

Classics



Carrie's War by Nina Bawden

Albert, Carrie and young Nick are war-time evacuees billeted in Wales with old Mr Evans, who is so mean and cold, and his timid mouse of a sister, Lou, who suddenly starts having secrets. Their friend Albert is luckier, living in Druid's Bottom with warm-hearted Hepzibah Green and the strange Mister Johnny, who can talk to animals but not to human beings. Gradually they settle in, but then Carrie does a terrible thing which is to haunt her for years to come.



Through the Looking Glass by Lewis Carroll

When Alice steps through the looking-glass, she enters a world of chess pieces and nursery rhyme characters who behave very strangely. Humpty Dumpty, Tweedledee and Tweedledum, the dotty White Knight and the sharp-tempered Red Queen - none of them are what they seem. In fact, through the looking-glass, everything is distorted.



Hound of the Baskervilles by Arthur Conan Doyle

The thrilling story of the Baskerville family - a family haunted and pursued by a gigantic and terrifying hound on Dartmoor. Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson arrive in Devon to investigate. The story is shortened, but aims to retain the flavour of the original version.



The Speckled Band by Arthur Conan Doyle

After her sister Julia dies suddenly, Helen Stoner worries that she is the killer's next target. With her last words, Julia insisted that the "speckled band" murdered her. Can Holmes and Watson discover the identity of the speckled band before Helen falls victim as well.



Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank

In July 1942, thirteen-year-old Anne Frank and her family, fleeing the occupation, went into hiding in an Amsterdam warehouse. Over the next two years Anne vividly describes in her diary the frustrations of living in such close quarters, and her thoughts, feelings and longings as she grows up. Her diary ends abruptly when, in August 1944, they were all betrayed.



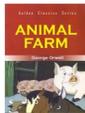
Goodnight Mr Tom by Michelle Magorian

The gruff and surly Mr Thomas Oakley is less than pleased when he is landed with a scrawny little city boy as a guest, but because it is compulsory that each villager takes in an evacuee he reluctantly agrees. It soon becomes obvious to Mister Tom that young Willie Beech is hiding something, and as the pair begin to form an unlikely bond and Willie grows in stature and in confidence he begins to forget the past. But when he has to return to war-torn London to face his mother again he retreats into his shy and awkward ways once more.



The Railway Children by Edith Nesbit

When their father is taken away unexpectedly, Roberta, Peter, Phyllis and their mother have to leave their comfortable life in London to go and live in a small cottage in the country. The children seek solace in the nearby railway station, and make friends with Perks the Porter and the Station Master himself. Each day, Roberta, Peter and Phyllis run down the field to the railway track and wave at the passing London train, sending their love to Father. Little do they know that the kindly old gentleman passenger who waves back holds the key to their father's disappearance.



Animal Farm by George Orwell

Having got rid of their human master, the animals of Manor Farm look forward to a life of freedom and plenty. But as a clever, ruthless elite among them takes control, the other animals find themselves hopelessly ensnared in the old ways. Orwell's chilling story of the betrayal of idealism through tyranny and corruption, is as fresh and relevant today as when it was first published in 1945.



Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson

In one of the greatest tales of adventure ever written, Jim Hawkins sets sail in search of Treasure Island. But on board ship, Jim discovers a mutinous plan, led by Long John Silver. Plunged into a world of swashbucklers, murderous pirates and deceit, Jim's enduring story is an enthralling account of courage, guile and wit.



The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien

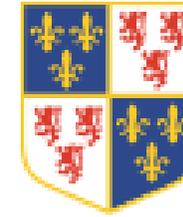
Bilbo Baggins enjoys a quiet and contented life, with no desire to travel far from the comforts of home; then one day the wizard Gandalf and a band of dwarves arrive unexpectedly and enlist his services -- as a burglar -- on a dangerous expedition to raid the treasure-hoard of Smaug the dragon. Bilbo's life is never to be the same again.



Charlotte's Web by E.B. White

The tale of how a little girl named Fern, with the help of a friendly spider, saved her pig Wilbur from the usual fate of nice fat little pigs.

