# What We're Reading At CHHS Jan Mear 7

The Light Jar by Lisa Thompson
In the dead of night, Nate and his
Mum run away to a cottage in the
middle of the forest. Comfort
comes from the most unexpected
places, when his Mum goes out and
never comes back the mystery
starts.

Eesa

Alex

Outlaw Platoon by Sean Parnell It's a true story of a platoon commander, and them fighting the Taliban in the mountains between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

### Future Friend by David Baddiel

A girl called Pip, who lives in 3020, finds a portal in her house. She decides to go through it and ends up stuck in 2019.

Charlotte

#### Crater Lake by Jennifer Killick

The book is about extra-terrestrials haunting a school residential, planning to take over the Earth. **Sonny** 

### Goodnight Mister Tom by Michelle Magorian

A story about a boy who is evacuated at the outbreak of WW2.

Harri

### The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Aged 13 ¾ by Sue Townsend

It's a diary of an almost-14-year-old boy who has a funny and confusing life!

Henry

The Explorer by Katherine Rundell It's about 4 children who got in a plane crash and had to survive in the Amazon Rainforest by themselves.

Aoife

#### **Distortion** by Victor Dixen

After a speed dating show that is out of this world, these people will be the first people to colonise on Mars. But they don't realise they are also victims of a cruel plot...

Mason

#### His Dark Materials by Philip Pullman

Lyra Belacqua and her animal daemon live, young and carefree, among the scholars of Jordan college. But her destiny will take her to the frozen lands of the Artic.

Yvie

### Rose, Interrupted by Patrice Lawrence

A seventeen year old girl called Rose and her thirteen year old brother, Rudder, have escaped a strict religious sect.

Alsahraa

### Faster Than Lightning: My Story by Usain Bolt

An autobiography about his life and his stages of becoming an athlete.

Grace

#### **Grave Matter by Juno Dawson**

A girl has died in a car crash and her boyfriend brings her back to life. However, the consequence is that his mum also gets ill...

Maddy

#### **Proud**, compiled by Juno Dawsons

It's a book written by multiple LGBTQ+ authors about their struggles with their identity. As a person who BARELY reads, I love this book.

**Bonnie** 

### Alex Rider: Eagle Strike by Anthony Horowitz

It's about a schoolboy working for MI6. This time he is on his fourth mission trying to take down billionaire Damian Cray along with a terrible revelation about his father... **Dior** 

#### The Haven by Simon Lelic

There is a secret organisation under London run by children; they go on a journey to catch a criminal that wants to take over London.

Mali

#### The Cry of the Icemark by Stuart Hill

Thirteen-year-old princess Thirrin Freer Strong-in-the-Arm Lindenshield, Wildcat of the north, must fight to save her small Viking home, the Icemark, from the invading Polypontian Empire. **Effie** 

#### **Gone** by Michael Grant

The book is about a barrier that surrounds a small village and makes anyone over the age of 14 disappear.

#### The Reptile Room: A Series of Unfortunate Events by Lemony Snicket

The Baudelaire children have moved on to their next guardian but the evil Count Olaf has followed them again.

Erica

### The War of Jenkins' Ear by Michael Morpurgo

A new boy, Simon Christopher, comes to Redlands School. Stubborn and independent, yet a peacemaker, Simon stands up to the headmaster, teachers, the star rugby player, and everyone else.

Zach

### Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena by Rick Riordan

7 demigods (half god, half human) go on a quest led by Percy Jackson, son of Poseidon, god of the sea. Monsters are rising because the door of death is broken. Will they fix it before it's too late?

Aidan

The Queen of Sparta by T.S. Chaudry It's history but with a twist!

Arham

# What We're Reading At CHHS July Year 8

## The Million Pieces of Neena Gill by Emma Smith-Barton

It is about a girl who lost her brother and her family are discovering ways to live with the pain. She is slowly falling apart and uncovering a new version of herself.

**Emily** 

Bryn

#### Billionaire Boy by David Walliams It is about a boy who gets rich by making a new type of toilet paper.

### The Knife of Never Letting Go by Patrick Ness

It is about a boy who is one month away from becoming a man, but he is the only boy in town. He can hear everything that the men say however the men have been keeping secrets that might make him want to run.

Sean

### The Frozen Sea by Piers Torday

It is set in a magical world where a girl is trying to save her Auntie. She also has a pet hamster that talks.

#### Hannah

### Spring-Heeled Jack by Philip Pullman

It is about one of the first urban legends about a mysterious man in Victorian England with spring heeled shoes to leap tall buildings, fighting crime and striking fear into evil doers.

Daniel

### Young Sherlock: Knife Edge by Andrew Lane

Young Sherlock is in the West of Ireland. But it's no holiday. His brother, Mycroft, is there to investigate a psychic who says he can communicate with dead spies and who is offering his services to the highest bidder.

Fred

#### The Planets by Andrew Cohen

This book is about the history of our solar system.

Ben

### The Lord of the Rings Trilogy by J. R. R. Tolkien

An unlikely hero. A perilous quest. The greatest adventure ever told.

### The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse by Charlie Mackery

The boy is full of questions, the mole is greedy, the fox is silent because he's been hurt by life and the horse is the biggest thing they've encountered but also the kindest.

Ella

### The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Q. Rauf

A story about a refugee that moves to an English school. Unable to speak the language, will he be able to find his parents?

Ben

#### Lord of the Flies by William Golding

A bunch of kids are trapped on an island. They either need to adapt, or escape.

Aston

#### Children of Winter by Berlie Doherty

Three children are forced to shelter from a storm in an old barn, and they are taken back in their minds to when three children sheltered there a long time ago...

