

Recommended Reads: KS3

Action, Adventure, Mystery & Thrillers

The Terrible Thing [...] Barnaby Brocket by John Boyne
Bodyguard or *The Soul Hunters* (& sequels) -C Bradford
Mortal Chaos or *Lie, Kill, Walk Away* by M Dickinson *
The London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd
Boy Overboard by Morris Gleitzman
Hide and Seeker by Daka Hermon
Murder in Midwinter by Fleur Hitchcock
High Rise Mystery & Mic Drop by Sharna Jackson
I Have No Secrets by Penny Joelson
The Long Weekend by Savita Kalhan
Don't Doubt the Rainbow by Anthony Kessel
Eight Pieces of Silva/Splinters of Sunshine-Lawrence*
Where the World Ends by Geraldine McCaughrean*
Hide & Secrets or *Girl Missing* (& sequels) by S McKenzie
Edge of Extinction by Laura Martin
The Recruit or *Robin Hood* (& sequels) - R Muchamore*
Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
Ruby in the Smoke by Phillip Pullman
Wolf Wilder, Rooftopper or *The Explorer* by K Rundell
Murder Most Unladylike (& sequels) by Robin Stevens
Girl. Boy. Sea by Chris Vick*
The Extinction Trials or *The Infinity Files* by SM Wilson*

Animal Fiction

The One and Only Ivan by K Applegate (gorillas)
The Shark Caller by Zillah Bethell (sharks)
Fenway and Hattie by Victoria Cole (dogs)
The Last Bear by Hannah Gold (polar bear)
A Street Dog Named Pup by Gill Lewis (dogs)
War Horse by Michael Morpurgo (horses)
A Wolf Called Wander by Rosanne Parry (wolves)
Pax by Sarah Pennypacker (foxes)
Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls (dogs)
Cat Tales: True Stories of Fantastic Felines- P Rich (cats)
Varjak Paw by SF Said (cats)
I, Cosmo by Carlie Sorosiak (dogs)
Dreaming the Bear by Mimi Thebo (grizzly bears)
The Dog Who Saved the World by Ross Welford (dogs)

Environment & Climate Change

Where the River Runs Gold by Sita Brahmachari
World Burn Down by Steve Cole (SR)
Breathe by Sarah Crossan
Melt by Ele Fountain
Squirm, Flush, Chomp or *Hoot* by Carl Hiaasen
FloodWorld & DustRoad by Tom Huddleston
Song of the Dolphin Boy by Elizabeth Laird
Moon Bear or *White Dolphin* by Gill Lewis
The Dog Runner, Across the Risen Sea - B Macdibble
Between Sea and Sky & World Turns Wild by N Penfeld
Here in the Real World by Sarah Pennypacker
Dry by Neal & Jarrod Shusterman
The Summer We Turned Green by William Sutcliffe
No One is Too Small to Make a Difference— G Thunberg
Harklights by Tim Tilley
The Last Wild (& sequels) by Piers Torday

Dystopian & Science Fiction

The Infinite (& sequels) by Patience Agbabi
The Middler or *Troofriend* by Kirsty Applebaum
The Last Human by Lee Bacon
Ink by Alice Broadway*
City of Rust by Gemma Fowler
Gone or *BRZK* (& sequels) -Michael Grant*
How I Saved the World in a Week by Polly Ho-Yen
Nowhere on Earth by Nick Lake*
The Giver and *Gathering Blue* by Lois Lowry*
The Supreme Lie by Geraldine McCaughrean
Show Us Who You Are by Elle McNicholl
No Man's Land by Joanna Nadin
The Knife of Never Letting Go (& sequels)-P Ness *
Railhead & Mortal Engines (& sequels)-P Reeve
Scythe, Unwind (& 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
Six of Crows by Leigh Bardugo*
Asha & The Spirit Bird by Jasbinder Bilan
Artemis Fowl (& sequels) by Eoin Colfer
Pet by Akwaeke Emezi*
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
Rumaysa: A Fairytale by Radiya Hafiza
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 (SR)
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
Fear Street by RL Stine
The Edge Chronicles by P Stewart and C Riddell
Children of the Quicksands by Efua Traore

