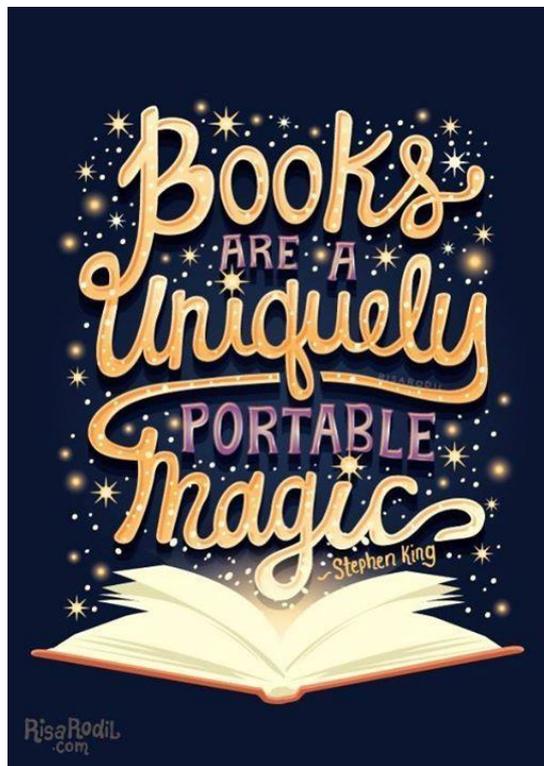




# **Kelso High School**



## **Recommended Reading List**

### **S3-S4**

Your workload may have increased now that you are in S3 or S4 but everybody can find time in the day to read a chapter of a good book. Studies show that reading for pleasure has a positive effect in the following ways:-

- Mental Stimulation. ...
- Stress Reduction. ...
- Knowledge. ...
- Vocabulary Expansion. ...
- Memory Improvement. ...
- Stronger Analytical Thinking Skills. ...
- Improved Focus and Concentration. ...
- Better Writing Skills.

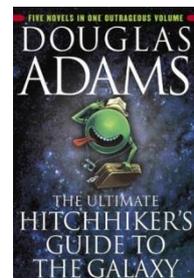
Why not give your brain a workout whilst reading something from this list?

Key: AF = book shelved in the Adult Fiction section; JF = book shelved in the Junior Fiction section; 914.1 = book shelved in relevant non-fiction section

## Adams, Douglas

### **The Hitch-hiker's Guide to the Galaxy** (Genre – Sci-Fi) (AF)

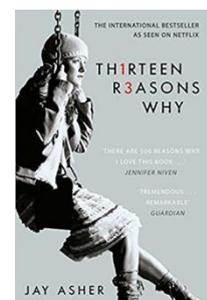
Arthur Dent mild-mannered, out-to-lunch earth-ling is plucked from his planet by his friend Ford Perfect just seconds before it is demolished to make way for a hyper-space bypass.



## Asher, Jay

### **Thirteen Reasons Why** (Genre - Teen Issues) (JF)

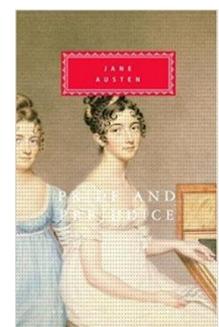
Clay Jensen doesn't know why Hannah Baker committed suicide, but he's about to find out. Before she died, Hannah recorded a set of cassette tapes, one side for each of the 13 reasons she chose to take her life. Each reason relates to a person. ... Surely there was a mistake; he can't be responsible for Hannah's suicide.



## Austen, Jane

### **Pride and Prejudice** (Genre – Classic) (AF)

Set in England in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, Pride and Prejudice tells the story of Mr and Mrs Bennett's five unmarried daughters after the rich and eligible Mr Bingley and his status-conscious friend, Mr Darcy, have moved into their neighbourhood. While Bingley takes an immediate liking to the eldest Bennett daughter, Jane, Darcy has difficulty adapting to local society and repeatedly clashes with the second-eldest daughter, Elizabeth.