Megan

#### Cirque Du Freak by Darren Shan

It's a twisted horror that will really keep you on the edge of your seat!

### Brief Answers to the Big Questions by Stephen Hawking

Delve down into the answers to many questions, answered by one of the greatest astro-physicists.

**James** 

### Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman

It is about apartheid in the past, however the roles are reversed. Also, some people are in an organisation called Liberation militia, which is trying to get more power for the oppressed. And then a mall is bombed...

Zach

#### A Town Like Alice by Nevil Shute

It's about a group of women in the war in Malaysia, who were captured and taken into custody by Japanese troops.

Annabel

#### Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

It's about 4 sisters called Jo, Amy, Meg and Beth and is a story of how they become adults.

**Emma** 

#### **Divergent** by Veronica Roth

It's about a future version of Chicago and everybody has to fit into certain groups of society, but the girl who it's about doesn't fit.

Nell

#### The Year After You by Nina de Pass

Up in the alps, there is a girl named Cara, whose old life feels a million miles away. Nobody at Hope Hall knows her past. With secrets to keep, will Cara allow herself the chance to live again?

Ruby

#### My Sister Jodie by Jacqueline Wilson

Pearl and Jodie are sisters. When the school firework night comes around and a tragic event occurs, Pearl realizes just how much she does need her big sister...

Olivia

#### Viking Tales by Terry Deary

The history of the Vikings, with a little humour thrown in.

Asher

#### Behind the Mask by Tyson Fury

It is about his rollercoaster journey from heavyweight champion of the world to the brink of suicide then to becoming the heavyweight champion of the world once more.

Matthew

#### Russian Roulette by Anthony Horowitz

It is about a Russian assassin before he became an assassin.

James

#### A Good Girl's Guide to Murder by Holly Jackson

It is about a girl called Pippa who lives in a small town where a murder took place. Pippa goes on a journey trying to find out what really happened which leads to some gruesome truths.

Keira

#### One Of Us Is Lying by Karen M. **McManus**

It is about 5 high schoolers getting detention, but only 4 of them leave.

Katie

#### Watership Down by Richard **Adams**

It is about the life of rabbits and their take on the world around them.

Thea

#### Liberation Day by Andy McNab It is about a spy who has to go on an operation against terrorists who are planning a terrorist attack in

the US. Sam

### A Clash of Kings by George R. R.

One of the 'A Song Of Ice and Fire' books. It is about a Civil War in the continent of Westeros.

Euan

### The Demolished Man by Alfred

In a world in which the police have telepathic powers, how do you get away with murder? Jake

#### Ink by Alice Broadway

Set in a society where everything about you and everything you have done is represented by a tattoo on your body. However there is a rebellion from "the blanks."

#### Me by Elton John

Honor

It's about his life story and how he came to be the great musician he is. Millie

#### When I Was Joe by Keren David

A 14 year old boy's life is changed when his friend is killed and he needs a new identity.

Sam

#### The Witcher: The Last Wish by Andrzej Sapkowski

The first book of The Witcher series. It's set in a world of fantasy where lots of different types of monsters roam the world.

Riyad

#### The Martian by Andy Weir

A mission to Mars becomes a fight for survival when a man is left behind and is believed to be dead.

Joseph

#### Ruby Redfort: Look Into My Eyes by Lauren Child

Ruby's life changes when she is asked to join a secret agency.

Eleanor

#### Swallows and Amazons by Arthur Ransome

Four children are overjoyed when they are finally are given permission to camp on their own island, but then they discover that they are not alone...

Libby

#### The Snowglobe by Amy Wilson

A young girl who discovers a house full of swirling snowglobes is drawn to their magic, until she finds one of her friends trapped inside one and she has to take a journey through different worlds to set him free. Fllie

#### Horrible Histories: Rotten Rulers by Terry Deary

I recommend it to anyone who likes history - the book is all about the rotten rulers of history.

Jacob

#### Legendborn by Tracy Deon

After her mother dies, 16-year-old Bree wants to escape. The residential programme for bright high schoolers seems perfect until she witnesses something she shouldn't.

Paige

#### The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

It's about the aftermath of a shooting in America by a white police officer. Lola

## The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne

It's about a Jewish girl from Germany who writes about her life leading up to the war and during it.

Scarlet

#### **Doll Bones** by Holly Black

It's about a haunted doll which haunts 3 young friends and forces them to embark on a long journey.

Abdul-Bassit

#### Dracula by Bram Stoker

Jonathan Harker goes on a business trip to Dracula's ancient castle in Romania. He soon realises it might not just be a business trip, but a fight for survival against this sinister foe.

# What We're Reading At CHHS July Year 10

#### The Other People by C.J. Tudor

It is about a man's daughter who no one else believes is still alive. One night, the father is driving home and he sees his little girl's face in another car and she mouths one word: "daddy."

#### **Emily**

#### The Selection by Keira Cass

It is about 35 girls and a prince who has to choose one princess out of all of them.

#### Alicia

#### The Star Outside My Window by Onjali Q. Rauf

It's about a girl whose mum died and she believes people who have died become stars, so she goes to the observatory to name her mum's star.

#### Prerna

#### Glass Houses by Rachel Caine

The first novel in the Morganville Vampires series. College freshman Claire has had enough of her dorm, so she finds a new room in an imposing old house...

#### Mia

#### The Hunt for Red October by Tom Clancy

It's about Russians trying to attack America with an attack submarine which goes missing out at sea.

#### Daniel

#### After by Anna Todd

Tessa goes to college and she meets this boy, Hardin, and they fight a lot but she soon realises she likes him. It's basically their story of them falling in love.

#### Olivia

#### