

St John Bosco

ARTS COLLEGE

KS3 Reading for Pleasure Challenge Year 9 Oliver Twist



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) *Great Expectations* (Charles Dickens)

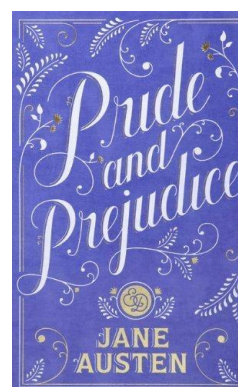
From one orphan to another- Oliver and Pip (the protagonist of *Great Expectations*) both face life without a close family around them.

Great Expectations is the thirteenth novel by Charles Dickens which depicts the personal growth and personal development of an orphan nicknamed Pip. Pip becomes a gentleman when his life is transformed by a mystery benefactor.



2) *Pride and Prejudice* (Jane Austen)

Oliver Twist is often viewed as a classic piece of British literature. *Pride and Prejudice* is another classic. Money seems to be important in both books- the mother in *Pride and Prejudice* stating that: a single **man** in possession of a **good fortune**, must be in want of a wife.

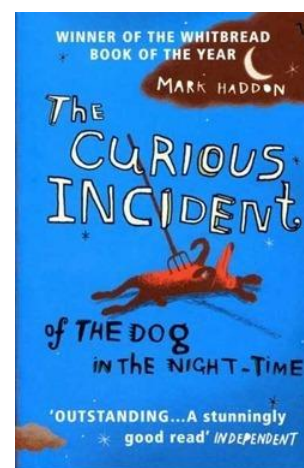


With its wit, its social precision and, above all, its irresistible heroine, *Pride and Prejudice* has proved one of the most enduringly popular novels in the English language

3) *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* (Mark Haddon)

Oliver struggles to find his place in the world. Now read about a boy who struggles to fit in- and who sees the world very differently to those around him.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time has been at the top of the bestseller lists and still winning awards (As well as hitting the West End Theatres). Its unlikely hero, a teenage boy with Asperger's syndrome, has captured the imagination of both adults and children.



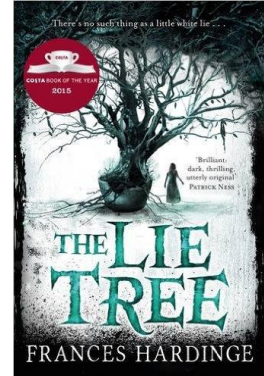


Silver reads

1) The Lie Tree (Francis Hardinge)

Oliver Twist opens with a mysterious death...now read about another!

Faith's father has been found dead under mysterious circumstances, and as she is searching through his belongings for clues she discovers a strange tree. The tree only grows healthy and bears fruit if you whisper a lie to it. The fruit of the tree, when eaten, will deliver a hidden truth to the person who consumes it. The bigger the lie, the more people who believe it, the bigger the truth that is uncovered.



2) A Christmas Carol (Charles Dickens)

Another favourite by Dickens, A Christmas Carol is a text you will meet at GCSE- well worth a read beforehand! Not just a book for the festive season!

This novella was met with instant success and critical acclaim. A *Christmas Carol* tells the story of a bitter old miser named Ebenezer Scrooge and his transformation into a gentler, kinder man after visitations by the ghost of his former business partner Jacob Marley and the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Yet to Come.



3) Fire Colour One (Jenny Valentine)

Oliver Twist is a book in which we see conflict and estrangement- Fire Colour One explores similar themes.

Iris's father, Ernest, is at the end of his life and she hasn't even met him. Her best friend, Thurston, is somewhere on the other side of the world. Everything she thought she knew is up in flames. Now her mother has declared war and means to get her hands on Ernest's priceless art collection. But Ernest has other ideas. There are things he wants Iris to know after he's gone. And the truth has more than one way of coming to light.



4) One (Sarah Crossen)



Oliver Twist has lost his family at birth. In this tale, family is closer than one might imagine!

Grace and Tippi don't like being stared and sneered at, but they're used to it. They're conjoined twins - united in blood and bone. What they want is to be looked at in turn, like they truly are two people. They want real friends. And what about love? But a heart-wrenching decision lies ahead for Tippi and Grace. One that could change their lives more than they ever asked for...

