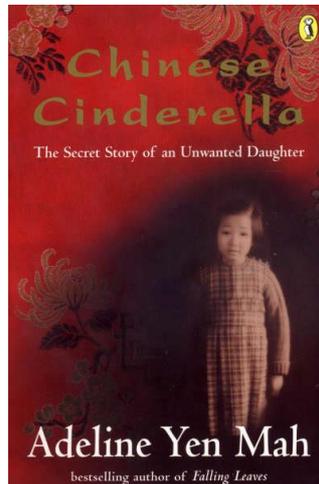


St John Bosco

ARTS COLLEGE

KS3 Reading for Pleasure Challenge Year 7 'Chinese Cinderella'



A guide for parents & students

The Reading Challenge

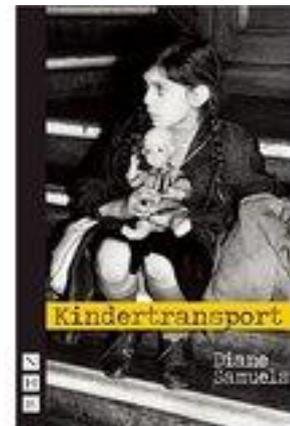
To encourage frequent reading, we are setting some challenges to KS3 students. Below is a reading list ranked in challenge order from Bronze to Silver & Gold. These books can be used as your 10 mins reading book or you could read them at home. You can earn prizes and certificates from your teacher if you read titles from these lists:

Gold reads



1) *Kinder Transport* (Diane Samuels)

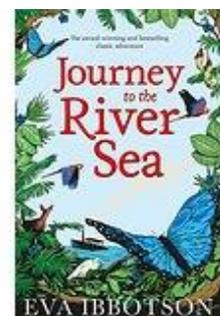
Chinese Cinderella deals with a displaced child. This story looks at a displaced race through the experience of one family. A modern classic about one woman's struggle to come to terms with her past. Brutally separated from her German Jewish parents and brought to England with the promise of a new life, nine-year-old Eva ends up in Manchester. When Eva's parents fail to escape Germany, the child changes her name and begins the process of denial of her roots. It is only when her own daughter discovers some letters in their attic that Eva is forced to confront the truth about the past.



Between 1938 and the outbreak of war, almost 10,000 children, most of them Jewish, were sent by their parents from Germany to Britain. This new edition of Diane Samuels' award-winning play contains several personal memoirs by children whose lives were saved by the Kindertransport.

2) *Journey to the River Sea* (Eva Ibbotson)

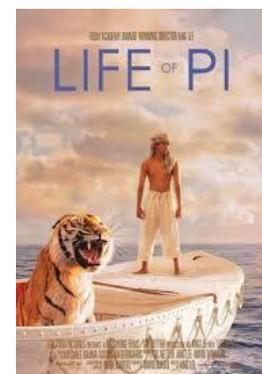
This story explores the life of an other teenage orphan girl - just like Adeline. It is 1910 and Maia, tragically orphaned at thirteen, has been sent from England to start a new life with distant relatives in Manaus, hundreds of miles up the Amazon. She is accompanied by an eccentric and mysterious governess who has secret reasons of her own for making the journey. Both soon discover an exotic world bursting with new experiences in *Journey to the River Sea*, Eva Ibbotson's highly colourful, joyous adventure.



3) *The Life of Pi* (Yann Martel)

The Life of Pi looks at the same struggle for companionship and community strived for in Chinese Cinderella. One boy, one boat, one tiger . . .

After the tragic sinking of a cargo ship, a solitary lifeboat remains bobbing on the wild, blue Pacific. The only survivors from the wreck are a sixteen-year-old boy named Pi, a hyena, a zebra (with a broken leg), a female orang-utan and a 450-pound Royal Bengal tiger. The scene is set for one of the most extraordinary and best-loved works of fiction in recent years.



Silver reads



1) *Harry Potter Series* (JK Rowling)

Adeline goes to the best schools during her childhood but it often means she has to board away from home. Harry Potter's world also expands through the benefit of a boarding school experience. Follow the adventures of novice wizard Harry Potter and his friends as they explore the weird and wonderful world of fantasy and intrigue uncovering new spells, new friends and new enemies at every turn.



Trust us...the books really ARE better than the films!

2) *The Kite Rider* (Geraldine McCaughrean)

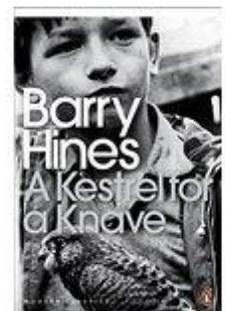
Haoyou experiences Chinese culture through a different perspective to Adeline in *Chinese Cinderella*. Haoyou knows that his father's spirit lives among the clouds above Ancient China. He also knows that to save his mother from being forced into a new marriage he must now follow in his father's footsteps and take to the skies, riding a kite through the clouds and the spirits of the dead.

