wolf must overcome terrible grief. Renn must make an agonizing decision. And in the final battle against the Soul-Eater, Torak must face the most heart-rending choice of all. Book Six in the Chronicles of Ancient Darkness.

No Such Thing as Dragons – Phillip Reeve

This title presents a dragon story with a brilliant twist from multi award-winning writer, Philip Reeve. Ansel's new master slays dragons for a living. He says he's hunted the monstrous worms all over Christendom and has the scars to prove it. But is Brock just a clever trickster in shining armour? Ansel is sure there are no such things as dragons. So what is the man-eating creature that makes its lair in the crags of Dragon Mountain? Ansel and Brock must climb the ice face to discover the terrifying truth.

Percy Jackson and the Last Olympian – Rick Riordan

The greatest monster of all, the storm giant Typhon, is on the loose, wreaking havoc and destruction across the U.S. - while Kronos' army lays siege to Manhattan. Soon Percy Jackson must make the hardest choice of his life - a choice that will save or destroy the world.

Battle for Rondo – Emily Rodda

Adventurers Leo and Mimi return to the world of Rondo and with the help of Rondo's seven best wizards and witches, have brave plans to combat the Blue Queen. But this time the Blue Queen has an enchanted dragon at her side and so there could be terrible times ahead, as the Queen sets out to evoke revenge on all those who have defied her. The final book in the Rondo trilogy.

Syren – Angie Sage

In the fifth book of this Magykal series, Septimus and his friends find themselves on an island whose secrets are as dark and dangerous as its inhabitants. Septimus Heap returns to the House of Foryx with Spit Fyre to pick up Jenna, Nicko, Snorri, and Beetle. But the journey home does not go well and when Septimus and his friends are caught in a storm, Spit Fyre crashes into the Rokk Lighthouse. They are rescued by the lighthouse keeper who is disturbingly sinister, and who has an equally sinister cat. And all the while, Septimus is trying to fight the strange pull he's feeling to the island and its mysterious secrets.

The Boy in the Dress – David Walliams

The sparkling debut children's novel from David Walliams, co-creator and co-star of the multi-award-winning Little Britain. Dennis was different. Why was he different, you ask? Well, a small clue might be in the title of this book!

Hetty Feather – Jacqueline Wilson

London, 1876 and Hetty Feather is just a tiny baby when her mother leaves her at the Foundling Hospital. The Hospital cares for abandoned children - but Hetty must first live with a foster family until she is big enough to go to school. Life in the countryside is hard but with her 'brothers' Jem and Gideon, she helps in the fields and plays imaginary games. Together they sneak off to visit the travelling circus and Hetty is mesmerised by the show, especially Madame Adeline and her performing horses. But Hetty's happiness is threatened once more when she is returned to the Foundling Hospital. The new life of awful uniforms and terrible food is a struggle for her. But now she has the chance to find her real mother. Could she really be the wonderful Madame Adeline? Or will Hetty find the truth is even more surprising?

My Mother's Eyes: A Story of a Boy Soldier – Mark Wilson

A fifteen-year-old Australian farm boy lies about his age to enlist to war and is caught up in the horrors of World War I in Egypt and on the Western Front, where 5,500 Australian troops were lost in two days at Fromelles alone.

Dandelion Fire – Nathan D. Wilson

Presents the continuing adventures of Henry York, who has been living in Kansas with his cousins, where he discovers doorways leading to other worlds and becomes involved in a multi-world struggle between good and evil.

Young Adults

Free? : Stories Celebrating Human Rights – Amnesty International (ed.)

This is a celebration of human rights. To commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Walker Books and Amnesty International have joined together to create a short-story collection for young adults, celebrating what it means to be free. Hosting a variety of talented children's authors from all around the globe, the anthology embraces such themes as asylum, law, education and faith in a way that will both inspire and entertain.

Gunstories: Life-Changing Experiences with Guns – S. Beth Atkins

Guns are a fact of life for young people growing up in the United States. Guns can cause accidents, injuries, and deaths, while they can also nurture self-esteem, bolster confidence, and foster athletic abilities. The impact of guns is life changing and undoubtedly twofold. In a series of evocative and stirring interviews and photographs, S. Beth Atkin presents an array of young people who candidly share the mixed consequences of guns in their lives. Told in their own voices, these are their remarkable stories.

