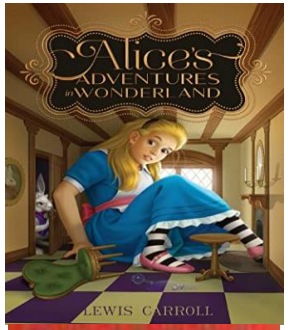
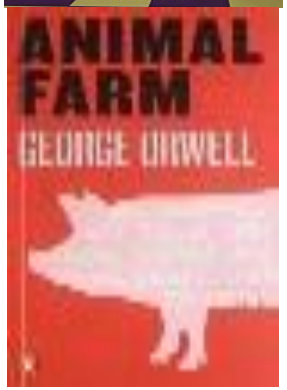
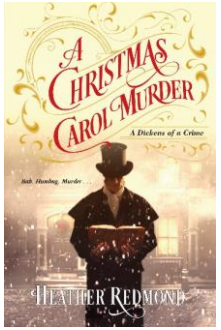
Classics





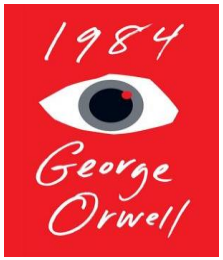


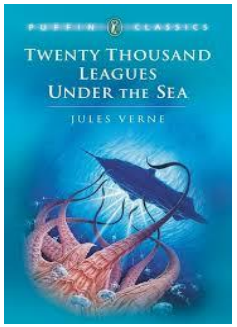
Recommended Reading KS3

Year 7 suggested reads	Level	Year 8 suggested reads	Level	Year 9 suggested reads	Level
The Hobbit by J. R. R. Tolkien—This stirring adventure is a fantasy that introduces the far-wandering hobbit, Bilbo Baggins.	Ea	**Oliver Twist** by C. Dickens—The tale of an orphan who runs away from his employer, is captured by thieves on the London streets and finally escapes.	Ad	**Frankenstein** by M. Shelley— A gifted scientist attempts to break new frontiers and create human life from nothing, but has his quest driven him mad? Can he control the monster he has unleashed on the world?	Ad
The Little Prince by A. Saint Exupery-the Little Prince**The Little Prince is a story about a pilot whose plane breaks down in the Sahara Desert**. While he is trying to fix his plane, he meets the Little Prince	Me	**Goodnight Mr Tom** by M. Magorian – A young boy with a disturbed mother is sent to the English countryside during World War II to avoid the horrors of war.	Ea	**Jane Eyre** by C. Bronte – In this introspective novel of the nineteenth century, Jane Eyre is a plain, yet spirited, governess whose integrity, keen intellect, and perseverance break through class barriers to reach the man she loves.	Ad
Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll - Alice lives an ordinary life, until the day she finds herself in the wonderful world of mad tea parties and remarkable characters	Ea	**Lord of the Flies** by W. Goulding—Shipwrecked English schoolboys set up their own civilisation, but savagery finally emerges.	Ad	**To Kill a Mockingbird** by H. Lee— Two children witness the effects of racial prejudice, as their father courageously defends an innocent black man who has been accused of raping a white woman.	Ad
The secret garden by F. Hodgson Burnett. This story demonstrates the resilience of children even when they are surrounded by uncaring and flawed adults.	Me	**A Christmas Carol** by C. Dickens— In this classic story, Ebenezer Scrooge learns the true meaning of Christmas after being visited by three ghosts.	Ea	**Of Mice and Men** by J. Steinbeck—Rough-tongued, ribald men yearn for land of their own while working on a ranch in California's Salinas Valley.	Ad

	Black Beauty by Anna Sewell- The book follows Black Beauty, a horse in 19th-century England with its ups and downs.	Me	**Hitchhiker's guide to the galaxy** by D. Adams funny, inventive and chaotic story about a human fleeing to space with an alien friend to avoid dying on Earth.	Ad	**1984** by G. Orwell Eternal warfare is the price of bleak prosperity in this satire of totalitarian barbarism.	Ad