## Bourne, Holly

### Am I Normal Yet? (Genre – Teen Issues) (JF)

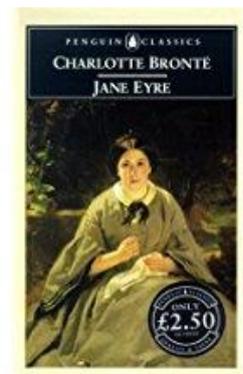
All Evie wants is to be normal. And now that she's almost off her meds and at a new college where no one knows her as the-girl-who-went-nuts, there's only one thing left to tick off her list... But relationships can mess with anyone's head - something Evie's new friends Amber and Lottie know only too well. The trouble is, if Evie won't tell them her secrets, how can they stop her making a huge mistake?



## Bronte, Charlotte

### Jane Eyre (Genre – Classic) (JF)

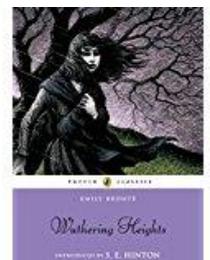
The novel charts the growth of Jane Eyre, the first-person narrator, from her unhappy childhood with her nasty relatives, the Reeds, to her blissful marriage to Rochester at Ferndean. Reading, education, and creativity are all essential components of Jane's growth, factors that help her achieve her final success.



## Bronte, Emily

### Wuthering Heights (Genre – Classic) (JF)

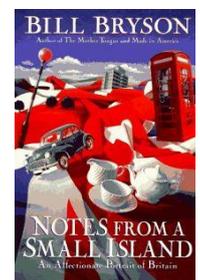
Heathcliff, an orphan, is raised by Mr Earnshaw as one of his own children. Hindley despises him but wild Cathy becomes his constant companion, and he falls deeply in love with her. When she will not marry him, Heathcliff's terrible vengeance ruins them all - but still his and Cathy's love will not die . . .



## Bryson, Bill

### Notes from a Small Island (Genre – Travel writing) (914.1)

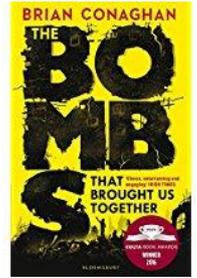
Before leaving his much-loved home in North Yorkshire to return to America, Bryson insisted on taking one last trip around Britain, a sort of valedictory tour of the green and kindly island that had so long been his home. His aim was to take stock of modern-day Britain, and to analyse what he loved so much about a country that had produced Marmite, zebra crossings, and place names like Farleigh Wallop, Titsey and Shellow Bowells.



## Conaghan, Brian

### **The Bombs that Brought Us Together** (Dystopian novel) (JF)

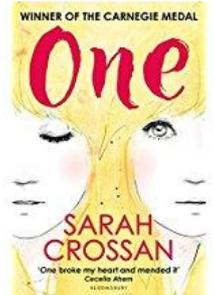
Fourteen-year-old Charlie Law has lived in Little Town, on the border with Old Country, all his life. He knows the rules: no going out after dark; no drinking; no litter; no fighting. You don't want to get on the wrong side of the people who run Little Town. When he meets Pavel Duda, a refugee from Old Country, the rules start to get broken. Then the bombs come, and the soldiers from Old Country, and Little Town changes for ever.



## Crossan, Sarah

### **One** (Genre – Teen Issues) (JF)

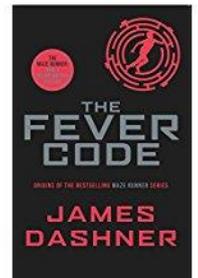
A beautiful and moving exploration of a sibling relationship like no other, *One* will stay with you long after the final page.



