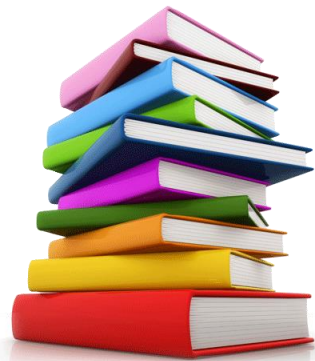


St John Bosco

ARTS COLLEGE

KS3 Reading for Pleasure



**A guide for parents &
students**

The Book Bingo Reading Challenge

To encourage frequent reading, we are setting some challenges to KS3 students. Below is a Bingo card of suggested books to read. Once that have completed any line or full house, they can get a prize from their English teacher.

Bingo Card

A book that's been turned into a film	A book published in 2020	A book set in a different country	A book written before 1914
A Young Adult best seller	A book with a strong female protagonist	An award winner	A book about overcoming a challenge
A book set in the future	A teacher's recommendation	A book you can finish in one day	A book with numbers in the title
A book based on a person/place in history	A book that has more than 300 pages	A book by a local author	A book/text based on true events or person

How to get hold of a book:

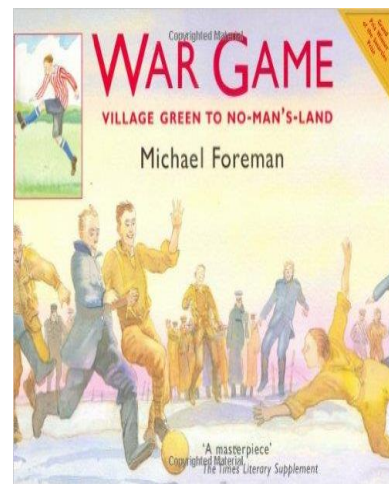
- Perhaps you have a pile of books that you've been meaning to read for a while - pick one of these!
- Come into the school library and ask our librarian about borrowing a book.
- Borrow a book from a sibling, or perhaps someone who lives nearby - ask them to leave it on your doorstep or collect it from theirs.
- Ask a relative to send you a book of theirs through the post.
- Check out 'Borrowbox' - this is a great app that has loads of free titles available. We have made a list of recommended titles on the word document.
- Install the kindle app on your phone or tablet and purchase from there - you will find that lots of books are cheaper and some are even free at the moment!
- Use the <https://www.readliverpool.co.uk/> website – you will need to create a login with an email. Then you can download free eBooks. We have put a star next to the titles you can download from this website on our recommended reading list.
- Check out the website : <https://www.gutenberg.org/> which has lots of free eBooks
- Check out Oak National Academy's free eBooks that are available every week: <https://library.thenational.academy/>

More Book Recommendations for KS3:

War Game: Village Green to No-Man's Land. The Story of the First World War Christmas Day Truce of 1914 (by Michael Foreman)

This book is great if you are in Year 7 as it links to themes such as brotherhood, friendship, war, conflict and loss.

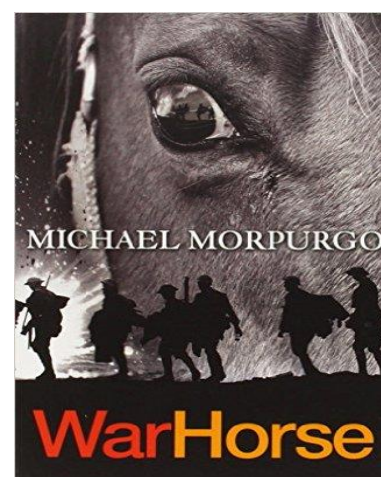
It's 1914 when everything changes for a group of boys growing up and playing football in the Suffolk countryside. Far away, in a place called Sarajevo, an Archduke has been killed and a web of global events results in a call for all British men to do their duty 'for King and Country' and join the army to fight the Germans overseas. The boys sign up for what sounds like an adventure and a chance to see the world. After basic training the boys sail to France where they find themselves fighting on the front line. Living in the trenches in constant fear for their lives is nothing like they expected and only a bombed-out wasteland, no-man's-land, separates their trenches from those of their German enemies. Then, on Christmas Day, something remarkable happens as the German and British armies stop fighting and meet in the middle of no-man's-land. The enemies talk, play football and become friends. But the war isn't over, the two sides resume fighting and the group of Suffolk lads are ordered to charge across no-man's-land...



