

Ultimate 'Must-Reads' 2018

(Produced by Forms 7 & 8 pupils)

Pre-School - Form 2

The Lion King by Walt Disney

This is a book about a cub who has amazing adventures with creatures big and small alike. But when he discovers what is happening in the pridelands, he returns for the ultimate battle. This is a heartwarming story with a happy ending; the pictures and large text are great for younger readers. (Libby)

Hairy Maclary Goes to the Vet by Lynley Dodd

When Hairy Maclary is injured, he goes to the vet and everything goes wrong. I would recommend this book because it is quite funny and is great for young readers. (Max J)

The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson

A mouse, about to be eaten by a lot of animals, speaks about the Gruffalo. Is he telling the truth or is he not? A good starter book (Ross)

A Squash and a Squeeze by Julia Donaldson

This book is about an old lady whose house is too small. I would recommend this book as it is really funny. (Ellie)

Tiddler by Julia Donaldson

A heart-warming story about a small fish, who tells "tall tales", and his adventures. A great bedtime story for little ones. (Hugo)

Zog by Julia Donaldson

This book is about a dragon who never wins anything but tries his hardest at everything...and then one day, he manages to breathe fire...This book is wonderful and the younger ones will love it. (Harry C)

Mr Strong (Mr Men series) by Roger Hargreaves.

This book is about a character called Mr Strong and the things he does with his strength. It's part of a series of funny characters who all have different personalities. They are so funny and easy to read as they are short stories, so great for younger readers. (Jamie L)

The Tiger Who Came to Tea by Judith Kerr

This book concerns a girl called Sophie who is having afternoon tea with her mother when a tiger interrupts them. This book is funny and good for Form 2. (Adam)

Tyrannosaurus Drip by Julia Donaldson and David Roberts

A book about a plant-eating dinosaur that gets confused with a family of meat-eating dinosaurs and has lots of adventures. A great read for developing readers. (Samuel)

Peppa Pig: Day at Snowy Mountain by Ladybug

This is a Christmas tale that you will love as Peppa and her friends have fun sledding.(Annabel)

Winnie the Pooh by A. A. Milne

A fab story about a little bear who loves honey and is always helping his friends with their problems. A classic, great adventure that you will love. (Louisa)

Dog Man: A Tale of Two Kitties by Dav Pilkey

Dog Man is a very funny book that my younger brother Will (aged 6) loves. It is easy to read as it's written like a comic strip and it has pages you can flick quickly to move the images which is fun. It's about a dog who is a policeman. (Jamie L)

Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak (Red Fox)

A story about a boy who has dreamt about this world full of big, wonderful monsters. A Classic book for the little ones. (Finlay)

The Cat in the Hat by Dr Seuss

This story by Dr. Seuss is about a cat and his adventures. This book is funny and entertaining. (Adam)

Green Eggs and Ham by Dr Seuss

This is a funny rhyming book that I will always enjoy because it makes me laugh every time I read it! (Annie R)

Oh the Places You'll Go! by Dr Seuss

I love this book with its original rhyming and funny pictures. It is a great Pre-school to Form 2 book as it's very easy to read. (Indigo)

The Ravenous Beastie by Niamh Sharkey

This is a fun and enjoyable book about a cute beast who eats everything uncontrollably, despite his friends telling him not to! (Theo)

Forms 3 - 5

Beast Quest by Adam Blade

A series which I enjoyed ever since I started reading it. It is about a boy called Tom and describes his adventures, slaying incredible and dangerous beasts all around the kingdom. An inspiring and motivational read with an adventurous and gripping plot. (Angus)

The BFG by Roald Dahl

This is about a small girl who has lost both her parents; they are then stolen by The big Friendly Giant. However, all the other giants are very unfriendly as they try to eat her. They also eat snozzcumbers, strange vegetables! (Archie and Jake)

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl

This story is about a boy who lives in a very poor family. They live next to a giant chocolate factory which issues special golden tickets for a lucky few to find. Can Charlie win one? (Archie)