## Dashner, James

### **The Maze Runner series** (Genre – Dystopian novel) (JF)

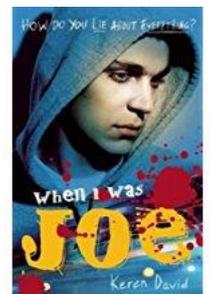
The world has ended: the earth is scorched, and fever rages through the population. Out of the chaos, a boy emerges with the power to change everything: Thomas. This is the start of his story. An electrifying *Maze Runner* prequel, *The Fever Code* holds all the answers: How did WICKED find the Gladers? Who are Group B? Whose side are Thomas and Teresa really on? Lies will be exposed. Secrets uncovered. Loyalties proven. You'll never see the truth coming ...



## David, Keren

### **When I was Joe** (Genre – Crime) (JF)

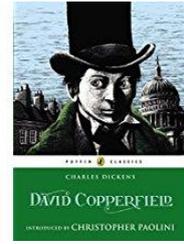
When Ty witnesses a stabbing, his own life is in danger from the criminals he's named, and he and his mum have to go into police protection. Ty has a new name, a new look and a cool new image - life as Joe is good, especially when he gets talent spotted as a potential athletics star, special training from an attractive local celebrity and a lot of female attention. But his mum can't cope with her new life, and the gangsters will stop at nothing to flush them from hiding. Joe's cracking under extreme pressure, and then he meets a girl with dark secrets of her own.



## Dickens, Charles

### David Copperfield (Genre – Classic) (JF)

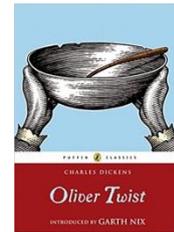
Young David Copperfield is sent away by his cruel step-father, Mr Murdstone, to a boarding school in London, but when his circumstances change David is forced to work from morning to night in Murdstone's factory. David decides to run away to find his only living relative, Great Aunt Betsey. But the question is: will he be welcomed or turned away?



## Dickens, Charles

### Oliver Twist (Genre – Classic) (AF)

The classic story of the young boy forced to survive on the cruel streets of London.

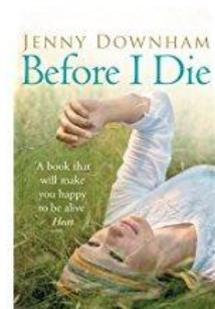


## Downham, Jenny

### Before I Die (Genre – Teen Issues) (JF) (S4+ readers only)

Tessa has just a few months to live.

Fighting back against hospital visits, endless tests, drugs with excruciating side-effects, Tessa compiles a list. It's her *To Do Before I Die* list.



Released from the constraints of 'normal' life, Tessa tastes new experiences to make her feel alive while her failing body struggles to keep up.

Tessa's feelings, her relationships with her father and brother, her estranged mother, her best friend, her new boyfriend, all are painfully crystallized in the precious weeks before Tessa's time finally runs out.

## Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan

### Favourite Sherlock Holmes stories (Genre – Detective stories) (AF)

In 1927, *Strand* magazine challenged its readers to guess which of his Sherlock Holmes stories Arthur Conan Doyle himself rated as his very best. (Mr R. T. Newman of Spring Hill, Wellingborough, won £100 for successfully guessing ten of the twelve stories correctly.) Doyle revealed his choice and, in his own inimitable way, explained his reasoning in an article for the magazine. The stories included 'The Speckled Band', 'The Final Problem' and 'The Dancing Men'.

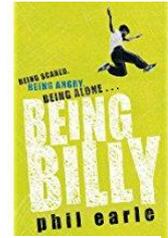


## Earle, Phil

### Being Billy (Genre – Teen issues) (JF)

Eight years in a care home make Billy Finn a professional lifer. Billy is angry – with the system, the social workers and the mother who gave him away.

As far as Billy is concerned, he's on his own. His little brother and sister keep him going, though they can't keep him out of trouble.