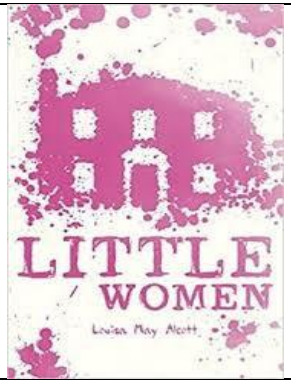
More Classics



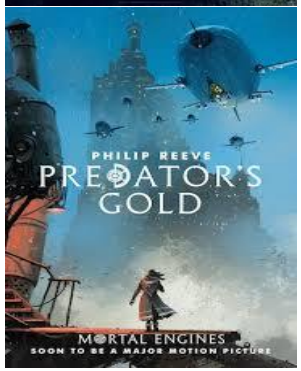


Recommended reading KS3

Year 7 Suggested reads	Level	Year 8 suggested reads	Level	Year 9 suggested reads	Level
The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling This is the story of Mowgli, the boy raised by wolves in the jungle.	Ea	**Gulliver's Travels**—Jonathan Swift The story of Gulliver's incredible adventures among some remarkable people.	Ad	**1984** by George Orwell Eternal warfare is the price of bleak prosperity in this satire of totalitarian barbarism.	Ad
The magician's nefew by C.S. Lewis- Prequel to Chronicles of Narnia. When Digory and his friend are tricked by Uncle Andrew into embarking on a series of magical adventures, they are brought into contact with the forces of both evil and good.	Ea	**The Hobbit** by J. R. R. Tolkien This stirring adventure is a fantasy that introduces the far-wandering hobbit, Bilbo Baggins; a quiet and contented hobbit whose life is turned upside down when he joins the wizard Gandalf and thirteen dwarves on their quest to reclaim their stolen treasure.	Me	**Moonfleet** by J. Meade Falkner- The plot is an adventure tale of smuggling, treasure, and shipwreck set in 18th-century England.	Me
White Fang by Jack London- It details the wild wolf-dog's journey, exploring White Fang's world and showing how kind – and brutal – humans can be.	Ea	**The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes** by A.C. Doyle, the first collection of the great consulting detective's cases, where we encounter some of his most famous and devilishly difficult problems.	Me	**Little Women** by L.M. Alcott- The story follows the lives of the four March sisters—Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy—and details their passage from childhood to womanhood.	Me

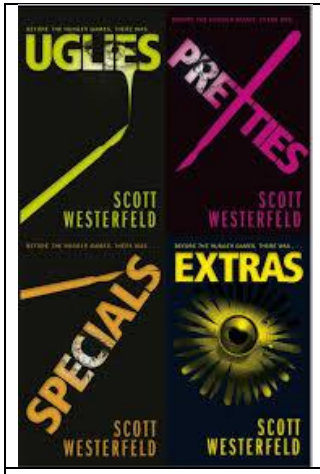
	**Peter Pan** by J Barry- a mischievous little boy who can fly, and has many adventures on the island of Neverland that is inhabited by mermaids, fairies, Native Americans, and pirates.	Ea	**20000 leagues under the sea** by J. Verne- In this thrilling adventure tale, **three men embark on an epic journey under the sea** with the mysterious Captain Nemo aboard his submarine	Me	**Robinson Crusoe** by Daniel Dafoe- the story of a man cast away on an island in the Caribbean near Tobago for 26 years and how he survives.	Me

Adventure

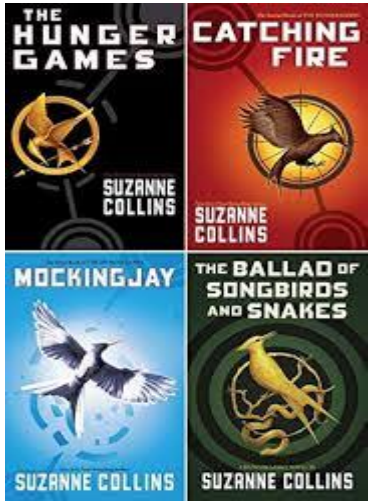


Recommended Reads KS3

Year 7 Suggested reads	Level	Year 8 suggested reads	Level	Year 9 suggested reads	Level
Stormbreaker (Alex Rider Series) by A. Horowitz— 14 year-old Alex Rider finds his life turned upside down on discovering that his late uncle was a field agent for MI6. Alex is then dragged into the world of espionage and intrigue himself.	Me	**Looking for Alaska** by John Greene— 16 year-old Miles's first year at a prep school in Alabama is defined by the search for answers about life and death after a fatal car crash.	Ad	**The Giver** by Lois Lowry—While training to be the Receiver of Memory, Jonas experiences joy and sadness for the first time.	Ad
The Maze Runner (series) by J. Dashner—16-year-old Thomas wakes up with no memory in the middle of a maze and realizes he must work with the community in which he finds himself if he is to escape	Ad	**Ms Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children** series by C. J and R. Riggs—When 16-year-old Jacob discovers an abandoned orphanage. The children who lived there may have been dangerous and may also still be alive.	Ad	**Assassin's Creed** series by Oliver Bowden Haytham is taken in by a mysterious tutor who trains him to become a deadly killer and he becomes caught up in the centuries-old battle between the Assassins and the Templars	Me
Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepety—As World War II draws to a close, refugees try to escape the war's final	Ad	**The Mortal Engines** series by Philip Reeve- n a captivating futuristic landscape, this hugely	Me	**Uglies** series by Scott Westerfield—In Tally's world, reaching 16 brings an	Ad

