



Year 8 Reading List

All these book suggestions are available in the library. If you enjoy an author read other books they have written but don't be afraid to try other genres. The more you read the more you will enjoy it!

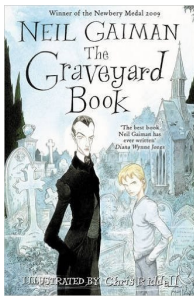


Wonder

RJ Palacio

"I won't describe what I look like. Whatever you're thinking, it's probably worse."

Wonder is an inspiring and uplifting tale of August Pullman, a boy born with a facial deformity who dreams of being 'ordinary'. After being home-schooled by his parents he's now being sent to a real school. Can he convince his new classmates that he's just like them, underneath it all?

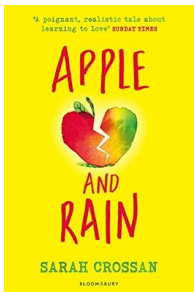


The Graveyard Book

Neil Gaiman

After escaping from a murderer intent on killing all his family, Bod finds safety in the local graveyard. He has an eccentric childhood being bought up by the resident ghosts and ghouls. But the murderer is still looking for him....

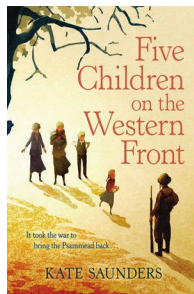
Prize winning book full of macabre thrills and suspense.



Apple and Rain

Sarah Crossan

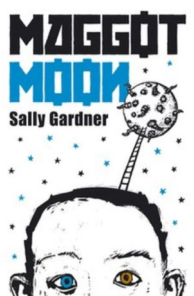
When Apple's mother returns after eleven years of absence she is sure her life will be good again. But Apple discovers that what you wish for may not be what you really want. A beautifully written story about an unhappy and complicated family. Will appeal to readers moving on from Jacqueline Wilson and Cathy Cassidy.



Five Children on the Western Front

Kate Saunders

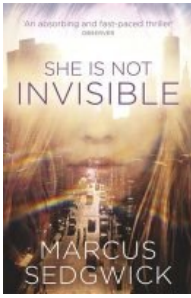
Inspired by E. Nesbit's classic *Five Children and It* and set on the eve of the First World War. The Children are now grown up and Cyril and Robert are about to go to war. A magical story tackling the themes of love, family and friendship set against the horrors of WW1 that can be enjoyed even without reading the original stories.



Maggot Moon

Sally Gardner

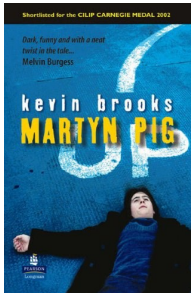
Dyslexic Standish Treadwell and Gramps live under the brutal regime of the Motherland set in an alternative 1950s Britain. Standish, a victim of relentless bullying, has to find the courage and strength to help his friend Hector when he goes missing. A very original story of friendship and rebellion.



She is not invisible

Marcus Sedgewick

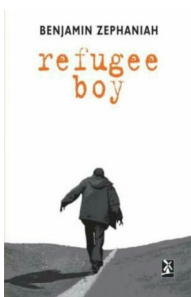
Marcus Sedgewick explores obsession, trust and coincidence in this page-turning thriller about 16 year old Laureth's transatlantic adventure to find her missing father. Laureth is blind so she has to take her gifted 7 year old brother Ben as a guide. The children unravel the mysteries of coincidence as they solve the puzzle behind their father's disappearance. Smart and brilliant.



Martyn Pig

Kevin Brooks

Martyn hates his father – and he has good reasons to do so – but he never meant to kill him. But there's a body to be got rid off and a story to tell. Martyn finds keeping up the stories gets more and more difficult as the lies get crazier. A black comedy full of twists and turns.



Refugee Boy

Benjamin Zephaniah

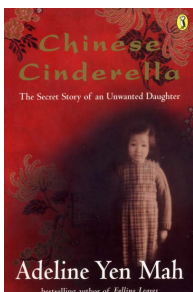
Alem, the son of an Ethiopian father and Eritrean mother, is left alone in London, his fate resting in the hands of the Refugee Council and the British justice system. This story charts Alem's fate as he is moved from children's home to foster family, and in and out of court hearings. Reading this book opens your eyes into the world of refugees.