End of the Alphabet – Fleur Beale (NZ)

Ruby Yarrow is 14 and she's a good girl who helps out a lot around the house with cooking and looking after the little ones. Ruby's best friend Tia tells her to stop being a doormat which gets Ruby thinking. How do you stop being a doormat and start standing up for yourself? Ruby can't even get her own bedroom, so why does she think she could get accepted for a school trip to Brazil? But Tia has made her start thinking and things will never be the same again for Ruby or her family.

Demon's Lexicon – Sarah Rees Brennan

Nick and his brother Alan are on the run with their mother, who was once the lover of a powerful magician. When she left him, she stole an important charm - and he will stop at nothing to reclaim it. Now Alan has been marked with the sign of death by the magician's demon, and only Nick can save him. But to do so he must face those he has fled from all his life - the magicians - and kill them. So the hunted becomes the hunter ... but in saving his brother, Nick discovers something that will unravel his whole past...

Killing God – Kevin Brooks

Dawn Bundy is fifteen. She doesn't fit in and she couldn't care less. Dawn has other things on her mind. Her dad disappeared two years ago and it's all God's fault. When Dawn's dad found God, it was the worst time ever. He thought he'd found the answer to everything. But that wasn't the end of it.

Nicholas Dane – Melvin Burgess

When Nick's mother dies suddenly and unexpectedly, the 14 year old is sent straight into a boys' home, where he finds institutional intimidation and violence keep order. After countless fights and punishments, Nick thinks life can't get any worse - but the professionally respected deputy head, Mr. Creal, who has been grooming him with sweets and solace, has something much more sinister in mind. Nick has no choice but to escape. Living on the run, he falls in with a modern Fagin, a cheerful Rasta who fences stolen credit cards and car stereos. The scarring, shaming experience he suffered at the hands of Mr. Creal can never quite be suppressed, and when the old hatred surfaces, bloody murder and revenge lead to an unforgettable climax.

Don't judge a girl by her cover – Ally Carter

When Cammie "the Chameleon" Morgan visits her roommate Macey in Boston, she thinks she's in for an exciting end to her summer break... But when you go to the world's best school (for spies), "exciting" and "deadly" are never far apart. (Latest title in a really cool teenage spy series).

Fire – Kathleen Cashore

It is not a peaceful time in the Dells. In King City, the young King Nash is clinging to the throne, while rebel lords in the north and south build armies to unseat him. War is coming. And the mountains and forest are filled with spies and thieves. This is where Fire lives, a girl whose beauty is impossibly irresistible and who can control the minds of everyone around her. Eerily romantic companion to the highly praised “Graceling”.

Because I am Furniture – Thalia Chaltas

The youngest of three siblings, fourteen-year-old Anke feels both relieved and neglected that her father abuses her brother and sister but ignores her, but when she catches him with one of her friends, she finally becomes angry enough to take action.

City of Glass – Cassandra Clare

Still pursuing a cure for her mother’s enchantment, Clary uses all her powers and ingenuity to get into Idris, the forbidden country of the secretive Shadowhunters, and to its capital, the City of Glass, where with the help of a newfound friend, Sebastian, she uncovers important truths about her family’s past that will not only help save her mother but all those that she holds most dear. Book three in the Mortal Instruments series.

Catching Fire – Suzanne Collins

By winning the annual Hunger Games, District 12 tributes Katniss Everdeen and Peeta Mellark have secured a life of safety and plenty for themselves and their families, but because they won by defying the rules, they unwittingly become the faces of an impending rebellion. Sequel to The Hunger Games.

Confessions of a Liar, Thief and Failed Sex God – Bill Condon

A hilarious, yet grim account of how Neil Bridges survives his last year at a Catholic boys’ school where the teachers rule with leather straps and fists, and learning is incidental. Neil and his wild mate Troy survive the trial of school by mucking around and playing stupid practical jokes.

A Voice of Her Own : Becoming Emily Dickinson – Barbara Dana

A fictionalized first-person account of revered American poet Emily Dickinson’s girlhood in mid-nineteenth-century Amherst, Massachusetts.