James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl

This is about a boy called James who has a peach tree in his garden. There is then a peach that grows massive and a lot of menace is let loose. This is a funny and gripping book. (Archie)

Tintin by Hergé

This is a comic book series about a young boy called Tintin and his dog, who go around solving mysteries. This is a great read, especially for people looking for something different. (Samuel)

The Killer Cat by Anne Fine

The killer cat is all about when a lovely pet starts to bring in dead animals and Ellie is determined to stop this behavior. Will she or will she not? (Will F)

Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney

The 'journal' of a boy who encounters a lot of trouble during his time at Middle School. This book also contains many cartoon pictures to go along side the story, to make it very funny. (Jamie)

The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis

A little girl called Lucy finds a magical portal at the back of a wardrobe and goes to explore the new, weird and wonderful land. A very adventurous, lively book that will never bore you. (Louisa)

Middle School: The Worst Years Of My Life by James Patterson

Middle school: The Worst Years Of My Life is about a boy who absolutely hates school. So he sets himself a challenge to break every school rule. This book is very funny and has a comic-like style so even the fussiest of readers can enjoy it. (Ben W)

The Magic Thief by Sarah Prineas

Connwaer is a thief who steal things in the night. He steals an outlawed wizard's "locus stone" which should have killed him...but miraculously, he survives, which means only one thing: unbeknown to him, Conn is a wizard! He becomes Nevery the Wizard's apprentice, helping him to save the city from the death of magic. (Rohan M)

Goth Girl by Chris Riddell

This story is about a girl who lives in a victorian mansion. She wears dark clothing as she is a goth. Her dad's friends come round for an annual competition, but the girl finds one of the guests a bit mysterious... (Annabel)

Ottoline and the Yellow Cat by Chris Riddell

I really liked this book because they went on many adventures and solved loads of problems. This book is about a cat that lives next door and is robbing things, Will Ottoline solve the mystery?? Read it and find out (Alyssa)

Horrid Henry by Francesca Simon

About a very naughty boy who is very mean to people, gets told off a lot and creates a gang. (Ross)

Cream Buns and Crime by Robin Stevens

Two young detectives tackle a world of crime and robbers. (Kinvara)

Bad Dad by David Walliams

This is a brilliant, funny book about a boy and his dad, an ex-racer. They're not a very wealthy family, and because our hero, the 'bad' dad, cares so much about his son, he is willing to do anything to earn the money to give him a better future... Even if it involves crime... (Ollie)

Billionaire Boy by David Walliams

A boy who is a billionaire has everything could ever ask for...but all he needs is a friend. Very good book and funny. (Ross)

Gangsta Granny by David Walliams

This is a great book about a young boy called Ben and his granny. Ben thinks his granny is really boring but he soon discovers a surprising secret about her. They face many challenges but they have fun and exciting adventures along the way. This book is so funny and I couldn't stop reading it. (Eve G)

The Midnight Gang by David Walliams

This is a story about some children who all have to go to a hospital due to many causes, and they try to make it fun by having adventures every night! (Indigo E)

The World's Worst Children by David Walliams

All the world's worst children listed in this book in the form of little, funny tales. A funny, sometimes gross book that you will want read over and over. (Matilda)

The World's Worst Children 2 by David Walliams

*If you have read World Worst Children 1 then why not try the 2nd one? This is a funny book about **the** world's worst children: they truly are the worst! (Olivia H)*

Meerkat Madness by Ian Whybrow

Meerkat Madness is a hilarious read for the younger years about the adventures and brilliant stories of the Meerkats. I love this book because of its funny perspective on human life. (Olivia J)

Forms 6 - 7

The Lost Island of Tamarind by Nadia Aguiar

It is an adventure story about a deserted island and a child-stealing enchantress; it is an adventurous and interesting story.(Kinvara)

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by Frank Baum

A girl is abducted by a tornado and finds herself in a magical world. A clever plot with happy and sad moments.(Archie and Jake)

