



KS3 Reading List

The English Department's Favourites'

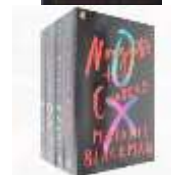
The Book Thief- By Marcus Zusak

Narrated by Death, this book tells the story of a young girl in Nazi Germany hiding for safety in WW2.



Noughts and Crosses- By Malorie Blackman

Sephy is a Cross- a member of the dark-skinned ruling classes. Callum is a Nought- a "colourless" member of the underclasses. The two have been friends, but that is as far as it can go.



Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time- By Mark Haddon

Christopher isn't like other teenagers. He finds it difficult to talk to other people, hates being touched and reacts badly to certain colours.



The Hobbit- By J.R.R. Tolkien

Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit who lives a quiet life, until it is upset by a visit from a wizard named Gandalf.



Wonder- By R.J Palacio

Augie wants to be like every other than year old. But whenever anyone looks at him, they treat him differently because of a terrible facial abnormality.



Private Peaceful- By Michael Morpurgo ●

The emotive story of Thomas Peaceful who is looking back on his life from the trenches of WW1 in Belgium.



The Garbage King- By Elizabeth Laird

Mamo is from a very poor family where everyone has died except for him and his sister, Tiggist. Mamo is kidnapped by a slave trader.





Sensational Series:

Harry Potter- By J.K. Rowling

Harry Potter lives with his aunt and uncle because his parents died in a car crash- or so he has been told.



The Hunger Games- By Suzanne Collins ●

One Person from each district in the country is selected to fight to the death in a reality TV lottery. Katniss vows to win.



Divergent- By Veronica Roth

Tris Prior lives in a futuristic world in which society is divided into five factions. Tris chooses Dauntless- however, this leads to a discovery within her.



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Northern Lights- By Philip Pullman

12-year-old Lyra Belacqua runs wild with her daemon Pantalaimon around Jordan College, Oxford, under the guardianship of the college’s master. One day she see’s something she shouldn’t have.



Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief- By Rick Riordan

Percy is a twelve-year-old boy who has been expelled from every school he has ever attended. When his class go on a trip, his Maths teacher attacks him.



Alex Rider- By Anthony Horowitz

Alex Rider thinks he is a normal school boy, until his uncle is killed. He discovers that his uncle was not what he seemed.



A Series of Unfortunate Events- By Lemony Snicket

After the three young Baudelaire siblings are left orphaned by a fire in their mansion, they are carted off to live with their distant relative, Count Olaf.



The Spiderwick Chronicles- By Tony DiTerlizzi and Holly Black

Of the three Grace Children, Jared has always be thought of as the troublemaker. When strange things happen he is blamed, but Jared is not behind it...





The Indian in the Cupboard Trilogy- By Lynne Reid Banks
Omri is disappointed with his birthday present- a little red plastic Indian figure- until it comes alive.



Maze Runner- By James Dashner
Thomas, a teenager, arrives in a glade at the center of a giant labyrinth. Like the other youths dumped there before him, he has no memory of his previous life.



Witch and Wizard- By James Patterson and Gabrielle Charbonnet
Set in a dystopian future, Whit and Wisty Allgood are arrested, imprisoned, and sentenced to execution during the uprising of a new totalitarian government, for unknowingly possessing outlawed magical abilities.



Twilight- By Stephenie Meyer
When 17 year old Isabella Swan moves to Forks, Washington to live with her father she expects that her new life will be as dull as the town.



Enjoyable Reads:

The Secret Garden- By Frances Hodgson Burnett
A spellbinding story about Misselthwaite Manor and an unwanted lonely child who discovers a hidden and magical garden.



I'm the King of the Castle- By Susan Hill
Edmund doesn't want a new brother, and immediately dislikes his stepbrother Charles, who he sees as an intruder into his own home.



Z for Zachariah- By Robert O'Brien
Ann Burden has survived a nuclear war by living in a valley free of radiation.



I am David- By Anne Holm
The story of 15 year old David's quest- escaping from the concentration camp where he has lived his life and traveling across a Europe unknown to him to try to find home.





The Cay- By Theodore Taylor

When WW2 breaks out, 12 year old Philip and his mother board the S.S. Hato but the ship is torpedoed, and Philip is blinded by a blow on the head.



The Eagle of the Ninth- By Rosemary Sutcliffe

Thousands of Roman Soldiers marched into the mist and were never seen again.



The Amber Spyglass- By Philip Pullman

Will and Lyra have become separate but must find each other.



The Subtle Knife- By Philip Pullman

Will has killed a man and is on the run in a parallel world.



Stone Cold- By Robert Swindells

There's a serial killer targeting the young and homeless and Deb, an intrepid undercover journalist is determined to catch the killer.



War Horse- By Michael Morpurgo

A gripping description of the horrors of war, told from the perspective of Joey, the horse.



Tug of War- By Catherine Forde

When Molly is evacuated to the countryside after terrorist attacks, she finds herself with a wonderful foster mum on an idyllic farm.