The 10PM Question – Kate de Goldi (NZ)

Twelve-year-old Frankie Parsons has a rather large, quirky family. Until now they’ve been the centre of his universe, but now Frankie’s view of his world begins to change. There’s a new arrival at school- a dreadlocked girl called Sydney who becomes perplexingly fascinating to him. She even starts to draw him away from his best friend, Gigs.

Along for the Ride – Sarah Dessen

When Auden impulsively goes to stay with her father, stepmother, and new baby sister the summer before she starts college, all the trauma of her parents’ divorce is revived, even as she is making new friends and having new experiences such as learning to ride a bike and dating.

Auslander – Paul Dowswell

When Peter’s parents are killed, he is sent to an orphanage in Warsaw. Then German soldiers take him away to be measured and assessed. They decide that Peter is racially valuable. He is Volksdeutscher: of German blood. With his blond hair, blue eyes, and acceptably proportioned head, he looks just like the boy on the Hitler-Jugend poster. Someone important will want to adopt Peter. They do. Professor Kaltenbach is very pleased to welcome such a fine Aryan specimen to his household. People will be envious. But Peter is not quite the specimen they think. He is forming his own ideas about what he is seeing, what he is told. Peter doesn’t want to be a Nazi, and so he is going to take a very dangerous risk. The most dangerous risk he could possibly choose to take in Berlin in 1942.

Brainjack – Brian Falkner (NZ)

Sam, a teenage computer genius, takes up an invitation to join a secret online convention for the best hackers in the world. The location for the convention? The White House. But Sam finds out that it is really a challenge to find expert hackers to protect the country. Sam is thrown into a world of international high-risk security and double crossing traitors where he must protect the world from a metasytem, connected to every computer terminal satellite and security camera, that seeks to erase the human race.

Falling Hard: 100 Love Poems by Teenagers – Betsy Franco (ed.)

From an acclaimed anthologist comes this unforgettable collection of poems by teenagers -straight, gay, bi, and transgender - capturing the vertigo-inducing realm of romantic love.

Tribal Ash – Vince Ford (NZ)

Having survived the warring tribe of the North, Trei makes his way back home, leaving his twin sister Souk with the Northmen. After struggling through snowy mountains, he is taken in and looked after for a time by the sea people, before he heads off again on his journey to find his own tribe, the People of the Canyons. Book Three in The Chronicles of Stone.

If I Stay – Gayle Forman

Everybody has to make choices. Some might break you. For seventeen-year-old Mia, surrounded by a wonderful family, friends and a gorgeous boyfriend decisions might seem tough, but they're all about a future full of music and love, a future that's brimming with hope. But life can change in an instant. A cold February morning ... a snowy road ... and suddenly all of Mia's choices are gone. Except one. As alone as she'll ever be, Mia must make the most difficult choice of all.

Earthless Trees: Short Stories by Young Refugees in New Zealand – Pauline Frances (ed.)

Created during a series of writing workshops for young refugees, these vibrant stories provide an insight into the lives of new New Zealanders - individuals and families who came to New Zealand seeking security and freedom. From an escape through mountains on a overloaded truck, to living through an explosion in urban Kabul, these stories touch on universal themes: survival, family, home, friends.

The Graveyard Book – Neil Gaiman

When a baby escapes a murderer intent on killing the entire family, who would have thought it would find safety and security in the local graveyard? Brought up by the resident ghosts, ghouls and spectres, Bod has an eccentric childhood learning about life from the dead

Hunger: A Gone Novel – Michael Grant

Conditions worsen for the remaining young residents of a small California coastal town isolated by supernatural events when their food supplies dwindle and the Darkness underground awakens. Sequel to Gone.

Paper Towns – John Green

One month before graduating from his Central Florida high school, Quentin "Q" Jacobsen basks in the predictable boringness of his life until the beautiful and exciting Margo Roth Spiegelman, Q's neighbour and classmate, takes him on a midnight adventure and then mysteriously disappears.

