

The West Bridgford School Key Stage 3 Reading List

* = More challenging reads

A reader lives a thousand lives before they die.
The person who never reads lives only one.



Humorous

The World of Norm: Jonathan Meres - A funny, clever book about the hapless 12-year old Norm.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Jeff Kinney - A hysterically funny story about a boy who finds himself in ridiculous situations.

The Race for the Lost Keystone: Val Rutt - An amusing adventure story - talking animals, a mad great-aunt...

Agent Z: Mark Haddon - Very funny! Read it and find out...

Billionaire Boy: David Walliams - The story of a boy with a billion pounds and not a single friend!

The Boy in the Dress: David Walliams - Charming and surprising, the story of a boy called Dennis who is a little different!

Chomp: Carl Hiasen- Spoofs reality TV, set in the Florida Everglades

Ghostgirl: Tonya Hurley- A darkly funny read *

Sophomores and other Oxymorons: David Lubar- A funny, charming look at a boy's ups and downs at school



Adventure

Exodus: Julie Bertagna - A quest for survival and a search for a new world.

Hacker: Malorie Blackman - A computer hacking adventure.

Storm Catchers: Tim Bowler - Kidnap and mystery.

Millions: Frank Cottrell Boyce - Adventure & dealing with grief.

Silverfin: Charlie Higson - James Bond, the original superspy is back, aged 13!

Scorpia: Anthony Horowitz - The MI6 adventure spy adventure series

Journey to the River Sea: Eva Ibbotson - An adventure along the Amazon.

Star of Kazan: Eva Ibbotson - A family mystery.

Thunder and Lightnings: Jan Mark - An adventure mystery all about planes

Underworld: Catherine Macphail - A school trip that goes wrong...

Trash: Andy Mulligan - Three friends find something extraordinary. From that moment on they are hunted without mercy.

Windsinger: William Nicholson - a rebellious and fast-paced adventure.

Seeker: William Nicholson - a thrilling, high-octane adventure.

Bridge to Terabithia: Katherine Patterson - An adventure mystery.

Johnny and the Bomb: Terry Pratchett - A time travelling adventure.

Brother in the Land: Robert Swindells - A nuclear attack on earth!

Stormbreaker: Anthony Horowitz- Another action packed Alex Rider.



Fantasy

Midget: Tim Bowler - He's unable to speak, but he's powerful; family conflict

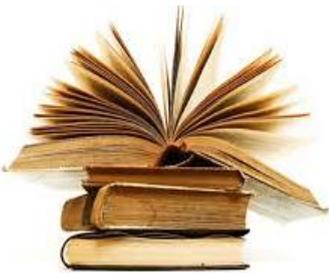
Basilisk: N. M. Brown - A story of two worlds

The Hunger Games series: Suzanne Collins - A terrifying and exhilarating thriller!

The Dark is Rising series: Susan Cooper - A series of five books, beginning with 'Over Sea, Under Stone' - a story of a quest

Ingo: Helen Dunmore - Mermaids and coping with loss

Dark Ground: Gillian Cross - A boy is forced to survive in a dangerous world with a twist



Shadow of the Minotaur: Alan Gibbons - A gripping, fantasy thriller. Phoenix hates his new home and the new school where he is bullied.

Across the Nightingale Floor: Liam Hearn - The first of a trilogy - a mystery in the Orient (*Grass for his Pillow* & *Brilliance of the Moon*)

Doomspell: Cliff McNish - A magical fantasy

The Snow Spider: Jenny Nimmo - The first of a trilogy (*Emlyn's Moon* & *The Chestnut Soldier*) about a boy magician

Tom's Midnight Garden: Philippa Pearce - A time travelling adventure

Northern Lights: Philip Pullman - A trilogy exploring authority and other worlds (*The Subtle Knife* & *The Amber Spyglass*)

Mortal Engines: Phillip Reeve - Set in a world where moving cities trawl the globe, Tom and Hester have been thrown out of theirs.

Percy Jackson series: Rick Riordan - Join the adventures of Percy Jackson and his demigod friends as they fight mythological monsters and the forces of the titan lord Kronos.

Harry Potter: J. K. Rowling - A series of books about the life of a wizard as he goes through Hogwarts School

Secret Songs: Jane Stemp - A story of family secrets

"Books are a uniquely portable magic."

-Stephen King

Lord of the Rings: J. R. R. Tolkien - A trilogy about a quest to rid the world of the power of the ring *

The Dreamwalker's Child: Steve Voake - Sam Palmer is knocked off his bike and wakes in Aurobon, a parallel world where insects are used as war machines.

Mirror Dreams: Catherine Webb - A magical adventure with wizards...

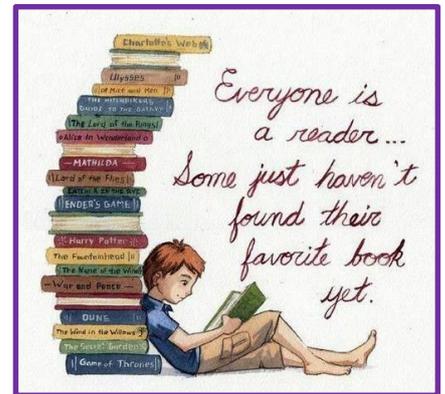
Friendships and Relationships

Blubber: Judy Blume - Bullying and family issues

Are you there God? It's me, Margaret: Judy Blume - Friendship & growing up; thoughts about God and the world.

Summer Dream: Cathy Cassidy - The more Summer tried to find perfection, the more lost she becomes.