Across the Barricades- By Joan Lingard

Kevin and Sade live in Belfast, and the two of them being seen together isn't an option.



A Wrinkle in Time- By Madeline L'Engle

Charles Wallace Murry's father has disappeared and Charles sets out to find a wrinkle in time- a gateway to a parallel universe.





Minders- By Diana Hendry

Scully is learning to be a wizard with supernatural powers like his parents.



The Weirdstone of Brisingamen- By Alan Garner

Colin and Susan are saved from mysterious creatures by a wizard who has been searching for a lost magic stone for over 100 years.



The Diary of a Young Girl- By Anne Frank

Anne Frank's diary, written when she was 13-15 and living in hiding above an Amsterdam warehouse during WW2.



Wolf- By Gillian Cross

A haunting story of terrorism, impending doom, confusion and not really knowing your closest family members as well as you thought.



The Dark is Rising- By Susan Cooper

Just prior to his 11th Birthday, Will discovers he's the last person left with the power of the Old Ones, and his mission is to guard the Light and drive out the Dark.



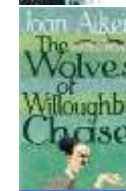
Peter Pan- By JM Barrie

The timeless classic story of the boy who never grew up, Wendy and her brothers, and Neverland, where the Lost Boys are in constant danger from Captain Hook



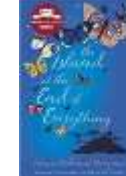
The Wolves of Willoughby Chase- By Joan Aiken

In an alternative reality, King James III rules in 1832 and the country is plagued by wolves from the Channel Tunnel.



The Island at the End of Everything- By Kiran Millwood Hargrave

Amihan, who lives on an island affected by an outbreak of disease, is forced to leave. She finds some unlikely allies in her quest to return home.



The Goldfish Boy- By Lisa Thompson

Matthew finds it almost impossible to leave his room and venture into the outside world due to his OCD and constant worries.





A.N.T.I.D.O.T.E- By Malorie Blackman

It's a normal evening for Elliot- until the police knock on the door and tell him his mum's in serious trouble!

Fault in our Stars- By John Green

A teenage girl has been diagnosed with lung cancer and attends a cancer support group. She meets someone...

Glass Houses- By Louise Penny

When a mysterious figure appears in Three Pines, Armand Gamache and the rest of the villagers are at first curious. Then wary.

A Monster Calls- By Patrick Ness

Conor has the same dream every night, ever since his mother first fell ill, ever since she started the treatments that don't quite seem to be working. But tonight is different.

The Girl of Ink and Stars- By Kiran Millwood

Forbidden to leave her island, Isabella dreams of the faraway lands her cartographer father once mapped. When her friend disappears, she volunteers to guide the search.

Skellig- By David Almond ●

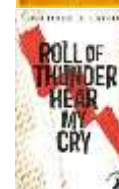
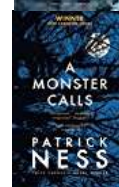
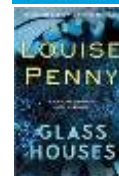
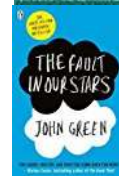
When a move to a new house coincides with his baby sister's illness, Michael's world seems suddenly lonely and uncertain.

Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry- By Mildred Taylor

Set in Mississippi at the height of the American Depression, this is the story of a family's struggle to maintain their integrity, pride and independence against the forces of a cruelly racist society.

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas- By John Boyne

Nine-year-old Bruno has a lot of things on his mind. Who is the 'Fury'? Why did he make them leave their nice home in Berlin to go to 'Out-With'? And who are all the sad people in striped pyjamas on the other side of the fence?





I Challenge You:

Never Odd or Even- By John Townsend

Elliot is 12- and he thinks outside the box. Numbers are his thing- and letters. So when the 'biggest mystery that struck the school" needs to be solved, Elliot is the one to call.

Among the Hidden- By Margaret Peterson Haddix

Luke Gardner is a third child. His parents are only allowed to have two...

The Adventure of Huckleberry Finn- By Mark Twain

Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer have made lots of money, but all Huck wants is to escape from his guardian.

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy- By Douglas Adam

Arthur's Friday doesn't start well when his house is demolished. The Earth is obliterated soon after, to make way for a bypass, and then he finds out his best friend is an alien.

The Hound of the Baskervilles- By Arthur Conan Doyle ●

The Baskerville family is cursed by a ravenous supernatural dog intent on savaging them. Can Sherlock Holmes solve the mystery?

Lord of the Flies- By William Golding ●

When a plane evacuating a group of schoolboys crashes on a remote island, the boys are left to fend for themselves.

The Woman in Black- By Susan Hill

A chilling mystery about a woman in black who the villagers only talk about in terrifying true ghost stories.

Treasure Island- By R.L. Stevenson

The tale of Jim Hawkins and his adventure on the ship Hispaniola sailing to find hidden treasure.