Trinity School



Year 7 & 8 Recommended Reads

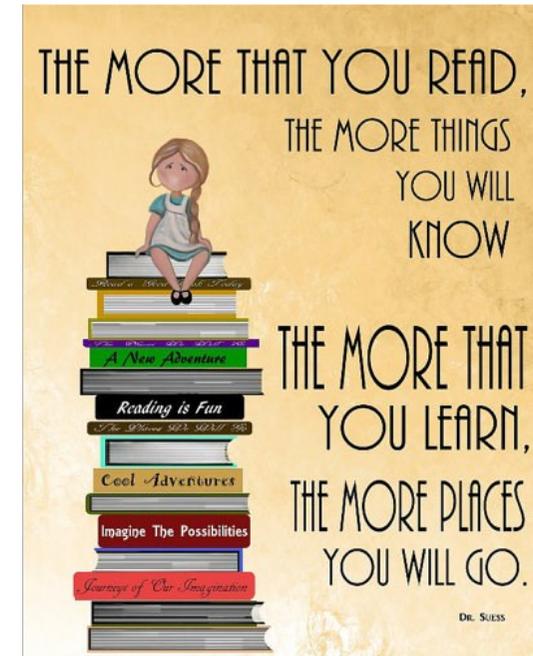
Reading is a vital skill!

As with all skills, it needs to be practiced.

Through reading we learn about the world around us, how to structure our own writing and we develop a wider vocabulary and understanding.

Research tells us that children who are very good and confident readers by the age of 15 are most likely to go on to achieve well at school, college and university. We also know that students who read for just half an hour a day can be up to a year ahead of those who don't by the time they turn 15.

Challenge Yourself !



Here are some suggested reads to get you started



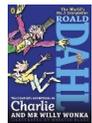
My Name is Mina by David Almond

There's an empty notebook lying on the table in the moonlight. It's been there for an age. I keep on saying that I'll write a journal. So I'll start right here, right now. I open the book and write the very first words: My name is Mina and I love the night. Then what shall I write? I can't just write that this happened then this happened then this happened to boring infinitum. I'll let my journal grow just like the mind does, just like a tree or a beast does, just like life does. Why should a book tell a tale in a dull straight line? And so Mina writes and writes in her notebook, and here is her journal, Mina's life in Mina's own words. Her vivid account of her vivid life.



Cloud Busting by Malorie Blackman

Despite his Mum's insistence, Sam doesn't want to be friends with Davey, he thinks Davey's a first class, grade A, top of the dung heap moron. But one day Davey saves Sam's life and a bond is formed between them. Sam is still embarrassed to be seen with Davey, but little by little he has to admit, when it's just the two of them, Davey is a lot of fun. But then something terrible happens to Davey...Told in verse, in first person, this is the touching story of an extraordinary friendship, that changes two boys lives for ever. An uplifting tale that truly sings out.



Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl

Mr Wonka's inventions are out of this world. He's thought up every kind of sweet imaginable in his amazing chocolate factory, but no one has ever seen inside, or met Mr Wonka! Charlie can't believe his luck when he finds a golden ticket and wins the trip of a lifetime around the famous factory.



Bill's New Frock by Anne Fine

Bill Simpson wakes up to find he's a girl, and, worse, his mother makes him wear a frilly pink dress to school. How on earth is he going to survive a whole day like this? Baffled by the way things are just different for girls, Bill falls headlong into trouble. As the amazing day drags on, Bill's new frock becomes dirtier and tatterier. How will it all end for him - or her ?



Loyal Creatures by Morris Gleitzman

The deeply moving story of war horse Daisy and her 16-year-old owner Will, sent from the Australian outback to the gruelling Middle Eastern campaign of the First World War. Their skill in finding water is vital to their regiment in the desert, but their devotion to each other is what keeps them alive in an overwhelmingly hostile environment. Is their unwavering loyalty enough to determine their destiny?



Cuckoo Song by Frances Harding

When Triss wakes up after an accident, she knows that something is very wrong. She is insatiably hungry; her sister seems scared of her. She looks through her diary to try to remember, but the pages have been ripped out. Soon Triss discovers that what happened to her is more strange and terrible than she could ever have imagined... In a quest find the truth she must travel into the terrifying Underbelly of the city to meet a twisted architect who has dark designs on her family - before it's too late ..."



