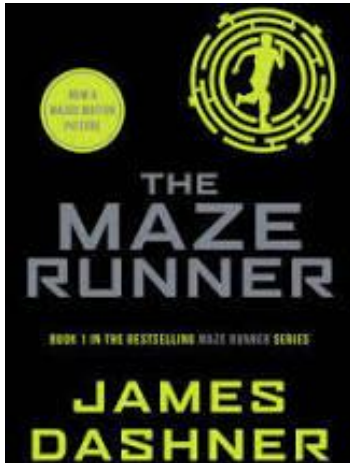


Hodgson English Department's Recommended Reads!

We all know that reading has many benefits: it increases your vocabulary, it stimulates your creativity, improves the memory and it relieves stress and tension. This being the case, the Hodgson English team thought we'd put together some suggested books for Hodgson students to try out.

Miss Moore's recommended read:



'The Maze Runner' by James Dashner.

Recommended for Year 9+

'When Thomas wakes up in the lift, the only thing he can remember is his name. He's surrounded by strangers - boys whose memories are also gone.'

If you're a fan of The Hunger Games trilogy then The Maze Runner is for you. It's a dark and mysterious dystopian with a science fiction edge. I couldn't put the book down and The Maze Runner trilogy also has two prequels to get engrossed in!

Miss Buckley's recommended read:

'I'll Give You the Sun' by Jandy Nelson.

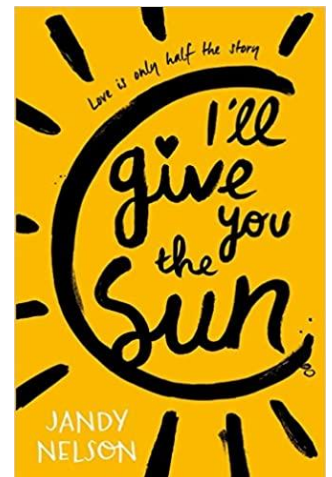
Excellent read for Year 10 +

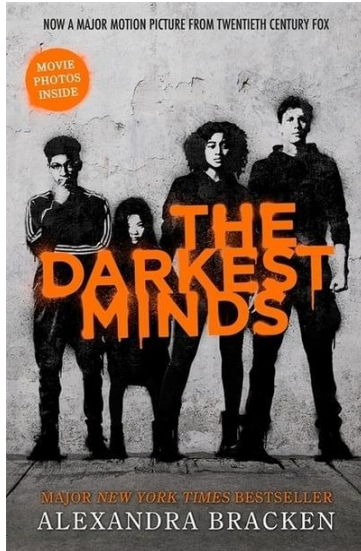
I'll Give You the Sun, is a story of art, love and loss, narrated by twins Noah and Jude.

Beautifully written, it tackles many topics: death, grief, art and love - forbidden love, first love, the love between a girl and a boy, the love between two boys, but above all, the love between the twins, Noah and Jude.

A definite page turner!

Enjoy reading and please let me know what you think,
Miss Buckley.





Miss Parker's recommended read:

'The Darkest Minds' is the first novel in 'The Darkest Minds' trilogy by Alexandra Bracken.

Excellent read for age 13+

This is a must read for anyone who enjoys dystopian fiction full of adventurous twists and turns. A mysterious disease has killed most of America's children and those who have survived are left with frightening abilities they cannot control. The main character, Ruby, is really brought to life by the writer as we are taken on a quick-paced, emotional journey that leads to a heartbreaking cliffhanger that will have readers eager for the next book in the trilogy.

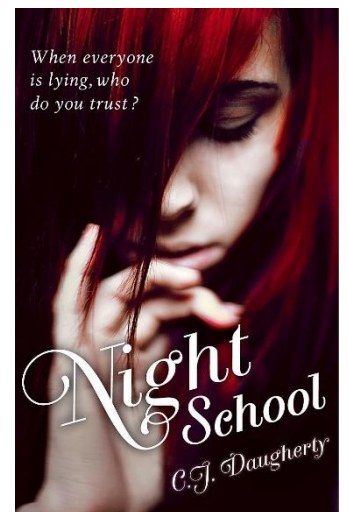
Miss Wallace's recommended read:

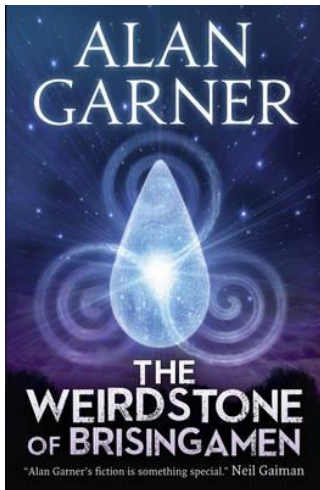
'Night School' by C.J Daugherty.