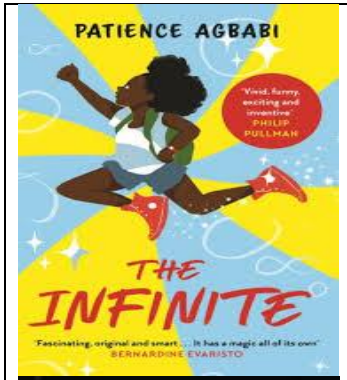
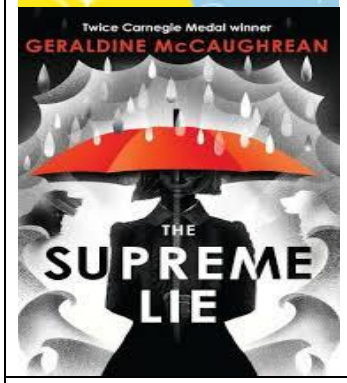
	dangers, only to find themselves aboard a ship with a target on its hull.		imaginative story is a vivid blend of action, romance, mystery, crime and horror. It is a whirlwind adventure.		operation that turns you from Ugly to Pretty.	
	Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli— In this story about the perils of popularity, the courage of nonconformity, and the thrill of first love, an eccentric pupil named Stargirl changes Mica Area High School forever.	Ad	**Lockwood & Co series by Jonathan Stroud—** Three young operatives of a Psychic Detection Agency battle an epidemic of ghosts in London.	Me	**Noughts and Crosses** series by Malory Blackman-Dystopian novel set in Britain in which society is divided by racism, Treating someone differently, unfairly and unkindly because of their skin colour or race.	Me

More Adventure

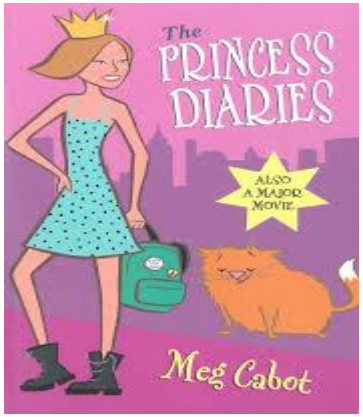


Recommended Reads KS3

Year 7 Suggested reads	Level	Year 8 Suggested reads	Level	Year 9 Suggested reads	Level
The Infinite by Patience Agbabi- A time-travelling science fiction adventure combined with crime mystery, *The Infinite* is fresh, exciting, bold and witty.	Me	**The Hunger games series** by S Collins - Every year a teenage boy and a teenage girl from each district are randomly chosen to compete in the annual **Hunger Games.**	Ad	**The rest of us live here** by P. Ness - While Immortals threaten world domination, Mikey is just trying to deal with ex-ams, nurse a hopeless crush and not freak out about the unexplained blue lights around town.	Ad
Silverfin by Charlie Higson- Young Bond: SilverFin is the first explosive book in Charlie Higson's bestselling Young Bond series.. There's something in the water at Loch Silverfin. Something deadly. Something that must be kept secret	Ea	**The Supreme lie** by G. McCaughrean- Clever, twisting, dark and inspiring, *The Supreme Lie* is a thrilling look at political corruption and media transparency through the eyes of a teenage girl handed absolute power.	Ad	**Lord of the flies** by W. Golding - The plot concerns **a group of prepubescent British boys who are stranded on an uninhabited island** and their disastrous attempts to govern themselves	Me
The Amazing story of Adolphus tips by M. Morpurgo-12-year-old Lily's Devon village is evacuated so that American troops can practise for the D-Day landings on the beach at Slapton Sands. Two American soldiers befriend	Ea	**Itch** by S. Mayo - **Itch** is the story of 14 years old Itchingham Loft, obsessed with collecting the periodic table of the elements, not fussed about football or video games.	Me	**The life of Pi** by Y. Martel - A young man who survives a disaster at sea is hurtled into an epic journey of adventure and discovery.	Me