The Children of the King by Sonya Hartnett

A hauntingly beautiful wartime story with a ghostly twist. Set during the Second World War and, with London becoming an increasingly dangerous place to live, the Lockwood children are evacuated to the Heron Hall, to stay with their Uncle Peregrine in the countryside. But when they discover two strange boys hiding in a nearby derelict castle, the past and present collide. Those in the present will need to learn from the troubles of the past.



The Fastest Boy in the World by Elizabeth Laird

Eleven-year-old Solomon loves to run! The great athletes of the Ethiopian national team are his heroes and he dreams that one day he will be a gold-medal-winning athlete like them, in spite of his ragged shorts and bare feet.



Dead Boys' Club by Geoffrey Malone

Hundreds of thousands of children are abducted from their homes and used as boy soldiers. This is the story of one of them. 12-year-old Sam is ripped from his village in Uganda and forced to march with rebel soldiers to their training camp in southern Sudan. A weapon is thrust into his innocent young hands and his life becomes that of enemies and battles, violence and death, as he's turned into a soldier.



Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo

I heard the wind above me in the sails. I remember thinking, this is silly, you haven't got your safety harness on, you haven't got your lifejacket on. You shouldn't be doing this . . . I was in the cold of the sea before I could even open my mouth to scream. Washed up on an island in the Pacific, Michael struggles to survive on his own. With no food and no water, he curls up to die. When he wakes, there is a plate beside him of fish, of fruit, and a bowl of fresh water. He is not alone...



A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness

This is an extraordinarily moving novel about coming to terms with loss. The monster showed up just after midnight. As they do. But it isn't the monster Conor has been expecting. He's been expecting the one from his nightmare, the one he's had nearly every night since his mother started her treatments, the one with the darkness and the wind and the screaming...The monster in his back garden, though, this monster is something different. Something ancient, something wild. And it wants the most dangerous thing of all from Conor.



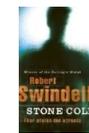
Wonder by R J Palacio

'My name is August. I won't describe what I look like. Whatever you're thinking, it's probably worse.' Auggie wants to be an ordinary ten-year-old. He does ordinary things - eating ice cream, playing on his Xbox. He feels ordinary - inside. But ordinary kids don't make other ordinary kids run away screaming in playgrounds. Ordinary kids aren't stared at wherever they go. Born with a terrible facial abnormality, Auggie has been home-schooled by his parents his whole life. Now, for the first time, he's being sent to a real school - and he's dreading it. All he wants is to be accepted - but can he convince his new classmates that he's just like them, underneath it all?



I Was a Rat by Philip Pullman

Roger insists that he was a rat. Maybe it's true. But what is he now? A terrifying monster rampaging in the sewers? Or just an ordinary boy, though a little ratty in his habits? Only three people believe this version of the story. Only one of them knows who Roger really is.



Stone Cold by Robert Swindells

A tense, exciting thriller combined with a perceptive and harrowing portrait of life on the streets as a serial killer preys on the young and vulnerable homeless. 17-year-old Link is distrustful of people until he pairs up with Deb, homeless like him. But what Deb doesn't tell him is that she's an ambitious young journalist on a self-imposed assignment to track down the killer and that she's prepared to use herself as bait...



Pale by Chris Wooding

"The Lazarus Serum can bring you back from the dead. Only thing is, it turns you into a Pale. Jed can't imagine anything worse, but then the choice is taken out of his hands...Dystopian sci-fi by the Storm Thief author."



Alex Rider Ally's World

Artemis Fowl series Beast Quest

Cherub Chocolate Box Girls, The Gallagher Girls Georgia Nicholson Gone

Or try one of these popular series

Horowitz, Anthony McCombie, Karen

Colfer, Eoin Blade, Adam

Muchamore, Robert Cassidy, Cathy

Carter, Ally Rennison, Louise

Grant, Michael

His Dark Materials Hive

Montmorency Mortal Engines

Once Saga of Darren Shan, The Skulduggery Pleasant Time Riders

Pullman, Philip Walden, Mark Uppdale, Eleanor Reeve, Philip Gleitzman, Morris Shan, Darren Landy, Derek Scarrow, Alex