The Boy at the Top of the Mountain by John Boyne

This book is about a boy called Pierrot who becomes an orphan in Paris at the beginning of the Second World War. He goes to live with his aunt who is a housekeeper in Adolf Hitler's house in the mountains. He becomes friends with Hitler and turns into a bad person. It is sad, shocking and exciting; you can't put it down! (Jamie L)

A Dog's Purpose By W. Bruce Cameron

This book is about a dog called Bailey and how he copes with life as a dog. I love this book as you get to go inside Baily's mind and see how he copes with being many 'different' dogs. This is a happy, sad and emotional book. (Eve G)

Letters from the Lighthouse by Emma Carroll

This book takes you on an adventure with an evacuee to the small town of Dover. There, she will find out who her older sister really is. Will you dare to come on the adventure? (Charlotte)

Ruby Redfort series by Lauren Child

A tale of adventure about a young detective and the mysteries that happen to her, sent by her fans. (Alicia)

Matilda by Roald Dahl

This is about a girl who is very clever and her family do not like her. She also has a special power which causes lots of menace. An exciting and heart-warming read. (Archie)

The Kill Order by James Dashner

This book is set in the future where the world was bombarded by solar flares. To make things worse, a highly contagious disease is spreading like wildfire. Can anyone survive... ? This book is intensely gripping and page turning, with a mixture of loads of different emotions. A book for the brave. (Book 4 in the Maze Runner series) (Ben Wipat)

The Spellchasers Series by Lari Don

This book series is really good, it's about four children and a sphynx who go around Scotland trying to break their curses. There's a very good ending where it makes you want to read more, even though the series is finished. It comprises three books. (Indigo E)

Once by Morris Gleitzman

Morris Gleitzman brings heart and humour to the difficult subject of the holocaust in this mind blowing children's book. It is set in the time when the Nazis occupied Poland. It confirmed my understanding of those times. (Madi)

Princess and the Foal by Stacy Gregg

Princess Haya of Jordan loves horses. When tragedy in her family stikes, she starts to ride to get away from it. But will she be able to accomplish her dream? A gripping, adventurous read. Based on the real life story of Olympian Princess, Haya Bint Al Hussein. (Sophia)

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon

An emotional read from the point-of-view of a boy with autism, on a quest to find out the murderer of his neighbourhood dog...but he accidentally uncovers a deeper secret... (Jamie)

Fatherland By Robert Harris

What would have happened if Hitler had won the war? Fatherland is set in an alternative world where Hitler and the Nazis won the war. This is a must read for historians and people who generally like the thriller genre, and you really can't put this book down. (Hugo)

Alex Rider Series by Anthony Horowitz

It is an action packed series about a teenage spy who is recruited by MI6 after his uncle is killed under mysterious circumstances. (Harry)

Warrior Cats Series One: Into The Wild by Erin Hunter

An exciting, ferocious read that will warm your heart, and break it at some points. This is perfect for cat-lovers and cat-haters, too; it is action-packed and tense. (Matilda)

Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson

In 1910 Maia, 13, has been orphaned and sent to live with relatives hundreds of miles up the Amazon. Accompanied by a mysterious governess, she discovers a whole new world. An adventurous read, this book is also lovely because of how lush and beautiful the jungle is. (Sophia and Olivia J)

The Star of Kazan by Eva Ibbotson

This story is about a girl who is an orphan and she lives with two housemaids in Vienna. She then finds her mother and a whole load of adventures begin. This book is mysterious and adventurous. (Annabel)

Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader by C. S. Lewis

I loved this Narnia book: it was full of adventures and was a bit funny. My favourite part of this book is when they are in a room looking at a painting and it comes to life - this is when the fun really begins! (Alyssa)

The Life of Pi by Yann Martel

A boy ends up going on an unexpected journey with lots of animals. This is a sad but heartwarming story. (Archie)