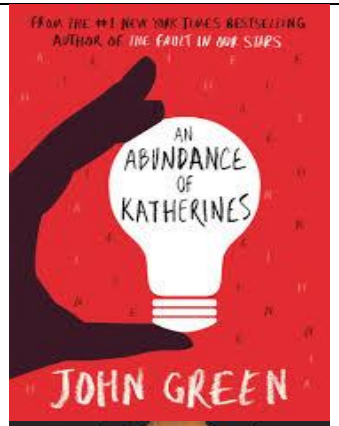
	the girl and try to help her find her beloved cat Tips, who is left behind in the move.					
	**Cogheart** by P.Bunzl- Expect thrills, mystery and mayhem. Lily has been in trouble for some time. Her mum is dead and she's been sent to the horrible Miss Octavia Scrimshaw's Finishing Academy for Young Ladies	Ea	**Journey to the river sea** by E Ibboston- The story of an orphaned girl, Maia, who travels from England to the Amazon in Brazil to begin a new life with the Carters - relatives she has never met before.	Ea	**The book thief** by M. Suzak- Liesel, a nine-year-old girl, is living with a foster family on Himmel Street. Her parents have been taken away to a concentration camp. Liesel steals books. This is her story and the story of the inhabitants of her street when the bombs begin to fall.	Me

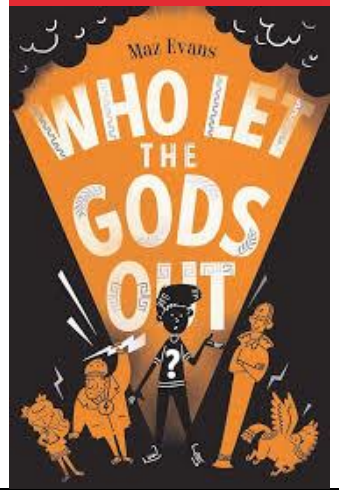
Comedy



Recommended Reads KS3

Year 7 Suggested reads	Level	Year 8 Suggested reads	Level	Year 9 Suggested reads	Level
Diary of a Wimpy kid series by J Kinney- Greg Heffley has a habit of getting into trouble. His diary, complete with hilarious cartoons, records a year in his life and follows his relationships with his nerdy best friend Rowley, annoying brothers Roderick and Manny and long-suffering parents.	Ea	**The Princess Diaries** by M. Cabot- Mia hides her real feelings as she takes care of her disastrously disorganised mother, until her absent father drops a bombshell: She is actually Princess Amelia of Genovia, a small principality in Europe.	Ea	**The curious incident with the dog in the night time** by M Haddon- Christopher finds his neighbour's dog, Wellington, has been murdered. Christopher sets out to solve the mystery of who killed him. The book explores themes of truth, logic and independence.	Ea



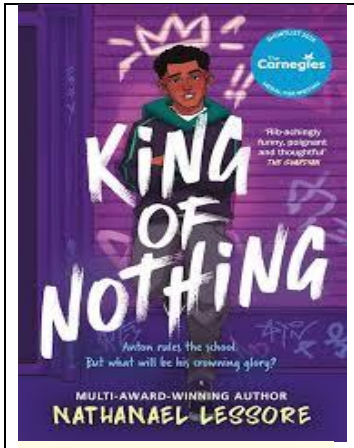
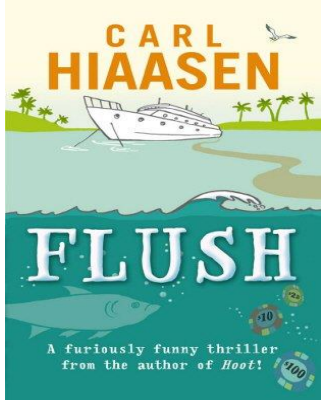


Dork Diaries series by Russel The series, written in a diary format, uses drawings, doodles, and comic strips to chronicle the daily life of its 14-year-old protagonist, Nikki Maxwell.	Ea	**The goldfish boy** by L. Thompson- Twelve-year-old Matthew is trapped in his bedroom by crippling OCD, spending most of his time staring out of his window as the inhabitants of Chestnut Close go about their business.	Ea	**They both die at the end** by A. Silvera - Mateo and Rufus are total strangers, but, for different reasons, they're both looking to make a new friend on their End Day.	Me
The Boy in the Dress by D. Walliams- Dennis experiments with dressing in girls' clothes and even goes to school in a dress, he is taunted and teased by the other children and expelled by the Head Teacher.	Ea	**What not to do if you turn invisible** by R. Welford—Twelve-year-old Ethel finds herself invisible while trying to cure herself of the spots she's been plagued with. While struggling to conceal her invisibility, she un-covers the biggest secret of all -- who she really is.	Me	**An abundance of Katherines** by J. Green - the story of Colin Singleton, former child prodigy who loves anagrams and has been dumped 19 times by girls called Katherines.	Me
Who let the gods out? By M. Evans- This book is based on Greek mythology, and follows the life of a young boy named Elliot who encounters demi-gods, as well as Zeus the God of lightning, and even the Queen of England!	Me	**The Falcon's Malteser** by A. Horowitz- Tim Diamond is entrusted with an unusual package worth over three million pounds! Tim is a detective (but not a very good one) and he is forced to investigate the murder of the man that gave him the package the day before.	Ea	**Am I normal yet?** By H Bourne - First and foremost, this is a thoroughly absorbing story about a teenage girl with all the typical preoccupations involving friends, boys and college. Evie's general situation is one to which many will relate, and the author's narrative voice is natural and authentic.	Ad