War Horse (by Michael Morpurgo)

This book links to our Year 7 and 8 curriculum through its depiction of War and conflict.

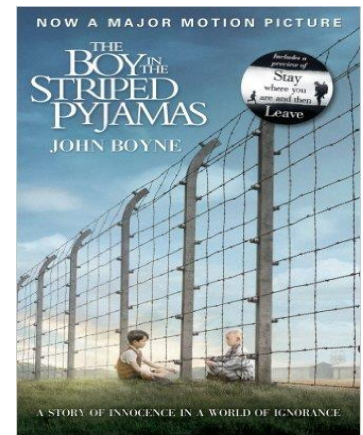
This is a stunning wartime classic. In the deadly chaos of the First World War, one horse witnesses the reality of battle from both sides of the trenches. Bombarded by artillery, with bullets knocking riders from his back, Joey tells a powerful story of the truest friendships surviving in terrible times. 'The bedlam of battle had begun. All around me men cried and fell to the ground, and horses reared and screamed in an agony of fear and pain. The shells whined and roared overhead, and every explosion seemed like an earthquake to us.' One horse has seen the best and the worst of humanity. The power of war and the beauty of peace. This is his story.



The Boy in the Stripe Pyjamas (by John Boyne).

Despite focusing on World War Two, this book links to themes of loss and war.

Nine-year-old Bruno knows nothing of the Final Solution and the Holocaust. He is oblivious to the appalling cruelties being inflicted on the people of Europe by his country. All he knows is that he has been moved from a comfortable home in Berlin to a house in a desolate area where there is nothing to do and no one to play with. Until he meets Shmuel, a boy who lives a strange parallel existence on the other side of the adjoining wire fence and who, like the other people there, wears a uniform of striped pyjamas. Bruno's friendship with Shmuel will take him from innocence to revelation. And in exploring what he is unwittingly a part of, he will inevitably become subsumed by the terrible process.

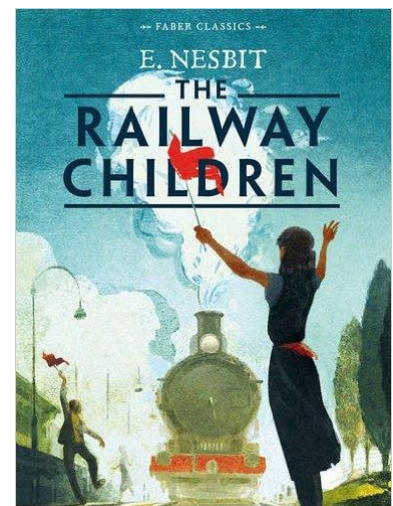


The Railway Children (E. Nesbitt)

A classic tale of friendship and hope against the backdrop of a terrifying war.

When Father goes away with two strangers one evening, the lives of Roberta, Peter and Phyllis are shattered. They and their mother have to move from their comfortable London home to go and live in a simple country cottage, where Mother writes books to make ends meet.

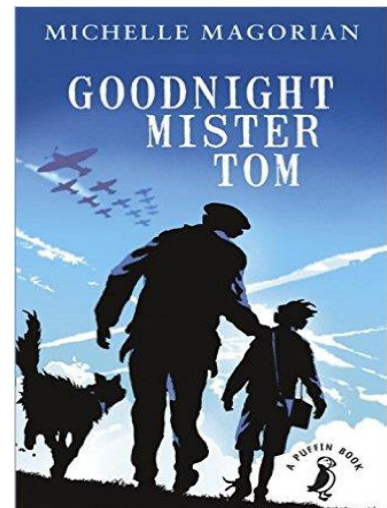
However, they soon come to love the railway that runs near their cottage, and they make a habit of waving to the Old Gentleman who rides on it. They befriend the porter, Perks, and through him learn railway lore and much else. They have many adventures, and when they save a train from disaster, they are helped by the Old Gentleman to solve the mystery of their father's disappearance, and the family is happily reunite.



Goodnight Mr Tom (by Michelle Magorian)

Another classic children's novel about war through its message of friendship and comradery ensure the survival and happiness of characters in the face of terrible adversity.

Young Willie Beech is evacuated to the country as Britain stands on the brink of the Second World War. A sad, deprived child, he slowly begins to flourish under the care of old Tom Oakley - but his new-found happiness is shattered by a summons from his mother back in London...