Shadow by Michael Morpurgo

This is a moving story about a young boy who had witnessed war in Afghanistan. He flees to England with his mother and explains their story to an old man. (Susie)

Shark Island by David Miller

A novel about two children who are stranded on an island. When their parents are killed by pirates they then have to try to escape the island. Will they survive? (Harry and Ross)

The Killing by Robert Muchamore

This is an amazing book which has a mixture of all emotions: love, anger, tension, comedy and more. A British secret service organization, called Cherub, has very unusual spies... Besides, who would think that **children** could be up to anything? The main character in this book is James, a senior spy age 14. His latest mission, about an old-time crook who mysteriously made big money, is turning into something more of a murder investigation... (Ollie)

Mister Monday by Garth Nix

Arthur Penhaligon is not supposed to be a hero. He is supposed to die. But then he meets sinister Mister Monday and everything changes. This book is an excellent read and I have not been able to take my eyes off it since I got it. I would recommend it to everybody between 10 and 14. (Harry C)

Auggie and Me by R.J. Palacio

A mixed tale about a young boy who has facial disabilities, moves school and faces a lot of new challenges. An amazing book, I never wanted it to end. (Annie R)

Wonder by R.J. Palacio

This book is about a boy with a deformed face. He doesn't fit in at school and always has people staring at him. I really love this book even though it is quite sad. I would recommend it to pretty much anyone. (Ellie)

Northern Lights by Philip Pullman

One of the greatest adventures in young fiction and a wonderful fantasy too, Northern Lights begins the trilogy with a tomboy named Lyra, who is swept from her life among the local gangs in a parallel Oxford to the excitement of Lord Asriel's search for the mysterious life-force substance, Dust. (Finlay)

Mortal Engines by Philip Reeve

This Sci-Fi novel is brilliant. It's set in a time where most cities move on wheels, and is about a teenager called Tom Natsworthy who gets pushed off his moving city, London, by a girl called Hester Shaw. Hester wants to avenge her parents after a man named Thaddeus Valentine had killed her parents to get a piece of a doomsday device called MEDUSA. Hester and Tom end up in a barren wasteland where they undergo all sorts of exhilarating adventures. (Rohan M)

Magnus Chase and the Sword of Summer by Rick Riordan

This book, like many others written by Rick, are based on mythology of some sort. This one is based on Norse mythology. Magnus Chase, a son of Frey and a homeless kid, finds his father's sword and dies. That is not the end, though! He goes to Valhalla, the viking super paradise for those who died with glory. (Will F)

Percy Jackson and the Last Olympian by Rick Riordan

This is a book about demigods who fight the titan Kronos and his army of tens of thousands to save Olympus, the home of the Greek Gods. This is my favourite book because I am really interested in the Greek gods. This book really grabbed my attention and is very tense in some places. (Max J)

Harry Potter by J.K. Rowling

This is a fantastic book about beasts, wizards, witches and marvellous spells. (Max)

Black Beauty by Anna Sewell

A novel about the journey of a horse who goes from one horrible owner to another. They treat him badly but he never gives up hope that he will find his way back to his original owner, Farmer Grey. At times it is quite sad but it is a heart-warming story. (Susie)

The Goldfish Boy by Lisa Thompson

This amazing book is about a boy who does not want to go outside because he is worried that he will catch germs. A six year old girl and her toddler brother move next door for a couple of weeks. The boy who can't go outside has a serious case of OCD and refuses to go to school. He is lonely and does nothing, except for stare out of his window onto his neighbourhood. One day, Teddy and toddler next door goes missing and it is up to the goldfish boy to find him. (Olivia H)

The Hobbit by J.R.R Tolkien

This fantasy book is adventurous, tense and full of exciting moments. (Adam)

Form 8

Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman

A book set in a world where Crosses (people with black skin) are treated like Noughts and Blankers (white people) are treated well. A nought is one of only a handful of people to be selected for a Cross school, where he already knows someone. Two stories are told side by side, when the Cross girl has to face the consequences of publicly being friends with a Naught boy. (Samuel)