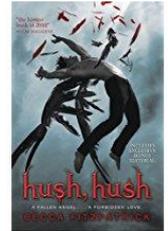


## Fitzpatrick, Becca

### Hush, Hush (Genre – Fantasy) (JF)

Romance was not part of Nora Grey's plan. She's never been particularly attracted to the boys at her school, no matter how hard her best friend, Vee, pushes them at her. Not until Patch comes along. With his easy smile and eyes that seem to see inside her, Patch draws Nora to him against her better judgment.

For she is right in the middle of an ancient battle between the immortal and those that have fallen - and, when it comes to choosing sides, the wrong choice will cost Nora her life.

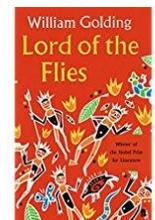


## Golding, William

### Lord of the Flies (Genre – Classic) (AF)

A plane crashes on an uninhabited island and the only survivors, a group of schoolboys, assemble on the beach and wait to be rescued. By day they inhabit a land of bright fantastic birds and dark blue seas, but at night their dreams are haunted by the image of a terrifying beast.

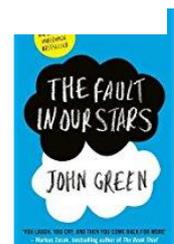
In this, his first novel, William Golding gave the traditional adventure story an ironic, devastating twist. The boys' delicate sense of order fades, and their childish fears are transformed into something deeper and more primitive. Their games take on a horrible significance, and before long the well-behaved party of schoolboys has turned into a tribe of faceless, murderous savages.



## Green, John

### The Fault in our Stars (Genre – Teen Issues) (JF)

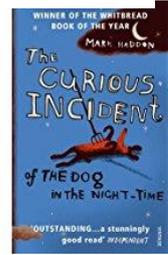
Despite the tumour-shrinking medical miracle that has bought her a few years, Hazel has never been anything but terminal, her final chapter inscribed upon diagnosis. But when a gorgeous plot twist named Augustus Waters suddenly appears at Cancer Kid Support Group, Hazel's story is about to be completely rewritten.



## Haddon, Mark

### **The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time** (Genre – Detective stories) (JF)

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* is a murder mystery novel like no other. The detective, and narrator, is Christopher Boone. Christopher is fifteen and has Asperger's Syndrome. He knows a very great deal about maths and very little about human beings. He loves lists, patterns and the truth. He hates the colours yellow and brown and being touched. He has never gone further than the end of the road on his own, but when he finds a neighbour's dog murdered he sets out on a terrifying journey which will turn his whole world upside down.



## Hinton, S.E.

### **The Outsiders** (Genre – Coming-of-age) (JF)

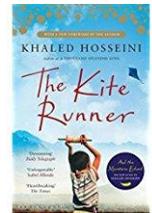
Youngsters in a small Oklahoma town have split into two gangs, divided by money, tastes and attitude. The Socs' idea of having a good time is beating up Greasers like Ponyboy Curtis. Ponyboy knows what to expect and knows he can count on his brothers and friends - until the night someone takes things too far.



## Hosseini, Khaled

### **The Kite Runner** (Genre – World Literature) (AF)

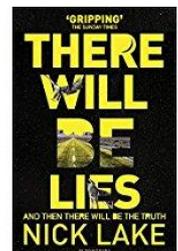
Afghanistan, 1975: Twelve-year-old Amir is desperate to win the local kite-fighting tournament and his loyal friend Hassan promises to help him. But neither of the boys can foresee what will happen to Hassan that afternoon, an event that is to shatter their lives. After the Russians invade and the family is forced to flee to America, Amir realises that one day he must return to Afghanistan under Taliban rule to find the one thing that his new world cannot grant him: redemption.



## Lake, Nick

### **There Will Be Lies** (Genre – Coming-of-age) (JF)

Shelby Jane Cooper is seventeen, pretty and quiet. It's just Shelby and her mom, Shaylene, a court stenographer who wears pyjama jeans, stitches tapestry, eats ice-cream for dinner and likes to keep Shelby safe. So safe she barely goes out. So safe she doesn't go to school. Because anything could happen, to a girl like Shelby. Anything.

