

Recommended Reads: Years 7/8

Action, Adventure, Mystery & Thrillers

Storm Catchers by Tim Bowler

The Terrible Thing [...] Barnaby Brocket - John Boyne

Bodyguard or *Gamer* (& sequels) by Chris Bradford*

Mortal Chaos or *Lie, Kill, Walk Away* –M Dickinson (!)

The London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd (!)

The Girl Who Stole An Elephant by Nizrana Farook

Boy Overboard by Morris Gleitzman

The Boy Who Flew by Fleur Hitchcock

High Rise Mystery & Mic Drop by Sharna Jackson

The Long Weekend by Savita Kalhan*

Girl Missing (& sequels) by Sophie McKenzie

The Recruit (& sequels) or *Killer T* -R Muchamore*

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

Ruby in the Smoke by Phillip Pullman

Wolf Wilder, Rooftopper The Explorer by K Rundell

Murder Most Unladylike (& sequels) – R Stevens

Lost (Choose Your Own Adventure) -Tracey Turner.*

Girl. Boy. Sea by Chris Vick

The Extinction Trials by SM Wilson

Dystopian & Science Fiction

The Infinite by Patience Agbabi

The Middler or *Troofriend* by Kirsty Applebaum

Ink (& sequels) by Alice Broadway

Where the River Runs Gold by Sita Brahmachari

Gone or *BRZK* (& sequels) -Michael Grant

Nowhere on Earth by Nick Lake

The Giver and *Gathering Blue* by Lois Lowry (!)

The Dog Runner, Across the Risen Sea & How to Bee by Bren Macdibble (!) – environmental dystopia

Killer T by Robert Muchamore

The Knife of Never Letting Go (& sequels)-P Ness (!)

Railhead & Mortal Engines (& sequels)-P Reeve (!)

Scythe, Unwind, Dry (& sequels) – N Shusterman (!)

Destination Earth by Ali Sparkes

Contagion or *Slated* (& sequels) by Teri Terry

The Kid Who Came From Space by Ross Welford

The 5th Wave (& sequels) by Rick Yancey (!)

Fantasy, Magic Realism, Horror & Ghost

The House With Chicken Legs & Girl/Bear -S. Anderson

Asha & The Spirit Bird by Jasbinder Bilan

Mind Writer by Steve Cole*

Artemis Fowl (& sequels) by Eoin Colfer

Who Let the Gods Out (& sequels) by Maz Evans

Ranger's Apprentice or *Brotherband* - J Flanagan

Inkheart (& sequels) or *Reckless* by Cornelia Funke (!)

The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman (!)

Blackberry Blue by Jamila Gavin (!)

Brightstorm: A Sky-Ship Adventure by Vashti Hardy

Girl of Ink and Stars by Kiran Millwood Hargrave (!)

Skulduggery Pleasant (& sequels) by Derek Landy

Eragon (& sequels) by Christopher Paolini

Tales of Terror, Mister Creecher –Chris Priestley

Northern Lights (& sequels) by Phillip Pullman (!)

Goth Girl (& sequels) by Chris Riddell*

Mrs Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children -Riggs

Alcatraz & Evil Librarians (& sequels) by B Sanderson

Zom-B or *Cirque du Freak* (& sequels) by D. Shan*

Oh My Gods by Alexandra Sheppard (!)

Black Panther the Young Prince by Roland L Smith

The Edge Chronicles by P Stewart and C Riddell

Humorous books

Little Badman &[...] Killer Aunties - Humza Arshad (!)

Millions, Cosmic or Broccoli Boy by Frank C Boyce

The Last Kids on Earth (& sequels) by Max Brallier*

Fenway and Hattie by Victoria Cole*

Adventures of a Wimpy Vampire(&more)-T.Collins*

The 13-Storey Treehouse (& series) by A Griffiths*

Cookie & the Most Annoying Boy... by Konnie Huq*

Enginerds (& sequels) by Jarrett Lerner*

Disaster Diaries: Zombies (&sequels)-R McGeddon*

The Accidental Billionaire series- T McLaughlin

The World of Norm series by Jonathon Meres*

Accidental Trouble: Planet Omar by Zanib Mian

Timmy Failure series by Stephan Pastis*

Tom Gates series by Liz Pichon (dyslexia-friendly)*

Big Nate series by Lincoln Peirce*

Relationships & Tough Situations

Cyborg Cat (& sequels)- Ade Adepitan* (!)

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate

Boy Underwater by Adam Baron (!)

Noughts and Crosses or *Pig-Heart Boy* - M Blackman (!)

Blubber or anything by Judy Blume

Artichoke Hearts or *Jasmine Skies* -S. Brahmachari

A Pocketful of Stars by Aisha Bushby

Efren Divided by Ernesto Cisneros

New Kid by Jerry Craft

One, Apple & Rain, Moonrise, Toffee -S Crossan (!)