More Comedy

Recommended Reads KS3

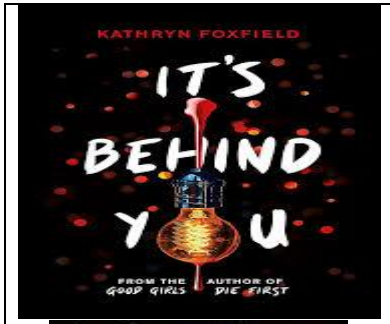
Year 7 Suggested reads	Level	Year 8 Suggested reads	Level	Year 9 Suggested reads	Level
Flour babies by A Fine- Is a classic story which is funny, touching and insightful, the boys in 4C learn much more than they had expected from the flour babies project.	Ea	**My family and other animals** by G Durrell- The book is a humorous look at Gerald's eccentric family. Young Gerald is fascinated with zoology, and he illustrates the bond that humans and animals can have. Many of his relationships with animals mimic his relationship with his family.	Me	**Good Omens** by Neil Gaiman - When Agnes Nutter predicts that the end of the world is days away, the demon Crowley and his angel friend, Aziraphale, team up to save humankind.	Me

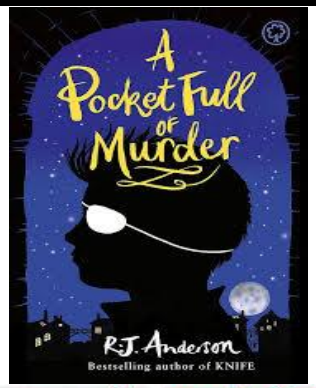
  Me	**Flush** by C. Hiaasen- This is an engaging and light-hearted thriller about issues that matter - justice, family and the environment.	Ea	**The gifted, the talented and me** by W Sutcliffe-15 year old Sam finds himself out of his comfort zone when his family moves to London and he attends the North London Academy for the Gifted and Talented.	Me	**London belongs to us** by S Manning- a fast-paced, darkly funny love letter to London, following 17-year-old Sunny as she embarks on a 12-hour adventure across the city after receiving a picture of her boyfriend with another girl.	Ad
	The 52-storey treehouse by It's about Andy and Terry, they are best friends. Andy and Terry have to write their story but their publisher, Mr Big Nose, has gone missing so it's up to them to solve the mystery of the 'missing Mr Big Nose'.	Ea	**The family fiasco** by A. Wilson- follows Skye Green as her life is turned upside down when her mum starts dating "the man next door," Rob, and their families begin to merge, leading to a series of comical and mortifying situations.	Ea	**The Humans** by M. Haig- an extra-terrestrial sent to Earth to destroy the work of Professor Andrew Martin, a mathematician, but who, while impersonating Martin, begins to question his mission and find value in human nature and imperfections.	Me
	Mr Stink by D. Walliams- Lonely Chloe befriends a smelly tramp, Mr. Stink, and hides him in her garden shed to protect him from being driven out of town	Ea	**King of Nothing** by N Lessore- This is a truly hilarious book that makes readers laugh out loud, which is so important in reading for the joy of it. Anton's world will be familiar to many - and this working-class South London scene is little written about.	Me	**Charming but insane** by S Limb- dark comedy that explores the duality of a character who is both captivating and dangerously unstable, potentially leading to a chaotic and unpredictable plot	Me