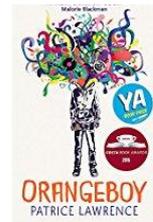


When Shelby gets knocked down by a car, it's not just her leg that's broken: Shelby's world is shattered. Her mom turns up to collect her and drives off into the night, like it's the beginning of a road trip, like two criminals on the run, like Thelma and Louise or Bonnie and Clyde. And somehow, everywhere she looks, there's a coyote watching her, talking to her, telling her not to believe or trust anyone.

## Lawrence, Patrice

### Orangeboy (Genre – Thriller) (JF)

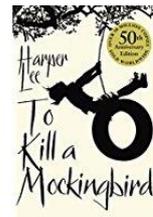
Sixteen-year-old Marlon has made his mum a promise - he'll never follow his big brother, Andre, down the wrong path. So far, it's been easy, but when a date ends in tragedy, Marlon finds himself hunted. They're after the mysterious Mr Orange, and they're going to use Marlon to get to him. Marlon's out of choices - can he become the person he never wanted to be, to protect everyone he loves?



## Lee, Harper

### To Kill a Mockingbird (Genre – Coming-of-age) (AF)

'Shoot all the bluejays you want, if you can hit 'em, but remember it's a sin to kill a mockingbird.'

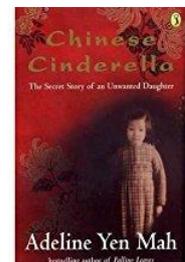


A lawyer's advice to his children as he defends the real mockingbird of Harper Lee's classic novel - a black man charged with the rape of a white girl. Through the young eyes of Scout and Jem Finch, Harper Lee explores with exuberant humour the irrationality of adult attitudes to race and class in the Deep South of the 1930s. The conscience of a town steeped in prejudice, violence and hypocrisy is pricked by the stamina of one man's struggle for justice. But the weight of history will only tolerate so much.

## Mah, Adeline Yeh

### Chinese Cinderella (Genre – Biography) (920 MAH)

A riveting memoir of a girl's painful coming-of-age in a wealthy Chinese family during the 1940s. A Chinese proverb says, "Falling leaves return to their roots." In Chinese Cinderella, Adeline Yen Mah returns to her roots to tell the story of her painful childhood and her ultimate triumph and courage in the face of despair. Adeline's affluent, powerful family considers her bad luck after her mother dies giving birth to her. Life does not get any easier when her father remarries. She and her siblings are subjected to the disdain of her stepmother, while her stepbrother and stepsister are spoiled. Although Adeline wins prizes at school, they are not enough to compensate for what she really yearns for -- the love and understanding of her family.



## Mantel, Yann

### Life of Pi (Genre – Adventure) (AF)

After the tragic sinking of a cargo ship, one 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. Will they all make it to safety?

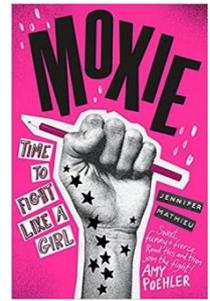


## Mathieu, Jennifer

### **Moxie** (Genre – Teen Issues) (JF)

Vivian Carter is fed up. Fed up with her high school teachers who think the football team can do no wrong. She is fed up with sexist dress codes, hallway harassment and gross comments from guys during class. But most of all, Viv Carter is fed up with always following the rules.

Viv's mum was a tough-as-nails, punk rock Riot Grrrl in the '90s, and now Viv takes a page from her mother's past and creates *Moxie*, a feminist zine that she distributes anonymously to her classmates. She's just blowing off steam, but other girls respond and spread the *Moxie* message. As Viv forges friendships with other young women across the divides of cliques and popularity rankings, she realises that what she has started is nothing short of a girl revolution.