Graphic Novels (GN), Short Stories (SS), Verse Novels (VN), Super-Readables (SR)

Booked, Crossover, Rebound y Kwame Alexander (VN)
Gamer (& sequels) by Chris Bradford (SR)
El Deafo by Cece Bell (GN)
Jon for Short by Malorie Blackman (SR)
Worst Case Collin by Rebecca Caprara (VN)
Mind Writer by Steve Cole (SR)
New Kid or *Class Act* by Jerry Craft (GN)
Grave Matter by Juno Dawson (SR)
Stat Man by Alan Durant (SR)
Edgar & Adolf by Phil Earle & Michael Wagg (SR)
Flying Lessons & Other Stories ed by Ellen Oh (SS)
Coraline: Graphic Novel by Neil Gaiman & C Russell (GN)
The Greatest (Muhammed Ali) by Alan Gibbons (SR)
Amazons, Abolitionists and Activists: A Graphic History of Women’s Fight for Rights -Mikki Kendall (GN)
Amulet: The Stonekeeper by Kazu Kibuishi (GN)
Rat by Patrice Lawrence (SR)
In the Key of the Code by Aimee Lucido (VN)
I am Minotaur by Anthony McGowan (SR)
Run Rebel by Manjeet Mann (VN)*
145th Street: Short Stories by Walter Dean Myers
White Bird by RJ Palacio (GN)
Unboxed by Non Pratt
Miles Morales: Spider Man by Jason Reynolds (GN)
Look Both Ways by Jason Reynolds (SS)
Pumpkin Heads by Rainbow Rowell (GN)
Dark Peak by Marcus Sedgwick (SR)
Operation Frog Effect by Sara Scheerger
Dracula by Bram Stoker retold by Burgan & Ruiz (GN)

The Small Things by Lisa Thompson (SR)
Lost (Choose Your Own Adventure) -Tracey Turner (SR)
Stargazing by Jen Wang (GN)

Humorous books

Little Badman &[...] Killer Aunties - Humza Arshad
Noah’s Gold, Millions, Cosmic or Broccoli Boy –FC Boyce
The Last Kids on Earth (& sequels) by Max Brallier
Adventures of a Wimpy Superhero(&more)-T.Collins
The 13-Storey Treehouse (& series) by A Griffiths
How to Survive Without Grownups by Larry Hayes
Cookie & the Most Annoying Boy... by Konnie Huq
Disaster Diaries: Zombies (&sequels)-R McGeddon
The Accidental Series by Tom McLaughlin
The World of Norm series by Jonathon Meres (SR)
Accidental Trouble: Planet Omar by Zanib Mian
Timmy Failure series by Stephan Pastis
Super-Miraculous Journey of Freddie Yates–Pearson
The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh by Helen Rutter
Tom Gates series by Liz Pichon (SR)
Something I Said by Ben Bailey Smith
Big Nate series by Lincoln Peirce (SR)
The Day the Screens Went Blank by Danny Wallace

The Immigrant Experience & Refugees

No Ballet Shoes in Syria by Catherine Bruton
Efren Divided by Ernesto Cisneros
Illegal by Eoin Colfer (GN)
Boy, Everywhere by A.M. Dassu
Boy 87 by Ele Fountain
The Bone Sparrow by Zana Fraillion
The Island by Armin Greder (PB for older readers)
The Eleventh Trade by Alyssa Hollingsworth
Amina’s Voice by Hena Khan
When Stars Are Scattered by Jamieson & Mohamed (GN)
Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai (VN)
The Crossing by Manjeet Mann* (VN)
A Glasshouse of Stars by Shirley Marr
A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park
The Red Pencil by Andrea David Pinkney
Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan
The Arrival by Shaun Tan (PB for older readers)
Other Words For Home by Jasmine Warga (VN)
Front Desk by Kelly Yang
The Windrush Child or *Refugee Boy**-B Zephaniah