Crime Mystery Thriller

Recommended Reads KS3

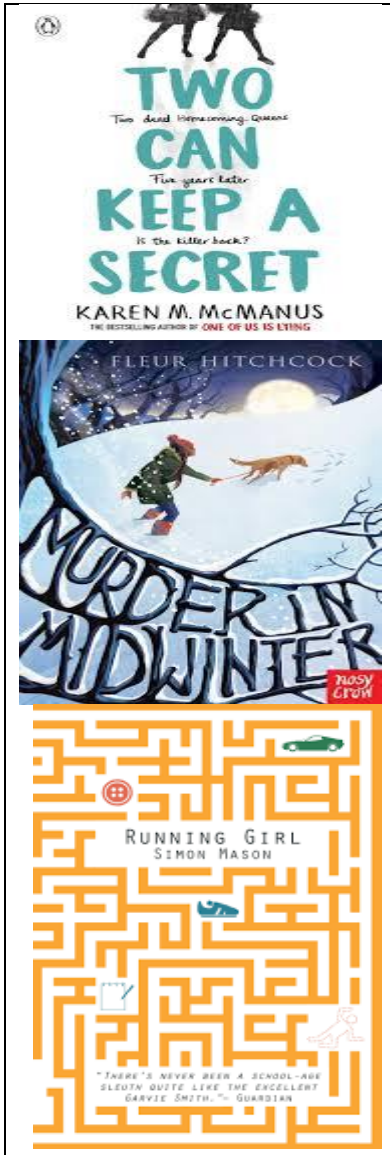
Year 7 Suggested reads	Level	Year 8 Suggested reads	Level	Year 9 Suggested reads	Level
It's Behind You—Katheryn Foxfield Five contestants must sit tight through the night in the dark and dangerous Umber Gorge caves, haunted by a ghost called the Puckered Maiden.	Ea	**A Pocketful of** Murder by R. J. Anderson- **I**n the socially stratified, magical town of Tarreton, Isaveth's father is accused of murdering an influential citizen, and Isaveth, aided by eccentric street boy Quiz, tries to solve the murder mystery before her father is executed	Me	**Six of Crows** series by L Bardugo- part adrenaline fuelled heist, and with just enough romance to keep things interesting, *Six of Crows* is impossible to put down	Ad





Butterfly Grave by A Cassidy- *Murder Notebooks* series is a thoughtful and inventive tale of intrigue and deception. A pacy teen thriller about two young people's determination to find the truth.	Ad	**Struck** by Joss Stirling **-** Behind the ivy-clad walls of an exclusive boarding school, lurks a sinister web of corruption, scandal, and conspiracy. American student Raven Stone has noticed something is horribly wrong. There are disappearances and teachers' lies.	Me	**A good girls guide to murder** series by H. Jackson-A schoolgirl was killed by her boyfriend, or so everybody thought…	Ad
Murder most unladylike series by R Stevens- **wo young would-be detectives, Hazel Wong and Daisy Wells**, form a Detective Society and find themselves investigating a variety of crimes	Ea	**Moriarty** by Anthony Horowitz **-** Pinkerton agent Frederick Chase arrives in London to help Scotland Yard Inspector Athelney Jones track down the sinister figure determined to be Moriarty's successor.	Ea	**The Ultimate Truth** by Kevin Brookes After Travis loses his private investigator parents in a car-crash he's determined to get to the bottom of what happened, and to solve their final case.	Me
Secret Breakers series by H.L. Dennis- a team of young code-crackers and their friends through interlocking adventures as they battle to solve the mystery of the world's most mysterious unbroken code!	Me	**Young Sherlock** (series) by Andrew Lane When Young Sherlock Holmes goes to Oxford to study, he investigates the strange case of body part being stolen. His friend Matty helps him solve the case and escape from danger.	Ea	**Dead Time—by Anne Cassidy** Rose's mother and Joshua's father went out for dinner one night and never came back. Five years later Rose and Joshua meet and discover a mysterious notebook with cryptic message inside, which might hold the an-swers to what happened that night.	Me

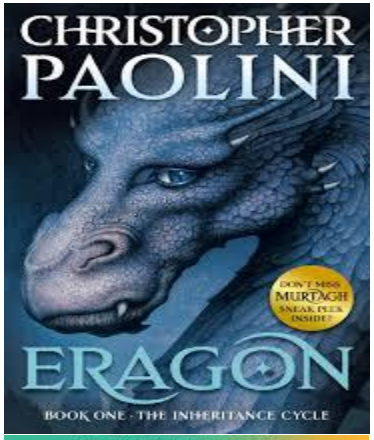
Crime Mystery Thriller	Recommended Reads KS3					
	Year 7 Suggested reads	**Level**	**Year 8 Suggested reads**	**Level**	**Year 9 Suggested reads**	**Level**