The Bone Tiki – David Hair (NZ)

What do you do when you meet a tohunga makutu? You run. When reality dissolves and myths and legends come alive? You run faster. And when the dead come to life and blood debts have to be paid, will you have the courage to do what must be done? Matiu Douglas has a bone tiki he stole from a tangi. His father's important new client wants it. Badly. And he has some very nasty friends. When Mat is forced to flee for his life, an unexpected meeting with a girl called Pania

sets his world spinning. Suddenly he's running through the bush with a girl-clown, a dog who is way too human, and a long-dead warrior. Fearful creatures from legend are rising up around him, and Mat faces a terrifying ordeal. And there is nowhere left to hide ... not even in another world. A breathtaking adventure set in two parallel New Zealands.

Butterfly – Sonya Hartnett

Here is Plum Coyle, on the threshold of adolescence, striving to be new. Her fourteenth birthday is approaching: her old life and her old body will fall away, and she will become graceful, powerful, at ease. The strength in the objects she stores in a briefcase under her bed - a crystal lamb, a yoyo, an antique watch, a penny - will make sure of it. Over the next couple of weeks, Plum's life will change. Her beautiful neighbour Maureen will begin to show her how she might fly. The older brothers she adores - the charismatic Justin, the enigmatic Cydar - will court catastrophe in worlds that she barely knows exist. And her friends - her worst enemies - will tease and test, smelling weakness.

Beginner's guide to living – Lia Hills

Seventeen-year-old Will is clever but he can't find answers to any of his questions after his mother dies in a car accident. His father seems to be drifting and his older brother stays away from home. And Will just can't get past being either angry or in tears. He finds his mum's old camera and begins taking photos that help him see things differently. When he meets sixteen-year-old Taryn he falls for her in a big way. On top of that, his mind is exploding with new questions: like so many teenagers, he's desperate for ideas by which he can live and die.

Tricks – Ellen Hopkins

Five troubled teenagers fall into prostitution as they search for freedom, safety, community, family, and love.

The Nest – Paul Jennings

Robin's life is spiralling out of control. His father's tyrant, his mother's disappeared and the wrong girl's luring him into her web... Intolerable images keep flashing through his head. What does Robin really know about his past? Are there clues in his own writing? And what secrets lie within the frozen forest?

Liar – Justine Larbalestier

Micah Wilkins is a liar. But when her boyfriend Zach, dies under brutal circumstances, the shock might be enough to set her straight. Or maybe not. Was Micah dating Zach? Did they kiss? Did she see him the night she died? Where does the truth actually lie?

Purple Heart – Patricia McCormick

While recuperating in a Baghdad hospital from a traumatic brain injury sustained during the Iraq War, eighteen-year-old soldier Matt Duffy struggles to recall what happened to him and how it relates to his ten-year-old friend, Ali.

Fire: Tales of Elemental Spirits – Robin McKinley and Peter Dickinson (ed.)

Master storytellers Robin McKinley and Peter Dickinson, the team behind "Water: Tales of Elemental Spirits," collaborate again to create five captivating tales incorporating the element of fire.

Small free kiss in the dark – Glenda Millard

A captivating story about two young boys, an old tramp, a beautiful lost dancer and her sweet baby Sixpence - rag-tag survivors of a sudden war, playing happy families in the remnants of a fun fair until violence shatters their fragile world.

The Year of the Shanghai Shark – Zhi Hong Mo (NZ)

The north-eastern Chinese city of Dalian is home to orphaned teenager Hai Long. In the year of the SARS epidemic, he and his friends live out their urban existence, going to school, navigating the malls and watching American basketball and Michael Jordan. And then there is Uncle, whose shadowy occupation exerts an irresistible pull on Hai Long's life.

Amiri & Odette: A Love Story

– **Walter Dean Myers**

Presents a modern, urban retelling in verse of the ballet in which brave Amiri falls in love with beautiful Odette and fights evil Big Red for her on the streets of the Swan Lake Projects.

Dope Sick – Walter Dean Myers

Seeing no way out of his difficult life in Harlem, seventeen-year-old Jeremy “Lil J” Dance flees into a house after a drug deal goes awry and meets a weird man who shows different turning points in Lil J’s life when he could have made better choices.