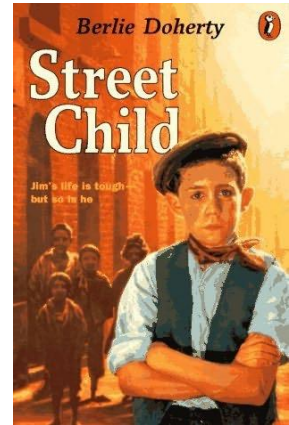
Bronze reads



1) **Street Child (Berlie Doherty)**

Like Oliver, the protagonist (main character) of this story finds himself on the streets facing a tough life in Victorian England- a gripping read.

Jim Jarvis was a real boy, but not very much is known about him. His story and that of other orphans was written down in a series of very short pamphlets which Doctor Barnardo sent to wealthy people when he was trying to raise money to open an orphanage.

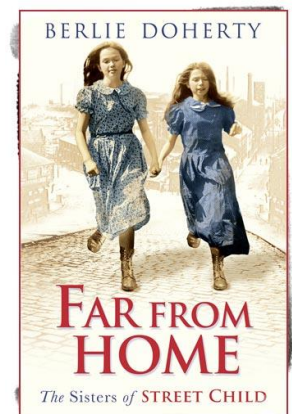


2) **Far From Home (Berlie Doherty)**

Oliver tries to escape from several tricky circumstances in Oliver Twist...as similar desire for freedom is evident in this fantastic read.

When Jim Jarvis is separated from his sisters, Lizzie and Emily, he thinks he will never see them again. Now for the first time, the bestselling author of *Street Child* reveals what happened to his orphaned sisters.

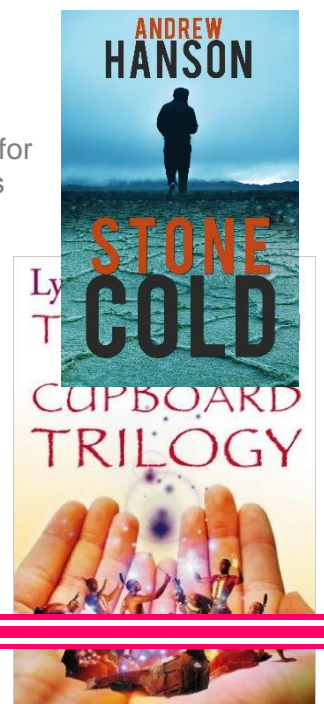
In Victorian London, Lizzie and Emily are left in the care of a cook but their story takes them to the mills of northern England. There, under the keen eyes of the mill owners, the girls are made to work in harsh conditions and any chance of escape is sorely tempting...



3) **Stone Cold (Andrew Hanson)**

In Oliver Twist, the young Oliver deals with life alone-without anyone to care for him or support him. Stone Cold's hero Link lives in the modern day, but faces similar loneliness and despair.

A tense, exciting thriller combined with a perceptive and harrowing portrait of life on the streets as a serial killer preys on the young and vulnerable homeless. 17-year-old Link is distrustful of people until he pairs up with Deb, homeless like him. What happens next will leave you on the edge of your seat!



4) The Indian in the Cupboard Trilogy (Lynne Reid Banks)

Oliver finds friends he never expected in very strange places! Dodger being just one. In The Indian in the Cupboard books, the protagonist (main character) makes friends in the unlikeliest way. This is a book that will hook you from start to finish!

Who'd want a boring little plastic Red Indian as a birthday present? Omri doesn't – until his brother gives him a very special cupboard which can make the Indian come alive...

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.

Join the free online library

Library membership a free service for children and adults. There are no overdue fines as books are returned automatically. There is an excellent selection of books, audiobooks and magazines available. The software will work on a range of devices including mobile phones, tablets and laptops

You can join the online library at www.readliverpool.co.uk.

Visit Liverpool Central Library Liverpool

Liverpool Central Library, William Brown St, Liverpool, Merseyside L3 8EW

Monday	09:00	20:00
Tuesday	09:00	20:00
Wednesday	09:00	20:00
Thursday	09:00	20:00
Friday	09:00	20:00

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