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas by John Boyne

This is a heartbreaking holocaust novel, with sad and joyful parts. The story is set in World War 2 and is about a friendship which is forbidden between a young Jewish boy and Bruno. I really liked this book because it shows what life was really like for families during war and friendships that were forbidden. (Tessa)

Elephant Gold by Eric Campbell

Is an eye-catching story that dives into the depth of Africa and its animal crisis. This book addresses the elephant issue from a relatable point of view. It showed me what darkness is actually happening behind the scenes. (Madi)

Ready Player One by Ernest Cline

A dystopian book about the story of a future, damaged Earth, the power of Virtual Reality creating another world, and the impact that it has on society as a whole. (Jamie)

The Hunger Games Series by Suzanne Collins

A great futuristic book which tells of Katniss Everdeen and her journey after volunteering, instead of her sister, for a chilling competition. A book that contains many sad and emotional moments but is a great read. (Jamie)

The Fault in our Stars by John Green

This is a book about a girl called Hazel who gets lung cancer and is in great sadness. This is about the relationship with her best friend, Augustus. And this is about the journey on the way to happiness. (Angus)

Paper Towns by John Green

A mystery about a young girl who goes missing and her friends have to go and find her. It is a very interesting and complex read (Kinvara)

Biggles the Rescue Flight by Capt. W.E. Johns

This book is about two young boys who want to help in the war effort (WW1). But it doesn't all go to plan... (Patrick)

The Start of Me and You by Emery Lord

A girl's boyfriend drowns and she has to recover from his death by creating a list of things she has to do to get over him- a sad but uplifting story (Kinvara)

The Skulduggery Pleasant Series by Derek Landy

This series is about a girl named Stephanie and her adventures with wizards, mages, and dead men! (Patrick and Jamie)

One of Us is Lying by Karen McManus

This is a story about 5 students walking into detention and only 4 walking out alive. All of them are suspects. This story is about secrets, exposures and lies. I really enjoyed this book as I enjoy mysteries, and it is to do with people around our age and their struggles. (Olivia)

Running Wild by Michael Morpurgo is a book based around the true events of the 2004 tsunami in Indonesia. The son of a military officer dies, and as a therapy, his wife and son go to Indonesia. He is on an elephant when the tsunami strikes, and has to learn to survive by copying the ways of Oona the elephant and the orphaned Orangutans. A saddening true story by an amazing author. (Samuel)

The 'Cherub' Series by Robert Muchamore

A spy series which contains many different genres and characters. Be careful as it contains a few adult themes.(Jamie)

The Pegasus Series by Kate O'Hearn

This amazing series is about Pegasus, the majestic winged-stallion, who crashes on to Emily's rooftop in New York and her whole life turns around when she finds who she actually is. This series is full of adventure, battles, deaths, monsters and heroes. (Ava)

Wonder by R.J. Palacio

A boy faces a lot of life challenges; this is the story of how he overcomes them. (Jake)

Tom Gates by Liz Pichon

This is an amazing set of books that describes a boy called Tom who is obsessed with caramel wafers! (Finn)

His Dark Materials Series by Philip Pullman

This is a series about different worlds and a girl and boy who travel between them. (Eilidh)

Percy Jackson Heroes of Olympus by Rick Riordan (Louisa)

A story about a boy called Percy, his friends and all the life-threatening challenges they face on their quests. This is such a jaw-dropping book that will never leave your side.

Rooftoppers by Katherine Rundell

A young girl and her so called 'father' run away to France. The girl has an addiction to climbing onto and running on roofs when she meets a boy who also loves roofs. Will they get together and share the roofs? (Eilis)

The List by Siobhan Vivian

It is about a group of friends who split up because a list goes around their school and they have to find the culprit. It is a funny and sad book (Kinvara)

Everything, Everything by Nicola Yoon

A sad story about a girl with a terrible condition which prevents her from going outside...but then she falls in love. A heartwarming yet sad story. (Kinvara)