No Such Thing as The Real World

– **An Na et.al.**

Six award-winning young adult authors present short stories featuring teens who have to face the “real world” for the first time.

The Ask and The Answer – Patrick Ness

Reaching the end of their tense and desperate flight in *THE KNIFE OF NEVER LETTING GO*, Todd and Viola did not find healing and hope in Haven. They found instead their worst enemy, Mayor Prentiss, waiting to welcome them to New Prentisstown. There they are forced into separate lives: Todd to prison, and Viola to a house of healing where her wounds are treated. Soon Viola is swept into the ruthless activities of the Answer, aimed at overthrowing the tyrannical government. Todd, meanwhile, faces impossible choices when forced to join the mayor’s oppressive new regime. In alternating narratives - Todd’s gritty and volatile; Viola’s calmer but equally stubborn - the two struggle to reconcile their own dubious actions with their deepest beliefs. Torn by confusion and compromise, suspicion and betrayal, can their trust in each other possibly survive? Book two in the *Chaos Walking* series.

Notes from the dog – Gary Paulsen

When Johanna shows up at the beginning of summer to house-sit next door to Finn, he has no idea of the profound effect she will have on his life by the time summer vacation is over.

Guantanamo Boy – Anna Perera

Khalid, a fifteen-year-old Muslim boy from Rochdale, is abducted from Pakistan while on holiday with his family. He is taken to Guantanamo Bay and held without charge, where his hopes and dreams are crushed under the cruellest of circumstances. An innocent denied his freedom at a time when Western boys are finding theirs, Khalid tries and fails to understand what’s happening to him and cannot fail to be a changed young man.

Rage: A Love Story – Julie Anne Peters

At the end of high school, Johanna finally begins dating the girl she has loved from afar, but Reeve is as much trouble as she claims to be as she and her twin brother damage Johanna’s self-esteem, friendships, and already precarious relationship with her sister.

Bloodhound – Tamora Pierce

Having been promoted from “Puppy” to “Dog,” Beka, now a full-fledged member of the Provost’s Guard, and her former partner head to a neighbouring port city to investigate a case of counterfeit coins. The second book in the Beka Cooper series.

Omnivores dilemma: The secrets behind what you eat – Michael Pollan

“What’s for dinner?” seemed like a simple question - until journalist and supermarket detective Michael Pollan delved behind the scenes. From fast food and big organic to small farms and old-fashioned hunting and gathering, this young readers’ adaptation of Pollan’s famous food-chain exploration encourages kids to consider the personal and global health implications of their food choices. It’s time to take charge of our national eating habits - and it starts with you.

Emily the Strange: the lost days – Rob Reger

Emily the Strange has lost her memory and finds herself in the town of Blackrock with nothing more than her diary, her slingshot, and the clothes on her back.

Lucky Ones – Tohby Riddle

Set in 1980s inner-city Sydney, *The Lucky Ones* follows maverick teen Tom, as he tries to make sense of life after school. The novel reveals in poignant and hilarious ways the workings of a young male mind - with all its misplaced romanticism, youthful delusions, bewilderment about girls and need for adventure

The Forest of Hands and Teeth – Carrie Ryan

In Mary's world there are simple truths. The Sisterhood always knows best. The Guardians will protect and serve. The Unconsecrated will never relent. And you must always mind the fence that surrounds the village; the fence that protects the village from the Forest of Hands and Teeth. But, slowly, Mary's truths are failing her. She's learning things she never wanted to know about the Sisterhood and its secrets, and the Guardians and their power, and about the Unconsecrated and their relentlessness. When the fence is breached and her world is thrown into chaos, she must choose between her village and her future-between the one she loves and the one who loves her. And she must face the truth about the Forest of Hands and Teeth. Could there be life outside a world surrounded in so much death?

Love you, hate you, miss you – Elizabeth Scott

After coming out of alcohol rehabilitation, sixteen-year-old Amy sorts out conflicting emotions about her best friend Julia's death in a car accident for which she feels responsible.

Ghosts of war: the true story of a 19-year-old GI – Ryan Smithson

Ryan Smithson joined the Army Reserve when he was seventeen. Two years later, he was deployed to Iraq as an Army engineer. In this extraordinary and harrowing memoir, readers march along one GI's tour of duty.