## McKenzie, Sophie

### **Missing series** (Genre – Teen Issues) (JF)

Lauren is adopted and eager to know more about her mysterious past. But when she discovers she may have been snatched from her family as a baby, her whole life suddenly feels like a sham. Why will no one answer her questions? How can she find her biological parents? And could her adoptive parents really have been responsible for kidnapping her?

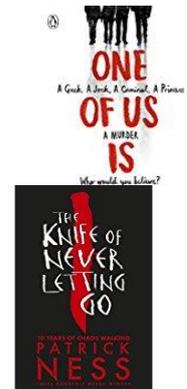


Running away from her family to seek out the truth, Lauren's journey takes her deeper and deeper into danger as she realises that someone wants to stop her uncovering what really happened when she was a baby... at any cost...

## McManus, Karen M

### **One of Us is Lying** (Genre – Crime) (JF)

Five students go to detention. Only four leave alive. Yale hopeful Bronwyn has never publicly broken a rule. Sports star Cooper only knows what he's doing in the baseball diamond. Bad boy Nate is one misstep away from a life of crime. Prom queen Addy is holding together the cracks in her perfect life. And outsider Simon, creator of the notorious gossip app at Bayview High, won't ever talk about any of them again. He dies 24 hours before he could post their deepest secrets online. Investigators conclude it's no accident. All of them are suspects. Everyone has secrets, right?



## Ness, Patrick

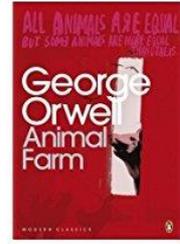
### **Chaos Walking series** (Genre – Dystopian novel) (JF)

Prentisstown isn't like other towns. Everyone can hear everyone else's thoughts in a constant, overwhelming Noise. There is no privacy. There are no secrets. Then Todd Hewitt unexpectedly stumbles on a spot of complete silence. Which is impossible. And now he's going to have to run...

## Orwell, George

### **Animal Farm** (Genre – Dystopian novel) (AF)

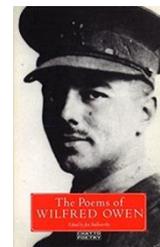
When the downtrodden animals of Manor Farm overthrow their master Mr Jones and take over the farm themselves, they imagine it is the beginning of a life of freedom and equality. But gradually a cunning, ruthless élite among them, masterminded by the pigs Napoleon and Snowball, starts to take control. Soon the other animals discover that they are not all as equal as they thought, and find themselves hopelessly ensnared as one form of tyranny is replaced with another.



## Owen, Wilfred

### **The Poems of Wilfred Owen** (Genre – Poetry) (821 OWE)

This is the definitive single-volume edition of the work of the greatest poet of the First World War, whose death in battle a few days before Armistice was the most disastrous loss to English letters since Keats.



## Pratchett, Terry

### **The Discworld series** (Genre – Fantasy) (AF)

Somewhere on the frontier between thought and reality exists the Discworld, a parallel time and place which might sound and smell very much like our own, but which looks completely different. Particularly as it's carried though space on the back of a giant turtle (sex unknown). It plays by different rules.

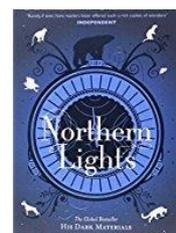


But then, some things are the same everywhere. The Disc's very existence is about to be threatened by a strange new blight: the world's first tourist, upon whose survival rests the peace and prosperity of the land. Unfortunately, the person charged with maintaining that survival in the face of robbers, mercenaries and, well, Death, is a spectacularly inept wizard...

## Pullman, Philip

### **His Dark Materials Trilogy** (Genre – Fantasy) (JF)

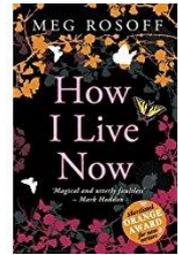
"Without this child, we shall all die." Lyra Belacqua and her animal daemon live half-wild and carefree among scholars of Jordan College, Oxford. The destiny that awaits her will take her to the frozen lands of the Arctic, where witch-clans reign and ice-bears fight. Her extraordinary journey will have immeasurable consequences far beyond her own world...