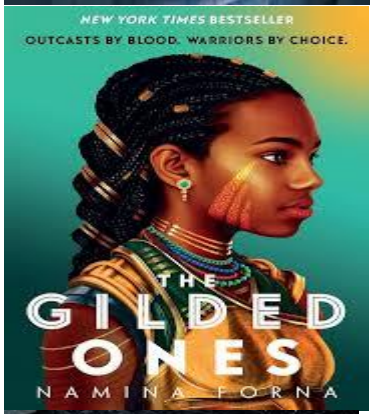


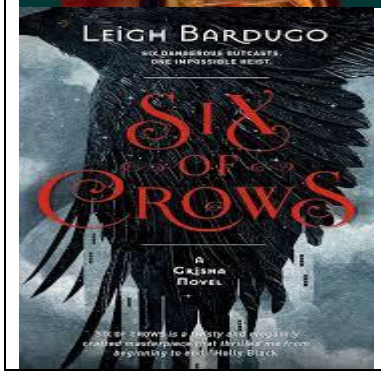
Recommended Reads KS3

Year 7 Suggested reads	Level	Year 8 Suggested reads	Level	Year 9 Suggested reads	Level
The London Eye Mystery by S. Dowd- mystery novel where Ted and his sister Kat, with Ted's unique perspective, investigate the disappearance of their cousin Salim from the London Eye.	Ea	**Running girl** by S Mason- Certain to grab the attention of teen fans of *Sherlock* and other crime dramas, *Running Girl* is an impressive murder mystery that will keep readers guessing.	Ad	**Two can keep a secret** by K McMannus- mystery book where homecoming queens disappeared in the past and the person who did this seems to be back	Me
The Middler by K. Applebaum- This is a wonderfully conceived and slickly executed dystopian novel set in a seemingly idyllic town, but with an undercurrent of secrets to send a shiver down the spine.	Ea	**Skulduggery Pleasant** series by D Landy- There's non-stop action, a striking cast of spooky, evil and/or deformed characters, spine-tingling horror and tension with smart, snappy dialogue, and the overlap between real and supernatural worlds cleverly handled.	Ad	**The body in the library** by A. Christie- The novel concerns **the murders of two teenaged girls** of outwardly similar appearance.	Me
Murder in Midwinter by F. Hitchcock- convinced she is a vital witness to a crime, the police send Maya into hiding in rural Wales. She resolves to get to the bottom of the mystery. Then the snow comes and no one can get out.	Me	**Theodore Boon** series by J Grisham- **Theodore Boone is a thirteen-year-old aspiring lawyer** who uses his legal knowledge and investigative skills to solve crimes, and seek justice in court.	Me	**Ace of Spades** by F Abike Iyidmide.-Intense suspense story about 2 black students in a prestigious school where there is systemic racism. They embark in a quest to discover the mystery of online abuse in school.	Me
Ruby in the smoke by Phillip Pullman Determined to discover the truth about what happened to her father, Sally is soon plunged into a dangerous and terrifying adventure that takes her to the dark heart of Victorian London.	Ad	**Look into my eyes** by L. Child It's about a **teenage girl who is a super code cracker** and somehow gets herself involved in a giant robbery, a top secret detective club	Me	**Thirteen days of Midnight** by L Hunt- Sixteen year old Luke Manchett has a pretty ordinary life living in a small northern town with his Mum. Until one day, a letter informs him that his celebrity ghost-hunter Dad is dead and Luke is the sole heir	Ad