Recommended for age 13+

When everyone is lying, who can you trust? Allie Sheridan's world is falling apart. She hates her school. Her brother has run away from home. And she's just been arrested. Again. This time her parents have finally had enough. They cut her off from her friends and send her away to a boarding school for problem teenagers. But Cimmeria Academy is no ordinary school. It allows no computers or phones. Its students are an odd mixture of the gifted, the tough and the privileged. And then there's the secretive Night School, whose activities other students are forbidden even to watch. When Allie is attacked one night the school begins to seem like a very dangerous place, Allie must learn who she can trust. And what's really going on at Cimmeria Academy.

This is the first book in a series of five and I absolutely love it; I have even read the series twice! Allie is an interesting character who doesn't always make the right choices, but that makes her completely relatable. Lots of twists and turns, and plenty of intrigue, makes this a book you can't put down.





Miss Smethurst's recommended read:

'The Wierdstone of Bringsingamen' by Alan Garner.

Recommended for Year 7+

This is a fantasy novel that I loved as a child! If you like Lord of the Rings or Harry Potter style fantasy novels then this one is for you. It tells the story of two children, Colin and Susan, who are staying with some old friends of their mother while their parents are overseas. Susan possesses a small tear-shaped jewel held in a bracelet: unknown to her, this is the weirdstone of the title. Its nature is revealed when the children are hunted by the minions of the dark spirit Nastrond who, centuries before, had been defeated and banished by a powerful king.

The children also have to compete with the wicked shape-shifting sorceress Selina Place and the evil wizard Grimmir, each of whom wishes to possess the weirdstone. Along the way Colin and Susan are aided by the wizard Cadellin Silverbrow and his dwarf companions.

It was written quite a while ago but I remember reading it and becoming completely engrossed in their world.

Mrs Burrell's recommended read:

'Girl Missing' by Sophie McKenzie.

Recommended for age 13+

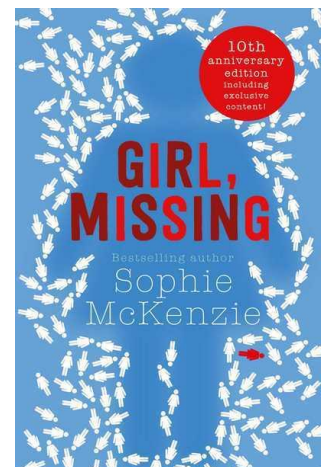
What if everything you thought you knew about your life was a lie? Lauren is adopted and eager to know more about her mysterious past. But when she discovers she may have been snatched from her family as a baby, her whole life suddenly feels like a sham. Why will no one answer her questions? How can she find her biological parents? And could her adoptive parents really have been responsible for kidnapping her?

Running away from her family to seek out the truth, Lauren's journey takes her deeper and deeper into danger as she realises that someone wants to stop her uncovering what really happened when she was a baby... at any cost...

This book has lots of twists and turns and really kept me on my toes when reading it. There are lots of unexplained questions which all come together at the end.

Suitable for teenagers.

There are 29 other titles available – happy reading!



Mr Branker's recommended read:



'Metamorphosis' by Franz Kafka.

Recommended for Year 9+

*One of Kafka's best-known works, **The Metamorphosis** tells the story of salesman Gregor Samsa who wakes one morning to find himself inexplicably transformed into a huge insect, subsequently struggling to adjust to this new condition.*

This is a gripping and unusual read, which uses the metaphor of a man turning into an insect to explore how humans struggle emotionally to adapt to change.

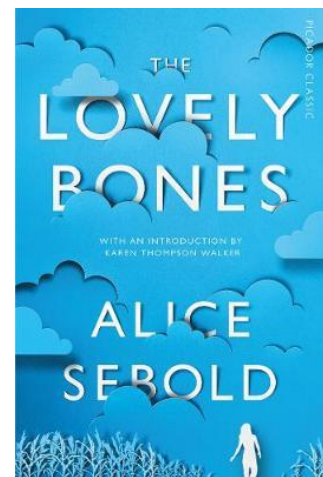
Mrs Atherton's recommended read:

'The Lovely Bones' by Alice Sebold.

Recommended for Year 10+

This is a moving thriller which I found very unique as it is told from the perspective of a girl who has been murdered. Each chapter reveals a different aspect to her murder and made me reflect on the after-life and 'what happens next.' Intrigued to always find out more, I found it difficult to put this book down!

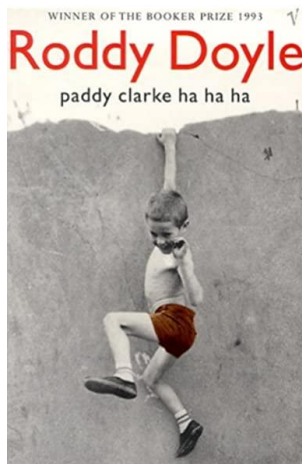
In heaven, Susie Salmon can have whatever she wishes for - except what she most wants, which is to be back with the people she loved on earth. In the wake of her murder, Susie watches as her happy suburban family is torn apart by grief; as her friends grow up, fall in love, and do all the things she never had the chance to do herself. But as Susie will come to realize, even in death, life is not quite out of reach . .



Mr Robinson's recommended read:

'Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha' by Roddy Doyle.