Shiver – Maggie Stiefvater

In all the years she has watched the wolves in the woods behind her house, Grace has been particularly drawn to an unusual yellow-eyed wolf who, in his turn, has been watching her with increasing intensity.

Marcelo in the real world – Francisco X Stork

Marcelo Sandoval, a seventeen-year-old boy on the high-functioning end of the autistic spectrum, faces new challenges, including romance and injustice, when he goes to work for his father in the mailroom of a corporate law firm.

The chosen one – Carol Lynch Williams

In a polygamous cult in the desert, Kyra, not yet fourteen, sees being chosen to be the seventh wife of her uncle as just punishment for having read books and kissed a boy, in violation of Prophet Childs' teachings, and is torn between facing her fate and running away from all that she knows and loves.

Beatle meets Destiny – Gabrielle Williams

Imagine your name is John Lennon, only everyone calls you Beatle. And then you meet your Dream girl and her name is Destiny McCartney. But what if you're already with the perfect girl? A novel about change, chance and everybody doing the wrong thing.

IraqiGirl: diary of a teenage girl in Iraq – Elizabeth Wrigley-Field

With her intimate reflections on family, friendship, and community, the true story of *IraqiGirl* allows us to witness the determination of one girl not only to survive, but to create, amidst the devastation of war, a future worth living for.

Uninvited – Tim Wynne-Jones

After a disturbing freshman year at New York University, Mimi is happy to get away to her father's remote Canadian cottage only to discover a stranger living there who has never heard of her or her father and who is convinced that Mimi is responsible for leaving sinister tokens around the property.

Information Books, including poetry and folktales

3 little celebrations – Kaye Umansky

Three brand-new mini-musicals for Spring, Summer and Autumn - perfect for year-round impromptu performances in early year settings.

African acrostics : a word in edgeways – Avis Harley

Awesome Aotearoa : Margaret Mahy's history of New Zealand – illustrated by Trace Hodgson (NZ)

The famous children's writer joins forces with her country's top political cartoonist in this hilarious and irreverent history of Aotearoa - or New Zealand, to use its other name.

Barbarians! – Steven Kroll, illustrated by Robert Byrd

Kroll introduces four notable groups referred to by their enemies as barbarians: the Goths, the Huns, the Vikings, and the Mongols. In each case, he looks at the lives of common people within the group, their religious beliefs, their leaders, their history, and the results of their attacks on other civilizations

Ben and Mark: boys of the high country - John Bougen (NZ)

This is the true story of Ben and Mark Smith, aged eight and six, who live with their parents Richard and Sheri on Mount White Station, near Arthurs Pass, one of the biggest and most remote stations in the South Island

Brian Wildsmith's favourite nursery rhymes – Brian Wildsmith

Brian Wildsmith has chosen over eighty best-loved rhymes that are full of charm and rhythm, and has illustrated them with great exuberance and imagination. Nursery rhymes are delight to share from one generation to the next and this beautiful book is sure to be enjoyed by young and old alike.

Bubble homes and fish farts – Fiona Bayrock

Bubbles serve many different functions for a wide variety of animals. Some use them for protection, some to find food, and others to keep warm.

Butterflies in my stomach and other school hazards – Serge Bloch

On the first day of school, a student is confused by many of the phrases that are used, such as when the librarian says not to open a can of worms, or when the teacher says he expects the class to be busy bees doing their homework.

Charles Darwin and the Beagle adventure: countries visited during the voyage round the world of HMS Beagle under the command of Captain Fitzroy, RN – A. J. Wood and Clint Twist; including extracts from the works of Charles Darwin

Counting the stars: four Māori myths – Gavin Bishop (NZ)

Sequel to Taming the sun and Riding the waves.

Dear Mother Goose – Michael Rosen, illustrated by Nick Sharratt

Down, down, down: a journey to the bottom of the sea – Steve Jenkins

Provides a top-to-bottom look at the ocean, from birds and waves to thermal vents and ooze.