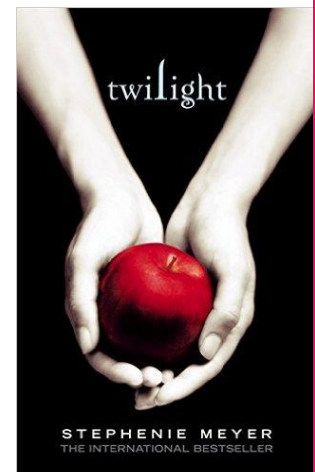


Twilight (Stephenie Meyer)

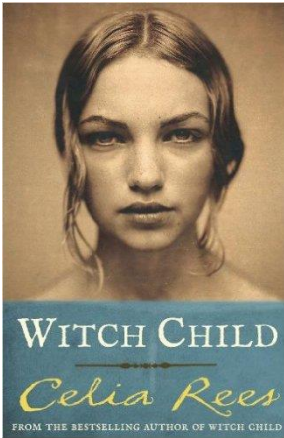
Ever been in love with someone you can't love? Juliet has and so has 17 year old Isabella Swan from this novel. She moves to Forks, Washington to live with her father she expects that her new life will be as dull as the town.

But in spite of her awkward manner and low expectations, she finds that her new classmates are drawn to this pale, dark-haired new girl in town. But not, it seems, the Cullen family. These five adopted brothers and sisters obviously prefer their own company and will make no exception for Bella. Bella is convinced that Edward Cullen in particular hates her, but she feels a strange attraction to him, although his hostility makes her feel almost physically ill. He seems determined to push her away - until, that is, he saves her life from an out of control car.

Bella will soon discover that there is a very good reason for Edward's coldness. He, and his family, are vampires - and he knows how dangerous it is for others to get too close.



Witch Child (Celia Rees)

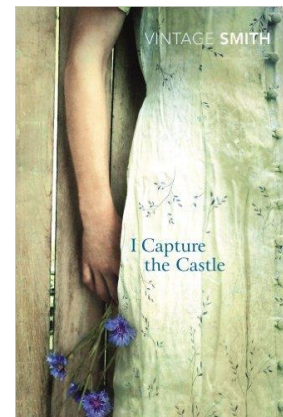


Shakespeare was writing during the Elizabethan Era and witches were common place. If you like the stories of witches, then this tale is for you. When Mary sees her grandmother accused of witchcraft and hanged for the crime, she is silently hurried to safety by an unknown woman. The woman gives her tools to keep the record of her days - paper and ink. Mary is taken to a boat in Plymouth and from there sails to the New World where she hopes to make a new life among the pilgrims. But old superstitions die hard and soon Mary finds that she, like her grandmother, is the victim of ignorance and stupidity, and once more she faces important choices to ensure her survival. With a vividly evoked environment and characters skilfully and patiently drawn, this is a powerful literary achievement by Celia Rees that is utterly engrossing from start to finish.

I Capture the Castle (Dodie Smith)

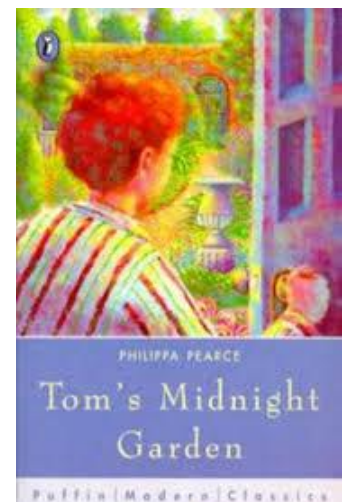
Growing up can be difficult; many of Shakespeare's character are presented during this stage in their lives too.

'I write this sitting in the kitchen sink' is the first line of this timeless, witty and enchanting novel about growing up. Cassandra Mortmain lives with her bohemian and impoverished family in a crumbling castle in the middle of nowhere. Her journal records her life with her beautiful, bored sister, Rose, her once glamorous stepmother, Topaz, her little brother Thomas and her eccentric novelist father who suffers from a financially crippling writer's block. However, all their lives are turned upside down when the American heirs to the castle arrive and Cassandra finds lost in a new world...