## Rosoff, Meg

### **How I Live Now** (Genre – Teen Issues) (JF)

*How I Live Now* is the powerful and engaging story of Daisy, the precocious New Yorker and her English cousin Edmond, torn apart as war breaks out in London. Fifteen-year-old Daisy thinks she knows all about love. Her mother died giving birth to her, and now her dad has sent her away for the summer, to live in the English countryside with cousins she's never even met. There she'll discover what real love is: something violent, mysterious and wonderful. There her world will be turned upside down and a perfect summer will explode into a million bewildering pieces.

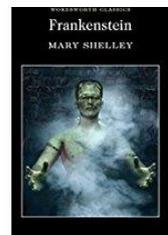


How will Daisy live then?

## Shelley, Mary

### **Frankenstein (or, the Modern Prometheus)** (Genre – Classic) (AF)

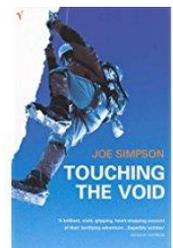
Obsessed with the idea of creating life itself, Victor Frankenstein plunders graveyards for the material with which to fashion a new being, shocking his creation to life with electricity. But this botched creature, rejected by its creator and denied human companionship, sets out to destroy Frankenstein and all that he holds dear.



## Simpson, Joe

### **Touching the Void** (Genre – Sporting Biography) (796.522)

*Touching the Void* is the heart-stopping account of Joe Simpson's terrifying adventure in the Peruvian Andes. He and his climbing partner, Simon, reached the the summit of the remote Siula Grande in June 1995. A few days later, Simon staggered into Base Camp, exhausted and frost-bitten, with news that that Joe was dead.

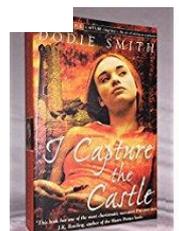


What happened to Joe, and how the pair dealt with the psychological traumas that resulted when Simon was forced into the appalling decision to cut the rope, makes not only an epic of survival but a compelling testament of friendship.

## Smith, Dodie

### **I Capture the Castle** (Genre – Classic) (JF)

'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 fadingly glamorous stepmother, Topaz, her little brother Thomas and her eccentric novelist father who suffers from a financially crippling writer's block.

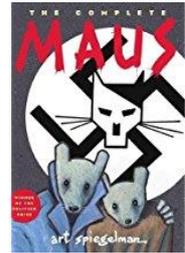


However, all their lives are turned upside down when the American heirs to the castle arrive and Cassandra finds herself falling in love for the first time.

## Spiegelman, Art

**Maus** (Genre – War) (Graphic novels)

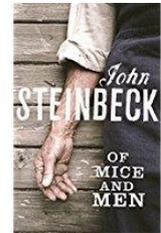
*Maus* tells the story of Vladek Spiegelman, a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe, and his son, a cartoonist coming to terms with his father's story. *Maus* approaches the unspeakable through the diminutive. Its form, the cartoon (the Nazis are cats, the Jews mice), shocks us out of any lingering sense of familiarity and succeeds in 'drawing us closer to the bleak heart of the Holocaust' (*The New York Times*).



## Steinbeck, John

**Of Mice and Men** (Genre – Classic) (AF)

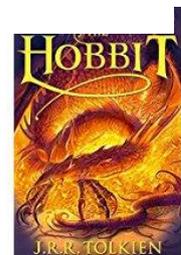
Drifters in search of work, George and his childlike friend Lennie, have nothing in the world except the clothes on their back - and a dream that one day they will have some land of their own. Eventually they find work on a ranch in California's Salinas Valley, but their hopes are dashed as Lennie - struggling against extreme cruelty, misunderstanding and feelings of jealousy - becomes a victim of his own strength.