E3 call home – Janet Hunt (NZ)

Every year in March thousands of godwits leave New Zealand and fly almost 17,000 kilometres to Alaska, where they mate and raise new godwits, and then turn around and fly all the way back to New Zealand. This is the story of two godwits whose flight in 2007 was tracked using transmitters. Packed with wonderful photos, fascinating information about godwits and other wading birds.

The elves and the shoemaker – retold by Lucy M. George and illustrated by Rachel Swirles

Fantastic Undersea life of Jacques Cousteau - Dan Yaccarino

This exciting picture book biography introduces young readers to Jacques Cousteau, the world's ambassador of the oceans.

How much poo does an elephant do? : and further fascinating facts! – Mitchell Symons

Did you know that squirrels can't see the colour red? That Walt Disney, the creator of Mickey Mouse, was afraid of mice? Or that every year the average person eats 438 bugs by mistake? Let Mitchell Symons be your guide into the weird and wonderful world of totally useless trivia.

Hansel Gretel – Rachel Isadora

I had a little cat : collected poems for children – Charles Causley

I am a dolphin – Barbara Todd (NZ)

This second title in New Holland's 'I am a ...' series introduces a much-loved branch of the mammal class. The basic aspects of habitat, hunting, social behaviour, breeding and relations with humans are covered at an easy-to-grasp level, and the simple rhyming text helps young readers absorb the facts.

Jim a cautionary tale – Hilaire Belloc retold by Mini Gray

A poem describing the sad end of Jim, who ran away from his Nurse and was eaten by a Lion. Award-winning illustrator Mini Grey turns her inimitable hand to Hilaire Belloc's classic cautionary tale of Jim: who ran away from his Nurse and was eaten by a Lion! First published in 1907, Belloc's wickedly funny poem describing the sad end of Jim is now fabulously illustrated by Mini Grey for this extra-special new edition. This is a perfect gift with much to explore.

John Burningham

John himself explores his childhood, his schooling at Summerhill, his beginnings as an illustrator designing posters for London Transport, and then his hugely successful, award-winning and still-ongoing career as a picture book author and illustrator. We see developmental notes for his first picture book, "Borka", sketches, and lavish colour illustrations from his backlist of over 40 books.

Knick knack paddy whack – Stevesongs

An illustrated version of the traditional counting song that tells of the ten things "this old man" played before he came rolling home.

The Lego book – Daniel Lipkowitz

Lego Star Wars: the visual dictionary – Simon Beecroft

Spaceships, vehicles, creatures, equipment and minifigures. This book celebrates the entire "LEGO Star Wars" history including the manufacture and construction of.

Life-size zoo: from tiny rodents to gigantic elephants, an actual-size animal encyclopedia – editorial supervisor of Japanese edition, Teruyuki Komiya; photographer, Toyofumi Fukuda; Japanese translation by Makiko Oku; English language adaptation by Kristin Earhart.

The Lion & the Mouse – Jerry Pinkney

In award-winning artist Jerry Pinkney's wordless adaptation of one of Aesop's most beloved fables, an unlikely pair learn that no act of kindness is ever wasted. Pinkney makes this a truly special retelling, and his stunning pictures speak volumes.

Listen to the wind: the story of Dr. Greg and Three cups of tea – Greg Mortenson and Susan L. Roth; collages by Susan L. Roth

Greg Mortenson stumbled, lost and delirious, into a remote Himalayan village after a failed climb up K2. The villagers saved his life, and he vowed to return and build them a school. The remarkable story of his promise kept is now perfect for reading aloud.

Louisa: the life of Louisa May Alcott – Yona Zeldis McDonough

Louisa came from a family that was poor but freethinking, and she started teaching when she was only seventeen years old. But writing was her passion. This biography captures the life of a compassionate woman who left an indelible mark on literature for all ages.

Lucy long ago: uncovering the mystery of where we came from – Catherine Thimmesh.

This story of scientific sleuthing invites readers to wonder what our ancestors were like and recounts the discovery of the remains of Lucy, the world's most famous hominid.

Michael Rosen's A to Z: the best children's poetry from Agard to Zephaniah

From Agard to Zephaniah, the very best of children's poetry from the very best of children's poets appears in this wonderful and exciting anthology edited by Michael Rosen, the Children's Laureate.

