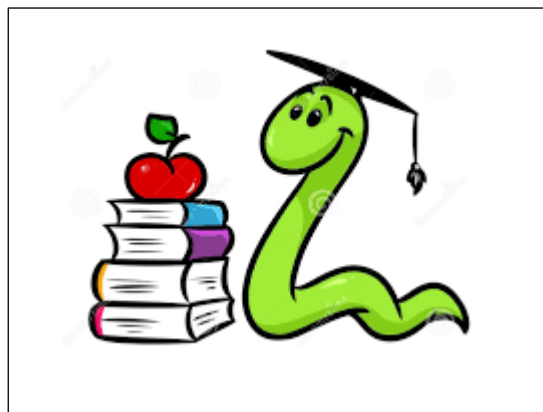


KS3 Reading suggestions



Adventure

The Sleepwalker Robert Muchamore – Part of the CHERUB series. Written as by a teenager, with a strong character. An action packed adventure, dealing with spies, terrorism and a plane crash.

Where the World Ends Geraldine McCaughrean – A story of survival, based on a true story.

The Wall William Sutcliffe – When Joshua kicks his ball into a building site and discovers a secret tunnel under the Wall, his world is turned upside down.

Alone on a Wide Wide Sea Michael Morpurgo – Is about an orphaned boy who is shipped off to Australia at the end of WWII. It is a story of adventure, of heartbreak and of deprivation, but also loyalty, determination and courage.

Silverfin Charlie Higson – Meet James Bond the boy. Follow his adventures from school Scotland. Discover the boy who became the hero.

Holes Louis Sachar – Stanley Yelnats is sentenced to dig holes at ‘Camp Green Lake’ detention centre, for stealing a pair of trainers. Stanley’s quest to discover what he is digging for leads to danger and adventure and to a confrontation with his family’s past.

Monument 14 Emmy Laybourne – The first book in a trilogy. Fourteen children have to hide out in a superstore, when a freak hailstorm causes a chemical leak from a nearby weapons manufacturing site.

Stormbreaker Anthony Horowitz – A teenage spy thriller with plenty of action. Alex Rider is a fourteen-year old orphaned boy, who lives with his uncle. When his uncle is killed in a car crash, Alex soon realises that not an accident, and he starts to investigate what really happened.

Classic

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe C.S. Lewis – Four children find themselves in another land by stepping through a wardrobe.

The Railway Children E. Nesbit – Tells the story of three children living in the early part of the twentieth century, whose Father is taken away by the Police, and how that changes their lives.

Swallows and Amazons Arthur Ransome – Is the story of four children who have a summer of adventures as they sail in their boat, swim, camp and explore.

Little Women Louisa M. Alcott – A well-loved classic about the lives of four very different girls.

The Woman in White Wilkie Collins – Written in 1859, this is considered to be one of the earliest detective novels. The style is very gothic, creepy, menacing and always intriguing. It is a long book, but well worth the effort.

Brave New World Aldous Huxley – Presents a dystopian world in which everyone is happy. However, their lives have no deeper meaning and are without science, art, philosophy or religion. First published in 1932 and remains current for this age.

Jane Eyre Charlotte Brontë – A typical Victorian novel, full of gothic elements: a big, largely empty house, with strange goings-on, an imposing master and a quiet, plain, poverty-stricken governess. The story unfolds and the drama builds.

Fantasy/Science Fiction

The Lie Tree Frances Hardinge – When Faith’s father is found dead in mysterious circumstances, she is determined to untangle the truth from the lies.

Cuckoo Song Frances Hardinge – A dark fairy tale, including adventure, mystery and magic.

Frozen in Time Ali Sparkes – A great plot with a hint of mystery. Combines action and humour with very believable characters in a time-travelling story.

Ingo Helen Dunmore – A delightful story about a boy and a girl who find an underwater world in the cove near their home.

The Hunger Games Suzanne Collins – Terrifying and thrilling, this book is set in a dystopian future somewhere in North America. An annual event called ‘the Hunger Games’ requires one boy and one girl from each of 12 districts to compete against each other until one is killed...

Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief Rick Riordan – The first book in the ***Olympians*** series. Percy Jackson is dyslexic and hot-headed and has been thrown out of lots of schools because of his behaviour. He finds himself at Camp Half-Blood, a refuge and training ground for children of the Greek gods. He discovers that his dyslexia is caused because his father is a god, and his brain has been hardwired accordingly. This is the start of his epic adventures.

Funny

Mr Stink David Walliams – Mr Stink is the local tramp, who is befriended by Chloe. When Mr Stink needs a place to stay, Chloe decides to hide him in her Dad’s garden shed, with unexpected consequences!

The private blog of Joe Cowley Ben Davis – Very funny and entertaining, with some surprising twists, some interesting characters and some happy and sad moments.

Granny Anthony Horowitz – Silly old-fashioned story about a boy with an evil granny! A great scary book, but with dark humour.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Roderick Rules Jeff Kinney – Secrets have a way of getting out, especially when a diary is involved. The second book of the highly popular ***Wimpy Kid*** series.

Chocolate SOS Sue Limb – Meet Jess Jordan, newly single since her breakup with Fred. This is the fifth book in the series and promises an uplifting read of great hilarity.