Then the Jade Circus offers him a chance to escape his enemies and travel throughout the empire, and maybe even perform before Kublai Khan himself. But is going with the circus really the best option? It could be that the circus master is leading him into even greater danger. This outstanding story is like nothing else you've ever read - packed with action, adventure and emotion.



3) *A Kestrel for a Knave* (Barry Hines)

Adeline's childhood is not easy but life can be difficult in lots of different ways when you are growing up. Life is tough and cheerless for Billy Casper, a troubled teenager growing up in the small Yorkshire mining town of Barnsley. Treated as a failure at school, and unhappy at home, Billy discovers a new passion in life when he finds Kes, a kestrel hawk. Billy identifies with her silent strength and she inspires in him the trust and love that nothing else can, discovering through her the passion missing from his life. Barry Hines's acclaimed novel continues to reach new generations of teenagers and adults with its powerful story of survival in a tough, joyless world.



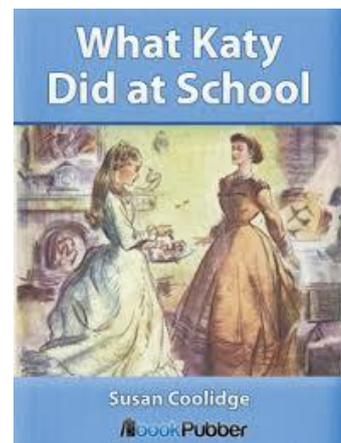
Bronze reads



3) *What Katy Did at School* (Susan Coolidge)

Adeline experienced a Chinese boarding school but Katy's is very British. Katy Carr is untidy, tall and gangling and lives with her brothers and sisters planning for the day when she will be "beautiful and beloved, and amiable as an angel".

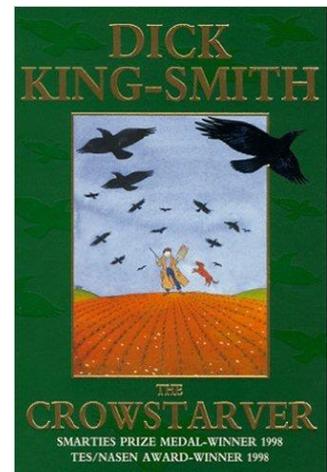
An accidental fall from a swing seems to threaten her hopes for the future, but Katy struggles to overcome her difficulties with pluck, vitality and good humour.



4) *The Crowstarver* (Dick King-Smith)

Like Adeline, Spider Sparrow is treated differently. He too loves animals, but he grows up surrounded by them.

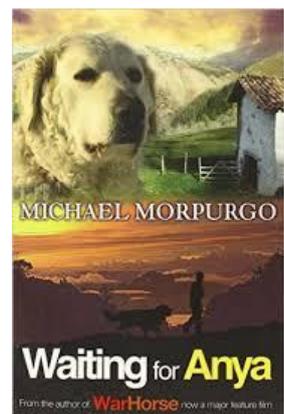
This is a story of country life with a difference. Joy comes to a childless shepherd and his wife when a baby found lying in the straw of a sheep pen becomes their very own child. As he grows up it becomes clear that Spider is not "normal". Although he can't think or speak like other children, he can understand and communicate with animals. In this deceptively simple story the ordinary and the natural are transfused with the extraordinary and the wonderful.



5) *Waiting for Anya* (Michael Morpurgo)

Adeline feels cast out by her family - imagine being cast out by your country? Jo stumbles on a dangerous secret - Jewish children are being smuggled away from the Nazis, close to his mountain village in Spain. Now German soldiers have been stationed at the border. Jo must get word to his friends that the children are trapped. The slightest mistake could cost them their lives.

Author of *Private Peaceful* and *Friend or Foe*, Michael Morpurgo again demonstrates why he is considered to be the master storyteller with yet another of his beautifully crafted war stories for children. *Waiting for Anya* embodies the very best of Michael Morpurgo's vivid, heartfelt and absorbing writing.



If you liked this you might also like... 'The Butterfly Lion', 'The Dancing Bear' or 'Kensuke's Kingdom.'

What else can we do?

There are lots of things that families can do together to support the improvement of reading ability and enjoyment - and not all of them require a book.

Talk as a family about reading

By secondary school most students are competent readers and are less likely to read aloud to an adult. That's a natural progression, but it doesn't mean that parents don't have a part to play. The higher level skills of inference and understanding the craft of an author can be supported by talking about what has been read.

Share a book

Just because you don't necessarily read together doesn't mean that parents and children can't share a book. Young Adult fiction is excellent and well worth a read as a parent. Why not both read the same book?

Model what it is to be a reader

Many parents will read, whether it be fiction, newspapers, online or in any other context. Get in the habit of being seen to read, and valuing reading.

Good Reading

Fiction books aren't the only sort of reading material that will help you improve your reading ability.

Reading these will help:



Newspapers



Websites



Non-fiction



Magazines



Graphic Novels



Audio books