## Tolkien, J.R.R.

**The Hobbit** (Genre – Fantasy) (JF)

Bilbo Baggins enjoys a quiet and contented life, with no desire to travel far from the comforts of home; then one day the wizard Gandalf and a band of dwarves arrive unexpectedly and enlist his services – as a burglar – on a dangerous expedition to raid the treasure-hoard of Smaug the dragon. Bilbo's life is never to be the same again.

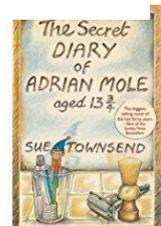


## Townsend, Sue

**The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Aged 13 ¾** (Genre – Teen Issues) (JF)

### Tuesday January 1st

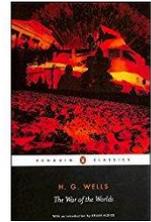
Bank Holiday in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. These are my New Year's resolutions: 1. I will help the blind across the road; 2. I will hang my trousers up; 3. I will put the sleeves back on my records; 4. I will not start smoking; 5. I will stop squeezing my spots; 6. I will be kind to the dog; 7. I will help the poor and ignorant; 8. After hearing the disgusting noises from downstairs last night. I have also vowed never to drink alcohol . . .



## Wells, H.G.

### **The War of the Worlds** (Genre – Sci-Fi) (AF)

When a strange, meteor-like object lands in the heart of England, the inhabitants of Earth find themselves victims of a terrible attack. A ruthless race of Martians, armed with heat rays and poisonous smoke, is intent on destroying everything that stands in its way. As the unnamed hero struggles to find his way across decimated wastelands, the fate of the planet hangs in the balance . . .



## Westerfeld, Scott

### **Uglies series** (Genre – Dystopian novel) (JF)

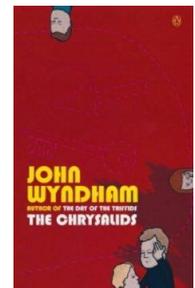
Tally can't wait to turn sixteen and become Pretty. Sixteen is the magic number that brings a transformation from a repellent Ugly into a stunningly attractive Pretty, and catapults you into a high-tech paradise where your only job is to have a really great time. In just a few weeks, Tally will be there. But Tally's new friend, Shay, isn't sure she wants to be Pretty. She'd rather risk life on the outside. When Shay runs away, Tally learns about a whole new side of the Pretty world - and it isn't very pretty. The authorities offer Tally the worse choice she can imagine: find her friend and turn her in, or never turn Pretty at all. The choice Tally makes changes her world forever.



## Wyndham, John

### **The Chrysalids** (Genre – Sci-Fi) (AF)

It is many years since God sent the Tribulation to punish the forebears for their sins, and in the rural settlement of Waknuk David Storm's father decries any and all blasphemies against nature. Little does he realise that David and his cousin Rosalind, have their own secret aberration which would label them as mutants. But as they grow older it becomes more difficult to conceal their differences from the village elders. Soon they face a choice: wait for eventual discovery, or flee to the terrifying and mutable Badlands. . .



## Yoon, Nicola

### **Everything, Everything** (Genre – Teen Issues) (JF)

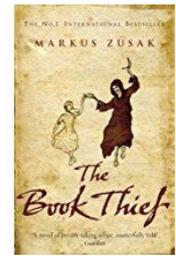
Maddy is allergic to the world; stepping outside the sterile sanctuary of her home could kill her. But then Olly moves in next door. And just like that, Maddy realizes there's more to life than just being alive. You only get one chance at first love. And Maddy is ready to risk everything, *everything* to see where it leads.



## Zusak, Marcus

### **The Book Thief** (Genre – Historical) (JF)

1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier. Liesel, a nine-year-old girl, is living with a foster family on Himmel Street. Her parents have been taken away to a concentration camp. Liesel steals books. This is her story and the story of the inhabitants of her street when the bombs begin to fall.



So there you have it – books from A-Z, lots of different writing styles, genres and lengths. The choice is up to you... Happy reading!