Animalcolm David Baddiel – Malcolm doesn’t like animals, but his family do. Things start to change when Malcolm goes on a school trip to a farm and gets close up to the animals.

Historical

Ghost Soldier Theresa Breslin – Set in WW1. Action and adventure as two intrepid children search for their missing father.

Children of Winter Berlie Doherty – A story set in Derbyshire during the time of the Great Plague. An imaginative and adventurous mix of present and past, describing how the children survive the winter in isolation.

No shame, no fear Ann Turnbull – This is a story about the struggle to stay true to what is most important – in spite of parents, society and even the law.

Tamar Mal Peet – As Tamar seeks to discover the message behind a series of clues and codes, left in a box for her by her dead Grandfather, she is transported back into the world of resistance fighters of WWII.

Shield of Fire Alice Leader – A powerful historical adventure set in Ancient Greece.

I, Coriander Sally Gardner – A cross between a historical novel and a fairy tale. Set in Puritan England.

Fever 1793 Laurie Halse Anderson – In 1793 Philadelphia PA was the largest city in the established colonies. The story is based on the actual outbreak of yellow fever which hit the city and wiped out around 5,000 people.

Mystery/Crime

Boy Nobody Allen Zadoff – A fast-paced thriller following the adventures of a brain-washed teen assassin.

Looking for JJ Anne Cassidy – A thought-provoking book, with a gripping plot.

The London Eye Mystery Siobhan Dowd – A mystery story, told from the point of view of a boy with Aspergers. Great for younger readers.

Nothing scares me Gene Kemp – Petra can predict the future, and it's a talent she hates. When a student goes missing, Petra's visions may hold the key to the disappearance.

Truth or dare Celia Rees – A room of secrets in a house of lies. When Josh finds a collection of drawings by his dead uncle, he starts to uncover the dark truth his family has hidden for many years.

Blood Ties Sophie McKenzie – Terrifically paced, this thriller links two teenagers who must work fast to unravel the past and discover the dangerous secret that unites them.

Family and Relationships

Star of Kazan Eva Ibbotson – A story about a foundling child, brought up as a servant and later found and claimed by her real Mother. Full of mystery and surprise.

Wolf Hollow Lauren Wolk – Set in a small Pennsylvanian community during WWII, Annabelle's life is changed by the arrival of a new girl, whose manipulative and bullying behaviour quickly escalates into something very serious.

Noughts and Crosses Malorie Blackman – A story of love and friendship which reverses the traditional racial stereotypes. Thought-provoking and compelling.

My sister lives on the mantelpiece Annabel Pitcher – Sensitively tackles issues such as grief, bereavement, terrorism, racism and bullying. Told through the eyes of a young boy, it is a complex and moving account of two children and their dysfunctional family, following the tragic death of their sister.

Fire colour one Jenny Valentine – Follows Iris as she finds her real father just before he dies. Their shared love of art brings the pair closer than Iris could have believed and leaves her with a surprise that no one could expect.

The Perks of being a Wallflower Stephen Chbosky – Written as a diary, by an autistic teenage boy, who sees the world in a different way.

Beyond a bright sea Lauren Wolk - A story about identity, family and belonging, woven together into an adventure.

Emotional and thought provoking

The Fault in our stars John Green – Hazel Grace Lancaster has cancer, but her life is changed when she meets Gus Waters.

the stars at oktober bend Glenda Millard – A powerful, captivating story about Alice, who is brain damaged. An unusual style, but a beautifully written story about overcoming adversity and living with hope and courage.

The Book Thief Markus Zusak – A thought provoking, story which is both tragic and uplifting.

The Shell House Linda Newbery – Covers many adolescent issues, including sexuality, religious belief, the effects of war, bullying and commitment. All about seeking identities.

Pig Heart Boy Malorie Blackman – You're thirteen. All you want is a normal life, but there's a problem and the only chance you have is risky and controversial.

To kill a mockingbird Harper Lee – Through the young eyes of Scout and Jem Finch, this book explores with humour, warmth and compassion, the adult attitudes to race and class in the 1930s Deep South of America.

Caught in the Crossfire Alan Gibbons – Examines the myths and misunderstandings that drive racism and extremism. The book challenges everyone to stand up and be counted.

Stories from other cultures

The fastest boy in the world Elizabeth Laird – An inspiring story of a young Ethiopian runner with a very big heart.

The Bone Sparrow Zana Fraillon – Subhi is a refugee, who was born and lives in a camp. That is all the life he knows, until one day he meets a girl from the other side of the fence.

The smell of other people's houses Bonnie-Sue Hitchcock – The intertwining stories of four teens in Alaska 1970, all of whom have reasons to fantasize about other people's homes.

The Outsiders S.E. Hinton – This book is set in 1960s Oklahoma and is an unforgettable story of loyalty, friendship and a search for a place in the world.

Kiss the Dust Elizabeth Laird – Simple and direct in style, the story follows a teenage Kurdish girl who is forced to flee from her home and live in the mountains, then cross the border into Iran. From

there the family moves through different refugee camps until they are finally granted asylum in England. Sensitively written.

Girl in Red Gaye Hicyilmaz – This book is narrated by a boy called Frankie, and deals with the way his community reacts when a group of travellers move in.