Stella By Starlight or *Blended* by Sharon Draper (!)

Running on Empty by S.E. Durrant

Mind the Gap, Being Billy or Saving Daisy - P Earle*

The Many Worlds of Albie Bright –Chris Edge

Pet by Akwaeke Emezi

Mockingbird by Kathryn Erskine (!)

Tulip Touch, Goggle Eyes or Flour Babies by A. Fine

Lenny's Book of Everything by Karen Foxlee

Check Mates & The Bubble Boy by Stewart Foster

One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia

George by Alex Gino

Tall Story or Shine by Candy Gourlay

The Island at the End of Everything by KM Hargrave(!)

After the Fire by Will Hill (!)

Boy in the Tower by Polly Ho-Yen

A Different Dog by Paul Jennings*

Red Sky in the Morning or Song/Dolphin Boy -E Laird (!)

Scarlet Ibis by Gill Lewis

Rain Reign by Ann M Martin

Brock, Pike, Rook & Lark by Anthony McGowan *(!)

A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness (!)

No Fixed Address or Word Nerd – Susin Nielsen (!)

Wonder by R.J. Palacio (!)

Pax or Here in the Real World - S Pennypacker (!)

Unboxed by Non Pratt *

A Good Kind of Trouble by Lisa Moore Ramee

Long Way Down, Look Both Ways, Ghost -Reynolds*(!)

Ghost Boys or Black Brother[...] Jewell P Rhodes (!)

Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan

Operation Frog Effect by Sarah Scheerger

Can You See Me or Do You Know Me–Scott & Westcott

The Marvels or Wonderstruck by Brian Selznick*

The Boxer by Nikesh Shukla (!)

Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli (!)

Clean Getaway by Nic Stone

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred Taylor (!)

The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas (!)

Goldfish Boy by Lisa Thompson

The 1000 Year Old Boy or Time/Hamster - Ross Welford

A Boy Called Hope or Ocean/Armchair - by L Williamson

Brown Girl Dreaming or Harbor Me - J Woodson (!)

Front Desk by Kelly Yang

Sports

Booked, Crossover or Rebound – K. Alexander* (!)

Stat Man by Alan Durant *

Unstoppable or Man of the Match - Dan Freedman*

The Number 7 Shirt or The Lion Roars - A Gibbons*

Kick by Mitch Johnson

The Fix by Sophie McKenzie*

The Greatest: Muhammed Ali by Walter D Myers*

Ultimate Football Heroes Collection – M&T Oldfield*

Football Academy or Foul Play series–Tom Palmer*

Soccer Squad, Dream On (& series) by Bali Rai*

Outcasts United (young people edition) -W. St John

The Football Boy Wonder (& sequels) - Martin Smith*

Pay Attention, Carter Jones by Gary Schmidt* (!)

History, War, Conflict & Refugee Experience

Soldier Dog or A Horse Called Hero - Sam Angus

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas by J Boyne (!)

The Short Knife by Elen Caldecott

Illegal by Eoin Colfer * (!)

Wolf Children, Red Shadow, Eleven Eleven -Dowswell

Copper Sun by Sharon Draper

Under a War-Torn Sky by L.M. Elliott

Boy 87 by Ele Fountain

The Bone Sparrow by Zana Fraillion (!)

Once (& sequels) by Morris Gleitzman * (!)

Bone Talk by Candy Gourlay (!)

Grenade by Alan Gratz

Race to the Frozen North*, 1783, Blade and Bones or Sawbones by Catherine Johnson

Orphan Monster Spy by Matt Killeen

Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai (!)

Crusade by Elizabeth Laird

Buffalo Soldier or Apache by Tanya Landman

Every Falling Star (North Korea) by Sungju Lee

Dog Tags: Semper Fido or Strays by C A London*

Diver's Daughter: A Tudor Story by P Lawrence

Shadow or In the Mouth of the Wolf -Morpurgo

Sunrise Over Fallujah by Walter Dean Myers*

A Night Divided by Jennifer Nielson

After the War, Armistice Runner or Over/Line-T Palmer*

A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park

The Red Pencil by Andrea David Pinkney

Now or Never: A Dunkirk Story by Bali Rai*

The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Rauf (!)

Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys (!)

Eagle of the Ninth by Rosemary Sutcliffe (!)

Refugee Boy by Benjamin Zephaniah

The Book Thief by Marcus Zusak !

Note to parents: Some books from this list are written for young adult readers; this means there may be occasional 'gritty' content. Generally by Key Stage 3 young people are ready for this, but parents know their children best; if you have queries about suitability, please check online reviews or ask your child's teacher.

* = Top picks for reluctant readers;

! = Favourite reads