Fantasy

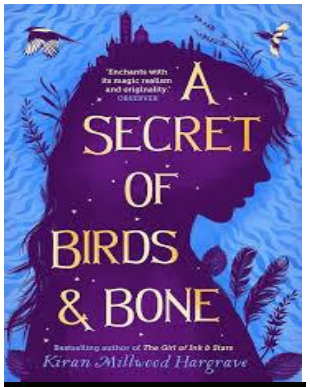


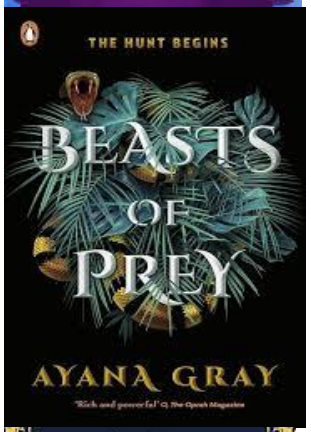


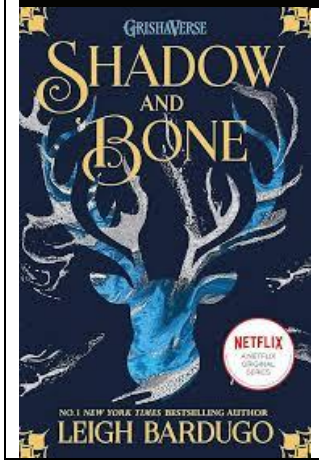


Artemis Fowl series by Eoin Colfer.-Artemis Fowl is a brilliant criminal mastermind. But even he doesn't know what he's taken on when he kidnaps a fairy - Captain Holly Short of the LEPrecon Unit. These fairies are armed and they are danger-ous	Me	**Six of Crows** by Leigh Bardugo.- Six dangerous outcasts. One impossible heist. Kaz's crew is the only thing that might stand between the world and destruction--if they don't kill each other first.	Me	**Mortal Engines** series by Philip Reeve - Moving cities trawl the globe. Tom and Hester are thrown from their beloved “London” and try to get back on board.	Ea
Wolf Brother & Spirit Walker by Mi-chael Paver - Charts the lives and adventures of early man’s fears, adventures and superstitions.	Me	**Northern Lights (His Dark Materials trilogy)** by Philip Pullman - Follows the coming-of-age of two children as they wander through a series of parallel universes.	Ea	**The Lord of the ring** series by by J. R. Tolkien—It is up to Frodo and his faithful servant Sam, with a small band of companions, to carry the Ring of Power to the one place it could be destroyed, while avoiding the Ringwraiths	Ea
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C S Lewis - Four children find them-selves in another land by stepping through a wardrobe.	Me	**Children of Blood and Bone** by T. Adeyemi.- Seventeen-year-old Zélie, her older brother Tzain, and rogue princess Amari fight to re-store magic to the land and activate a new generation of magi.	Me	**The Cruel Prince** by Holly Black Jude, seventeen and mortal, gets tangled in palace intrigues while trying to win a place in the treacherous High Court of Faerie, where she and her sisters have lived for a decade. The plot contains profanity, sexual refer-ences, and violence.	Me
Eragon series by C Paolini.- In Alagaesia, a fifteen-year-old boy of un-known lineage called Eragon, finds a mysteri-ous stone that weaves his life into an intri-cate tapestry of destiny, magic and power, peopled with dragons, elves and monsters.	Me	**Red Queen series** by V Aveyard When her latent supernatural powers mani-fest in front of a noble court, Mare, a thief in a world split between Red commoners and Silver superhumans, assumes the role of a lost silver princess before risking everything to help a growing rebellion.	Me	**The Gilded Ones** by Namina Forma At sixteen, Deka is tested on the day of the Ritual of Purity and declared to be a demon. She is forced to leave her village and train to be a warrior. However in Deka's new world, nothing is quite as it seems... Contains vio-lence.	Me

FANTASY CONTINUED







Recommended Reads KS3

Year 7 Suggested reads	Level	Year 8 Suggested reads	Level	Year 9 Suggested reads	Level
A secret of Birds and Bone by When their mother goes missing on Sofia's twelfth birthday, the children are put into an orphanage owned by the duchess and run by nuns. They run away in search of their mother.	Ea	**Shadow and Bone** by Leigh Bardugo Orphaned by the Border Wars, Alina be-comes the protégée of the mysterious Dar-kling, who trains her to believe that she is the Sun Summoner, who can destroy the monsters of the Fold.	Me	**American Gods** by Neil Gaiman Shadow sets out on a journey across America fighting old myths and the gods of modern technology and material obsession when he takes employment with a man named Wednesday - otherwise known as the god Odin.	Ad
A web of air by P. Reeve.- The clever young engineer, Fever Crumb, is swept up in a race to build a flying machine. Her mysterious companion is a boy who talks to Angels. Powerful enemies will kill to possess their new technology-or to destroy it.	Me	**Exodus** by Julie Bertagna.- As Mara's island is swallowed up by the advancing ocean, she becomes one of thousands of refugees seeking sanctuary in the 'cities in the sky' of the New World.	Me	**Ash Princess** by L Sebastian.- a nail-biting YA fantasy debut full of daring and vengeance.Theodosia was six when her country was invaded and her mother, the Queen of Flame and Fury, was murdered before her eyes	Me
Attica by G. Kilworth.- **A timeless adventure story in a land full of magic and wonder.** ***3 children go through the trap door in the attic to another world full of adventure and interesting characters.***		**Beasts of Pray** by A. Gray.- two teenagers bound together to hunt a legendary monster in the jungle. For Koffi, it means the end of her indentured servitude at the Night Zoo. For Ekon, it means acceptance into the Sons of Six, the respected and feared guardians of Lkossa.	Ea	**All our hidden gifts** by C. O' Donoghue.- The story follows Maeve, who discovers a set of tarot cards and finds herself entangled in the disappearance of her former friend.	Ad
The Princes Bride by W. Goldman.- **The book is a fantasy with a mix of adventure, romance, and humour,** with memorable characters and a clever narrative structure. It has become a cult classic.		**An Absolutely remarkable thing** by H Green.- April May, a young woman who stumbles upon a giant, mysterious sculpture in New York City. She films it, and the video goes viral, launching her into a world of media attention and government scrutiny in cities around the globe.	Ad	**The Martian** by Andy Weir After being stranded on Mars during a dust storm, astronaut Mark Watney relies on his ingenuity and engineering skills to stay alive and to try to contact NASA. The plot contains profanity.	Me