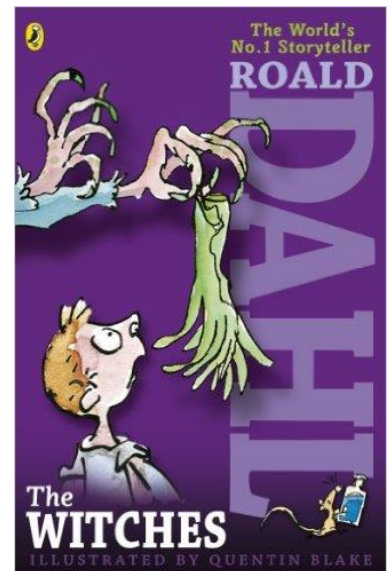
Tom's Midnight Garden

Shakespeare often deals with magic and things are often not what they seem (read Twelfth Night or A Midsummer Night's Dream). Lying awake at night, Tom hears the old grandfather clock downstairs strike . . . eleven . . . twelve . . . thirteen . . . Thirteen! When Tom gets up to investigate, he discovers a magical garden. A garden that everyone told him doesn't exist. A garden that only he can enter . . .

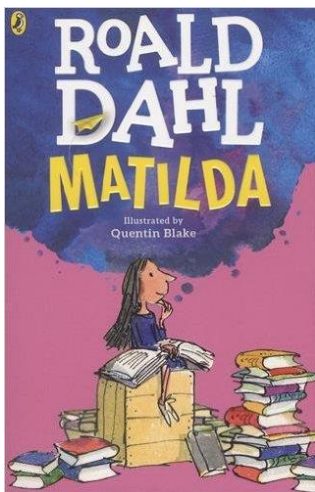


The Witches (Roald Dahl)

Witches are the main culprits in Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, but sometimes they can be more than just trouble causers; Roald Dahl certainly thought so...Witches really are a detestable breed. They disguise themselves as lovely ladies, when secretly they want to squish and squelch all the wretched children they despise. Luckily one boy and his grandmother know how to recognize these vile creatures, but can they get rid of them for good?



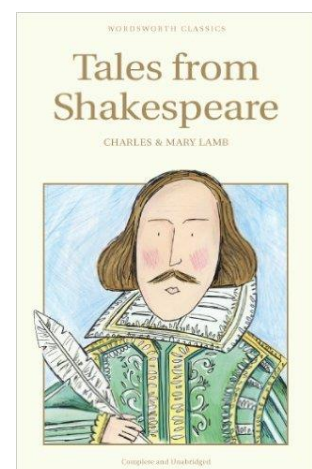
Matilda (Roald Dahl)



Matilda Wormwood's father thinks she's a little scab, Shakespeare's Juliet had the same problem when she disobeyed her father. Matilda's mother spends all afternoon playing bingo. And Matilda's headmistress Miss Trunchbull? Well, she's the worst of all. She is a big bully, who thinks all her pupils are rotten and locks them in the dreaded Chokey. As for Matilda, she's an extraordinary little girl with a magical mind - and now she's had enough. So all these grown-ups had better watch out, because Matilda is going to teach them a lesson they'll never forget...

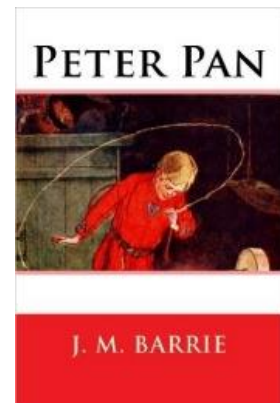
Tales from Shakespeare (Charles and Mary Lamb)

Tales from Shakespeare by Charles and Mary Lamb was written to be an 'introduction to the study of Shakespeare', but are much more entertaining than that. All of Shakespeare's best-loved plays, comic and tragic, are retold in a clear and robust style, and their literary quality has made them popular and sought-after ever since their first publication in 1807.