Relationships & Tough Situations

Cyborg Cat (& sequels)- Ade Adepitan*
Boy Underwater by Adam Baron

Noughts and Crosses* or ***Pig-Heart Boy*** - M Blackman
Artichoke Hearts or ***Jasmine Skies*** -S. Brahmachari
A Pocketful of Stars by Aisha Bushby
One, Apple & Rain, Moonrise, Toffee -S Crossan*
Heartbeat by Sharon Creech
Me, My Dad and the End of the Rainbow by B Dean
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
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 Perfect Parent Project by S Foster
When Life Gives You Mangoes by Kereen Getten
George or ***Rick*** 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
Red Sky in the Morning or ***Secret Friends*** -E Laird
Scarlet Ibis, Swan Song, or Eagle Warrior (SR) - G Lewis
Rain Reign by Ann M Martin
Brock, Pike, Rook & Lark by Anthony McGowan *
A Kind of Spark by Elle McNicholl
A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness
No Fixed Address or ***Word Nerd*** – Susin Nielsen*
Wonder or ***Pony*** by R.J. Palacio
Pax or ***Here in the Real World*** - S Pennypacker
A Good Kind of Trouble by Lisa Moore Ramee
The Star Outside My Window by Onjali Rauf
Long Way Down (VN or GN) by Jason Reynolds *
Ghost Boys or ***Black Brother[...]*** Jewell P Rhodes
Can You See Me or ***Do You Know Me***–Scott & Westcott
The Marvels or ***Wonderstruck*** by Brian Selznick (1/2 GN)
The Boxer by Nikesh Shukla*
Counting by 7’s by Holly Goldberg Sloan
Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli *
Clean Getaway or ***Fast Pitch*** by Nic Stone
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*

Sports

Booked, Crossover or Rebound – K. Alexander*
Unstoppable or ***Man of the Match*** - Dan Freedman

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
Becoming Muhammed Ali by J Patterson & K Alexander
Soccer Squad, Dream On (& series) by Bali Rai
Gloves Off by Louisa Reid* (VN)
Ghost, Patina, Sunny, Lu (Track series) by J Reynolds
Macbeth United: A Football Tragedy by Michael Rosen
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

Soldier Dog or ***A Horse Called Hero*** - Sam Angus
Unbound by Anne Burg*(VN)
The Short Knife by Elen Caldecott*
Wolf Children, Red Shadow, Eleven Eleven -Dowswell
Copper Sun by Sharon Draper*
The Last Paper Crane by Kerry Drewery
When the Sky Falls by Phil Earle (WWII)
Under a War-Torn Sky or ***Suspect Red*** y L.M. Elliott
Once (& sequels) by Morris Gleitzman
Bone Talk by Candy Gourlay
Grenade, Ground Zero or ***Prisoner B-3087*** - Alan Gratz*
The Goose Road by Rowena House
Race to the Frozen North, 1783, Blade and Bones or
Sawbones by Catherine Johnson
When the World Was Ours by Liz Kessler*
Orphan Monster Spy by Matt Killeen*
Buffalo Soldier, Apache or ***Lightning Strike***- T Landman*
Dog Tags: Semper Fido or ***Strays*** by C A London*
Diver’s Daughter: A Tudor Story by P Lawrence
The Skylarks’ War or ***The Swallows’ Flight***- H McKay
Red Stars by Davide Morosinotto*
Shadow or ***In the Mouth of the Wolf*** -Morpurgo
Sunrise Over Fallujah by Walter Dean Myers*
After the War, Armistice Runner or ***Over/Line***-T Palmer
Now or Never: A Dunkirk Story or ***The Royal Rebel: The Life of Suffragette Princess Sophia Singh*** by Bali Rai
Salt to the Sea or ***Fountains of Silence*** by R Sepetys *
Eagle of the Ninth by Rosemary Sutcliffe
The Land or ***Roll of Thunder*** by Mildred D Taylor*
Cane Warriors by Alex Wheatle*
The Book Thief by Marcus Zusak*

* = Content is slightly more mature

Credit to Alice Visser-Furay