Recommended for Year 10+



This book is packed full of dry witty humour centred around working class Irish communities; it is a brilliant book that I thoroughly recommend.

Paddy Clarke is ten years old. Paddy Clarke lights fires. Paddy Clarke's name is written in wet cement all over Barrytown. Paddy Clarke's heroes are Father Damien (and the lepers), Geronimo and George Best. Paddy Clarke knows the exact moment to knock a dead scab from his knee. Paddy Clarke hates his brother Francis because that's the rule. Paddy Clarke loves his Ma and Da, but it seems like they don't love each other, and Paddy wants to understand, but can't.

Mr Jenkinson's recommended read:

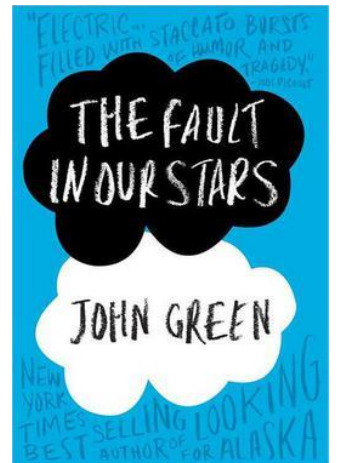
'The Fault in Our Stars' by John Green.

Recommended for Year 10+

This is brilliant novel that I could not put down. If you enjoy this one, there are many books to try by the same author.

Enjoy your reading. Stay Safe.

Despite the tumor-shrinking medical miracle that has bought her a few years, Hazel has never been anything but terminal, her final chapter inscribed upon diagnosis. But when a gorgeous plot twist named Augustus Waters suddenly appears at Cancer Kid Support Group, Hazel's story is about to be completely rewritten..



Miss Bate's recommended read:

'Northern Lights' by Philip Pullman.

Recommended for Year 7+

This is a wonderful young-adult fantasy novel. Set in a parallel universe, it features the journey of Lyra Belacqua to the Arctic in search of her missing friend, Roger Parslow, and her imprisoned uncle, Lord Asriel, who has been conducting experiments with a mysterious substance known as "Dust".

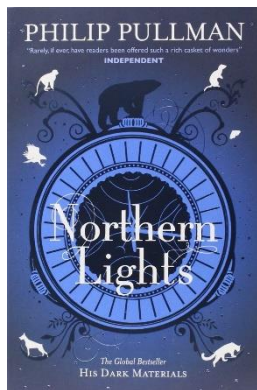
Northern Lights is the first book of the trilogy, 'His Dark Materials'. Anything by Phillip Pullman is just fantastic!

'Without this child, we shall all die.'

Lyra Belacqua lives half-wild and carefree among the scholars of Jordan College, with her daemon, Pantalaimon, always by her side.

But the arrival of her fearsome uncle, Lord Asriel, draws her to the heart of a terrible struggle – a struggle born of stolen children, witch clans and armoured bears.

As she hurtles towards danger in the cold far North, Lyra never suspects the shocking truth: she alone is destined to win, or to lose, the biggest battle imaginable.



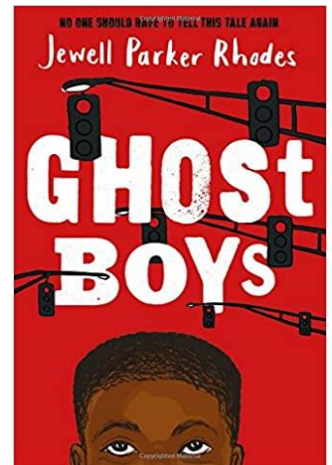
Miss Macleod's recommended read:

'Ghost Boys' by Jewell Parker Rhodes.

Recommended for Year 7+

A heart-breaking and powerful story about a black boy killed by a white police officer, drawing connections with real life and events from history. 12-year-old Jerome dies on page one. Unmoored from life, he switches between the events that led to his death and its surprising and hopeful aftermath.

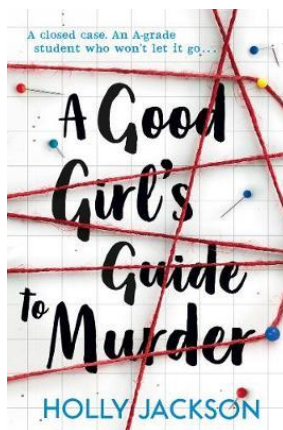
This is a truly eye-opening story about equality and racism, which are issues that have historic significance and sadly still resonate today.



Miss Boyle's recommended read:

'A Good Girl's Guide to Murder' by Holly Jackson.

Recommended for Year 9+



A compelling murder mystery with lots of twists!

The case is closed. Five years ago, schoolgirl Andie Bell was murdered by Sal Singh. The police know he did it. Everyone in town knows he did it.

But having grown up in the same small town that was consumed by the murder, Pippa Fitz-Amobi isn't so sure. When she chooses the case as the topic for her final year project, she starts to uncover secrets that someone in town desperately wants to stay hidden. And if the real killer is still out there, how far will they go to keep Pip from the truth?