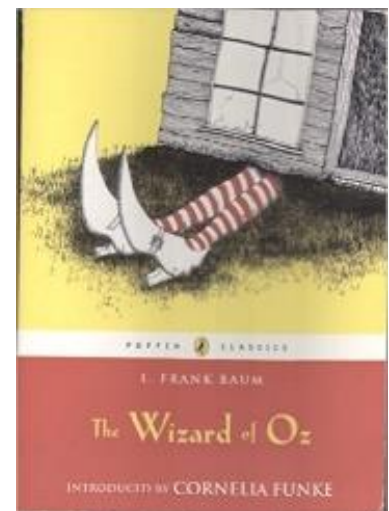
Peter Pan by J.M. Barrie

Peter Pan is a character created by Scottish novelist and playwright J. M. Barrie. A mischievous boy who can fly and never grows up, Peter Pan spends his never-ending childhood adventuring on the small island of Neverland as the leader of his gang, the Lost Boys, interacting with mermaids, Native Americans, fairies, pirates, and occasionally ordinary children from the world outside of Neverland. In addition to two distinct works by Barrie, the character has been featured in a variety of media and merchandise, both adapting and expanding on Barrie's works.



The Wizard of Oz by Frank Baum.

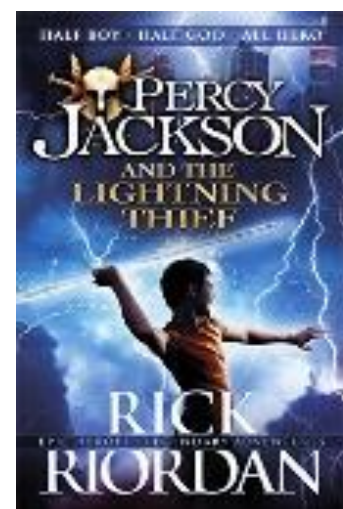
Dorothy thinks she is lost forever when a terrifying tornado crashes through Kansas and whisks her and her dog, Toto, far away to the magical land of Oz. To get home Dorothy must follow the yellow brick road to Emerald City and find the wonderfully mysterious Wizard of Oz. Together with her companions the Tin Woodman, the Scarecrow and the Cowardly Lion whom she meets on the way, Dorothy embarks on a strange and enchanting adventure.



Percy Jackson- Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

Look, I didn't want to be a half-blood. I never asked to be the son of a Greek God.

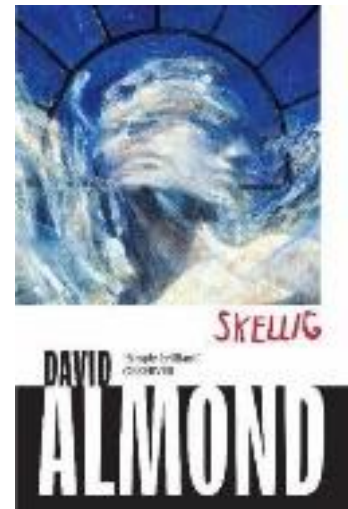
I was just a normal kid, going to school, playing basketball, skateboarding. The usual. Until I accidentally vaporized my maths teacher. Now I spend my time battling monsters and generally trying to stay alive. This is the one where Zeus, God of the Sky, thinks I've stolen his lightning bolt - and making Zeus angry is *a very bad idea*.



Skellig by David Almond

This book shares similar themes to the play dealing with the themes of dreams and magical, fantasy characters.

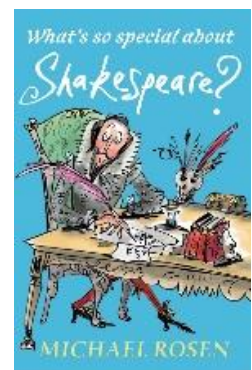
When a move to a new house coincides with his baby sister's illness, Michael's world seems suddenly lonely and uncertain. Then, one Sunday afternoon, he stumbles into the old, ramshackle garage of his new home, and finds something magical. A strange creature - part owl, part angel, a being who needs Michael's help if he is to survive. With his new friend Mina, Michael nourishes Skellig back to health, while his baby sister languishes in the hospital.



But Skellig is far more than he at first appears, and as he helps Michael breathe life into his tiny sister, Michael's world changes forever.

What's so good about Shakespeare by Michel Rosen

So what was it like to live in Shakespeare's time? What do we actually know about him? And how does someone become that famous? These are just a few of the questions addressed in this lively and accessible book on the life and works of William Shakespeare by award-winning author Michael Rosen. Ideal for browsing, the text is divided into clear sections and includes studies of four of Shakespeare's plays, intriguing facts and information about Shakespeare himself and the world at this time, accompanied by a useful timeline



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

Good Reading

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

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
Saturday	09:00	17:00

Reading these will help:



Newspapers



Magazines

Websites



Graphic Novels

Non-fiction



Audio books