The Lord of the Rings- By J.R.R. Tolkien

The Lord of the Rings is an entity named Sauron, who long ago lost the One Ring that contains much of his power.

The Abhorsen Trilogy- By Garth Nix

The Abhorsen's house is besieged by an enemy, it is up to Lirael and Sameth to gather their powers and destroy the enemy.

Great Expectations- By Charles Dickens

Pip is an orphan living on the Kent marshes with his abusive sister and her husband, the village blacksmith. Pip is chosen for a special future.

Animal Farm- By George Orwell

The animals on Manor Farm rebel against the humans and win, but how will they work together?

To Kill A Mockingbird- By Harper Lee ●

A black man is charged with the rape of a white girl. Through the young eyes of Scout and Jem Finch, Harper Lee explores with exuberant humour the irrationality of adult attitudes to race and class in the Deep South of the 1930s.

Go Set a Watchman- By Harper Lee

The sequel To Kill a Mockingbird. Twenty-six-year-old Jean Louise Finch – 'Scout' – returns home from New York City to visit her ageing father, Atticus. Set against the backdrop of the civil rights tensions and political turmoil that were transforming the South.

The Help- By Kathryn Stockett

Enter a vanished and unjust world: Jackson, Mississippi, 1962. Where black maids raise white children, but aren't trusted not to steal the silver...

Of Mice and Men- By John Steinbeck

Drifters in search of work, George and his childlike friend Lennie, have nothing in the world except the clothes on their back - and a dream that one day they will have some land of their own.

Hard Times- By Charles Dickens ●

In the industrial city of Coketown, Josiah Bounderby is a rich and fairly obnoxious factory owner and banker. He loves to tell everyone he meets about how he grew up in the gutter.





A Charles Dickens Selection- By Charles Dickens ●

Stories from a number of Dicken's novels such as:

Great Expectations

David Copperfield

Nicholas Nickleby

Oliver Twist

Pickwick Papers

Our Mutual Friend

Oliver Twist- By Charles Dickens ●

The story centres on orphan Oliver Twist, born in a workhouse and sold into apprenticeship with an undertaker. After escaping, Twist travels to London, where he meets "The Artful Dodger".



Sherlock Holmes Stories- By Arthur Conan Doyle ●

Sherlock Holmes is a private detective who has keen powers of observation. He lives at 221b Baker Street in London. He notices things that others simply don't and then he draws accurate conclusions about what he sees.

Find Reading Tricky?

Holes- By Louis Sachar

Stanley Yelnates family has been cursed for generations. Stanley is wrongly accused of stealing famous shoes and may break the curse.



The Ghost Box- By Catherine Fisher

A young girl must unlock the secret to a mysterious box to protect herself from an unwanted visitor.



Desirable- By Frank Cottrell Boyce

George, whose passion for Warhammer games has long made him a social outcast, is transformed by some past its sell by date after shave.



The Seeing Stone- By Kevin Crossley- Holland

The stories of a young King Arthur are told in 100 short chapters.





The Tulip Touch- By Anne Fine

No-one wants anything to do with Tulip, who is avoided by children and teachers alike.



The Cherub Series- By Robert Muchamore

James is recruited into the CHERUB organization. Cherubs go on missions to deceive and trick adults for the intelligence purposes.



Martyn Pig- By Kevin Brooks

The story of Martyn Pig, a fourteen-year-old who is faced with a number of difficult decisions after the death of his father.



Caraval- Stephanie Garber

Caraval is Magic. Mystery. Adventure. And for Scarlett and her beloved sister Tella it represents freedom and an escape from their ruthless, abusive father.



Goodnight Mr Tom- By Michelle Magorian

Young Willie Beech is evacuated to the country as Britain stands on the brink of the Second World War. A sad, deprived child, he slowly begins to flourish under the care of old Tom Oakley.



Redwall- By Brian Jacques

Redwall Abbey, tranquil home to a community of peace-loving mice is threatened by Cluny the Scourge - the evil-one-eyed rat warlord - and his battle-hardened horde of predators.



David Walliams

His writing is fun, engaging, and brilliantly bizarre.

Gangsta Granny

The World's Worst Children

Bad Dad

The Boy in the Dress

Billionaire Boy

Mr Stink



Jaqueline Wilson

Funny, truthful, and adventurous; her books are truly wonderful.

The Story of Tracy Beaker

Hetty Feather

The Suitcase Kid

The Lottie Project

Sapphire Battersea

The Illustrated Mum





Michael Morpurgo

Sad, exciting, and thoughtful; his books cover so many issues in many different places.

Private Peaceful

War Horse

Butterfly Lion

Alone of a Wide Wild Sea

Born to Run

Kensuke's Kingdom



Roald Dahl

From finding advice on finding magic and thinking nice thoughts, to the importance of frequent whizzpopping, the writing of Roald Dahl is filled with wit, wisdom and fun.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

James and the Giant Peach

The BFG

The Witches

The Twits

Fantastic Mr Fox

