



### **Recommended Reading List for Senior Pupils**

*Below is a list of suggested titles, categorised according to genre: some are, of course, more accessible than others, but please encourage your child to be ambitious in some of their reading choices. Many more titles could have been added to this list, but we hope it embodies a diversity of literature - and represents a range of reading tastes - as it stands. Please seek guidance from your son / daughter's English teacher as to suitable material, should you require help in this respect.*

#### **Classics**

- The Woman in Black – Susan Hill
- Wide Sargasso Sea – Jean Rhys
- The Day of the Triffids – John Wyndham
- Little Women – Louisa May Alcott
- Treasure Island – Robert Louis Stevenson
- The Christmas Carol – Charles Dickens
- Great Expectations – Charles Dickens
- The Mayor of Casterbridge – Thomas Hardy
- Silas Marner – George Eliot
- Jane Eyre – Charlotte Brontë
- Lord of the Flies – William Golding
- The Lord of the Rings – J.R.R. Tolkien
- Brideshead Revisited – Evelyn Waugh
- The Go-Between – L.P. Hartley \*
- The 39 Steps – John Buchan
- Cider with Rosie – Laurie Lee \*
- To Kill a Mockingbird – Harper Lee \*
- The Secret Garden – F.H. Burnett \*
- Anne of Green Gables – L.M. Montgomery
- Tom Sawyer – Mark Twain \*
- Huckleberry Finn – Mark Twain
- The Hound of the Baskervilles – Arthur Conan Doyle
- Around the World in Eighty Days – Jules Verne
- Watership Down – Richard Adams \*
- The Railway Children – E. Nesbit \*
- Heart of Darkness – Joseph Conrad
- Of Mice and Men – John Steinbeck \*
- Grapes of Wrath – John Steinbeck
- The Great Gatsby – F. Scott Fitzgerald

- For Whom the Bell Tolls – Ernest Hemingway
- The Catcher in the Rye – J.D. Salinger \*

\* texts marked with an asterisk are among the more accessible of the Classics

### **Real Life Stories**

- A Thousand Splendid Suns – Khaled Hosseini
- The Kite Runner – Khaled Hosseini
- A Monster Calls – Patrick Ness
- Maggot Moon – Sally Gardner
- The Weight of Water – Sarah Crossan
- Wonder – R J Palacio
- In The Sea There Are Crocodiles – Fabio Geda
- Mockingbird – Katheryn Erskine
- The Innocents Abroad – Mark Twain
- Roughing It – Mark Twain

### **Adventure Stories**

- The Knife of Never Letting Go – Patrick Ness
- The Vanishing of Katharina Linden – Helen Grant
- The Haunting – Margaret Mahy
- Holes – Louis Sachar
- The Sword in the Stone – T.H. White
- The Ruby in the Smoke – Philip Pullman
- The Solitaire Mystery – Jostein Gardiner
- Silverfin – Charlie Higson
- Ferryman – Clarie McFall
- The Afterworld Series – Barry Hutchinson
- Midwinterblood – Marcus Sedgwick
- The Messenger Bird – Ruth Eastham
- Girl, Missing – Sophie McKenzie

### **Fantasy and Science Fiction Stories**

- Shadowmancer – GP Taylor
- Z for Zachariah – Robert O'Brien
- Skellig – David Almond
- A Wizard of Earthsea – Ursula LeGuin
- The Discworld Series – Terry Pratchett
- Children of the Lamp Series – P.B. Kerr
- The Seeing – Diana Hendry
- Seraphina – Rachel Hartman

### **Historical Stories**

- The Book Thief – Marcus Zusak

- Greek Myths – Geraldine McCaughrean
- The Machine Gunners – Robert Westall
- The Silver Sword – Ian Serraillier
- When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit – Judith Kerr
- Goodnight Mister Tom – Michelle Magorian
- King of Shadows – Susan Cooper
- I Am David – Anne Holm
- Troy – Adèle Geras
- The Dark is Rising Series – Susan Cooper
- Carrie’s War – Nina Bawden
- A Pattern of Roses – K.M. Peyton
- At the Sign of the Sugared Plum – Mary Hooper
- The Red Necklace – Sally Gardner
- Diary of a Young Girl – Anne Frank
- Birdsong – Sebastian Faulkes

### **Stories about other Cultures**

- The Flame Trees of Thika – Elsbeth Huxley
- Chinese Cinderella – Adeline Yen Mah
- The Village by the Sea – Anita Desai
- Journey to the River Sea – Eva Ibbotson
- The Eye of the Horse – Jamila Gavin
- The Kite Rider – Geraldine McCaughrean
- Wolf Brother – Michelle Paver
- The Incredible Journey – Shelia Burnford
- The Breadwinner – Deborah Ellis
- The Thief Lord – Cornelia Funke
- The Wheel of Surya – Jamilia Gavin
- The Lady of the Squire – Terry Jones
- The Life of Pi – Yann Martel
- Falling Leaves – Adeline Yen Mah
- Things Fall Apart – Chinua Achebe

### **Other stories by established authors**

- Stars Shall Be Bright – Catherine MacPhail
- Stonebird – Maike Rvell
- Noughts and Crosses – Malorie Blackman
- I Capture the Castle – Dodie Smith
- Frozen Fire – Tim Bowler
- Feather Boy – Nicky Singer
- The Declaration – Gemma Malley
- The Tulip Touch – Anna Fine
- Zlata’s Diary – Zlata Filipovic
- Boy – Roald Dahl
- The Shakespeare Secret – J.L. Carrell
- Starseeker – Tim Bowler

- Chart Breaker – Gillian Cross
- Coram Boy – Jamilia Gavin