Move! - Steve Jenkins

Animals move! Follow them as they swing, dance, float, leap, and slide from page to page. Move! is a playful introduction to motion in the animal kingdom that invites young readers to guess some of the unusual ways that animals get around. Includes a lenticular treatment on the cover to create the illusion of movement!

The name game: a look behind the labels – Donna M. Jackson; illustrated by Ted Stearn

This illustrated investigation looks at how people get their names in various cultures and at what some of those names mean. It also discusses unusual names, nicknames, names of pets, companies, hurricanes and much more.

Never Smile at a Monkey: And 17 Other Important Things to Remember – Steve Jenkins

When it comes to wild animals, everyone knows that there are certain things that one should not do. In this fascinating picture book, readers find out what they should "never" do if they encounter one of these surprisingly dangerous animals.

One small step: celebrating the first men on the moon – Jerry Stone

A collection of keepsakes and memories that bring that historic moment of pride and accomplishment to life for a new generation.

Open me up – Laura Buller

This title provides everything you need to know about the human body - in a quirky package. Open up the shiny cover and show your child how all the bony, bloody and squelchy goings on inside their bodies make it work. A gutsy, cheeky, sick, hip, nosey, heady, handy, mouth-watering and eye-catching look at the human body.

Owl and the pussycat – Kevin Waldron

Perhaps Edward Lear's best-loved nonsense rhyme, this new edition of The Owl and the Pussycat is guaranteed to delight readers young and old. With magical illustrations, the most appealing of characters and a new verse, this is a fresh and exciting approach to an old favourite.

Panda kindergarten – Joanne Ryder

Meet sixteen young giant panda cubs at the China Conservation and Research Center for the Giant Panda at the Wolong Nature Preserve. The cubs are raised together from infancy in a protected setting, where they grow strong. Under the watchful eyes of the scientists and workers, the cubs learn skills that will help prepare them to be released into the wild.

Silver spoon for children: favourite Italian Recipes

Presents a selection of 40 recipes with a short introduction about the origins of the dish, fascinating facts about the ingredients and the Italian culinary culture. This book offers information on seasons, ingredients and basic cooking techniques.

**Slither and crawl: eye to eye with reptiles
– Jim Arnosky**

Explains how to identify venomous snakes and their harmless cousins, where to find a 200-pound lizard, how to avoid becoming an alligator's lunch and features snake fangs, alligator claws, and turtle shells - all life-size!

**Standing small: a celebration of 30 years
of the Lego minifigure – Nevin Martell**

**Tales from around the world:
a classic collection**

Includes classics such as Aladdin and the Lamp, Baba Yaga and The Ruby Prince.

**Untangling spaghetti: selected poems
– Steven Herrick**

Each day after school, Steven's sons would come home and tell him about their day. These stories became poems and these poems became fodder for the many school talks Steven gives around the country each year. Topics include food, animals, school, friends, sport (especially soccer), dogs and anything and everything relevant to kids. For this new book, Steven has taken poems from three of his well-known collections and themed them together for easy access.

**The word witch : the magical verse of
Margaret Mahy – edited by Tessa Duder,
illustrated by David Elliot (NZ)**

An illustrated selection of the poetry of Margaret Mahy.

**Yates young gardener: growing things to eat
– Janice Marriott (NZ)**

If you want to know more about growing your own juicy tomatoes, crunchy carrots and tasty strawberries, then this is the book for you. Find out what tools you need and how to make seeds grow into fruit, flowers or vegetables. Discover who your garden friends are and find out who's just waiting to munch on your juicy new plants.

**You are the first kid on Mars
– Patrick O'Brien**

Using the most up-to-date designs and theories of what it will take to establish a base on Mars, you are off on an incredible journey, over 35 million miles to the red planet. Filled with details, and vividly brought to life, this is an adventure that you are never going to forget.

**Yummy: My favourite nursery stories
– Lucy Cousins**

This collection of 8 classic nursery stories pulls no punches - it's lively, bold and quite unforgettable! Lucy Cousins retells her favourite nursery stories in spare bold language and brilliant vibrant pictures. She gives their famous characters new life and imbues their great adventures with her own very modern magic.