Flour Babies: Anne Fine - Parenting and family values



Girl Missing: Sophie Mackenzie- Lauren has always known she has been adopted but is it possible she was snatched from an American family at birth?

Double Image: Pat Moon- Coping with loss and mental health issues

Daughter: Isobel Moore - The life of a young girl caring for a mother with Alzheimer's Disease

The War of Jenkins' Ear: Michael Morpurgo - Boarding school, acceptance and the question of belief.

Why The Whales Came: Michael Morpurgo- Dealing with death, separation, prejudice...a beautifully told story

Sisterland: Linda Newbery- A parallel story between WW2 and the present

Stop Pretending: Sonya Sones- An unusual collection of poems exploring the feelings of a girl whose sister suffers from mental illness

Best Friends: Jacqueline Wilson - A delightfully touching and entertaining story.

Science Fiction



Grinny: Nicholas Fiske - An alien great aunt - a humorous read!

Hybrids: David Thorpe - A thrilling sci-fi novel set in the believable near future.

A Wrinkle in Time: Madeleine L'Engle- A story about travelling through time and space

His Dark Materials Trilogy: Phillip Pullman- Outstanding trilogy about mystery and magic

Lunar chronicles series: Marissa Meyer- series of 5 young adult fantasy books; each book is a new take on an old fairy tale including Cinderella, Snow White etc.

Calamity- The Reckoners (Book 3): Brandon Sanderson- Explosive finale for the action-packed super hero saga.

Slated (Book 1): Teri Terry- A compelling story of a teen's struggle against the government

Ender's Game: Orson Scott Card- Boy genius trains to crush an alien invasion

Historical

Carrie's War: Nina Bawden - Evacuation & adventure during WW2

PoW: Martin Booth - A novel of conflict and adventure. *

Kezzie: Theresa Breslin - Mining and transportation...

Remembrance: Theresa Breslin -The story of two families in WW1.

King of Shadows: Susan Cooper - A time travel adventure into the world of Shakespeare

Arthur and the Seeing Stone: Kevin Crossley-Holland - The first of a trilogy set in Medieval England (Arthur at the Crossing Places & King of the Middle March) *

The Kin: Peter Dickinson - A historical family adventure *

Children of Winter: Berlie Doherty - Set in Eyam - a village isolated by the plague in the 1600s

Street Child: Berlie Doherty - The story behind the foundation of Dr Barnado's children's homes

The Diary of Anne Frank / Diary of a Young Girl: Anne Frank - The diary of a Jewish girl in hiding during WW2



Coram Boy: Jamilla Gavin - Orphans, the Coram Hospital, slaves... *

Changeling: Philippa Gregory - The year is 1453 and all signs point to it being the end of the world. *

When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit: Judith Kerr - A humorous adventure story from WW2

Witch Child: Celia Rese- Sixteenth century witch hunts - a horror mystery

The Silver Sword: Ian Serraillier - A journey to escape from attack during the WW2

Last Train from Kummersdorf: Lesley Wilson - Consider the events of the WW2 from the perspective of two young Germans. Emotional and thought-provoking. *

My name is Mina: David Almond - a thought-provoking and extraordinary prequel to 'Skellig.'

The MORE
that you read,
the MORE things
you will know.
The MORE that you
LEARN,
the MORE places you'll go.



Soundtrack: Julie Bertagna - Dealing with grief and loss *

Pig-Heart Boy: Malorie Blackman - Heart transplant, animal rights, life and death.

Noughts & Crosses: Malorie Blackman - Issues of racism and prejudice from a different perspective. First of a trilogy (*Knife Edge & Checkmate*).

Walk Two Moons: Sharon Creech - Dealing with grief and family life, with a mystery unfolding

Refugee Boy: Benjamin Zephaniah - Story of a young Ethiopian boy, whose parents abandon him in London to save his life.

Love: Aubrey Suzanne LaFleur - A young girl recovering from the tragedy of losing her father and sister in an automobile accident, and from the confusion of being abandoned by her grieving mother.

Inventing Elliot: Graham Garner - A tale about bullying

The Edge: Alan Gibbons- A boy and his mother escape from a life of fear in an abusive relationship

Red Sky in the Morning: Elizabeth Laird - The impact of having a disabled baby brother.

My Sister Lives On The Mantelpiece: Annabel Pitcher - The story of a young boy's struggle to make sense of the loss that tore his family apart.

Why reach for the stars
when you can reach for a
book and have the stars,
the sun and the
moon.



READING
gives us
SOMEPLACE
to go when
we have to
STAY where
we are

Classics

Watership Down: Richard Adams - A small band of rabbits set out on a perilous journey to find a safe home.

Little Women: Louisa May Alcott - A family drama following the lives of the March sisters. *

Jane Eyre: Charlotte Bronte - The story of a young girl's passage to adulthood in the early nineteenth century. *

Wuthering Heights: Emily Bronte - A wild, passionate story set on a lonely moorland. *

Great Expectations: Charles Dickens - A gripping drama which opens in an overgrown churchyard on the eerie Kent marshes. *

The Secret Garden: Frances Hodgson-Burnett - An adventure into a secret garden, showing that people can change.

Goodnight Mr Tom: Michelle Magorian - A long-bereaved old man grudgingly takes London evacuee into his home.

Five Children and It: Edith Nesbit - Five children find a cantankerous sand fairy in a gravel pit.

The Railway Children: Edith Nesbit - A family move to a house near the railway, after their father is imprisoned having been falsely accused of spying.