Skulduggery Pleasant

Derek Landy

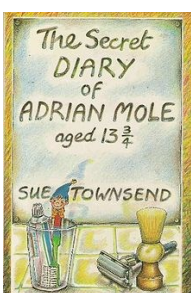
Meet Skulduggery Pleasant: wise-cracking detective, powerful magician, master of dirty tricks and burglary - and dead. Together with his side-kick, 12 year old Stephanie they set out to discover the mystery surrounding a sudden death. The first book of a very funny and successful series.



Chinese Cinderella

Adeline Yen Mah

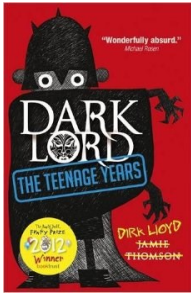
An autobiographical story of triumph over adversity. The author, living in Communist China, was despised by her family because she was believed to be the cause of her mother's death. Despite suffering great hardship during her childhood from her uncaring father and cruel stepmother she uses her intelligence and strength of character to escape from her background.



The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, aged 13¾

Sue Townsend

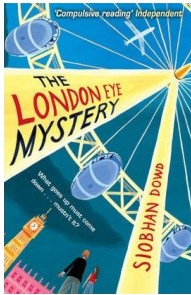
At thirteen years old, Adrian Mole has more than his fair share of problems - spots, ill-health, parents threatening to divorce, rejection of his poetry and much more - all recorded with brilliant humour in his diary. Most teenagers will identify with something in his diaries.



Dark Lord: the Teenage Years

Jamie Thomson

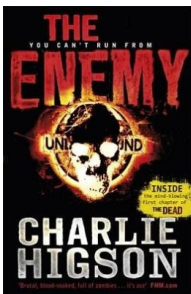
Thirteen-year-old schoolboy, Dirk Lloyd, has a dark secret. He believes he's the Dark Lord reincarnated trapped in a puny schoolboy body; that he must survive the drudgery of life on earth as we know it whilst at the same time find a way of returning to his homeland. Funny, utterly silly and very enjoyable, the perfect book for computer games-obsessed boys.



The London Eye Mystery

Siobhan Dowd

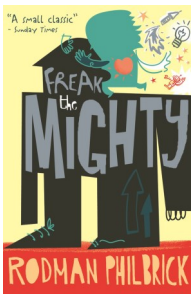
When Ted and Kat watched their cousin Salim get on board the London Eye, he turned and waved before getting on. But after half an hour it landed and everyone trooped off - and no Salim. Where could he have gone? How on earth could he have disappeared into thin air? Even the police are baffled - so it's up to Ted, whose brain runs on its own unique operating system, to solve this mystery and find Salim.



The enemy

Charlie Higson

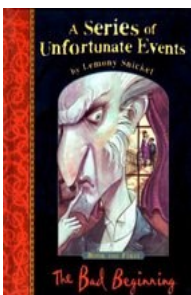
When the sickness came, every parent, police officer, politician - every adult fell ill. The lucky ones died. The others are crazed, confused and hungry. Only children under fourteen remain, and they're fighting to survive. *The Enemy* is the first book in a terrifying zombie horror series.



Freak the Mighty

Rodman Philbrick

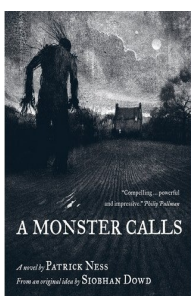
Maxwell Kane is feared and bullied because of his mental slowness and enormous size. Kevin is smart, quirky and funny with insatiable curiosity and zest for life but he suffers from a rare genetic condition, which inhibits the growth of his body. Yet the combination of Kevin and Maxwell is formidable, when together they become Freak the Mighty. Optimistic and funny story about an unlikely friendship.



The Bad Beginning (A Series of Unfortunate Events)

Lemony Snicket

Violet, Sunny and Klaus are three intelligent, charming and resourceful children but they suffer some very bad luck indeed when their parents die in a fire that destroys their home and they are packed off to live with their nasty relative, Count Olaf. Their woeful and wretched story is told in this bestselling darkly comic series.



A Monster Calls

Patrick Ness

Conor has the same dream every night, ever since his mother first fell ill. But tonight is different. Tonight, when he wakes, there's a visitor at his window. It's ancient, elemental, a force of nature. And it wants the most dangerous thing of all from Conor. It wants the truth.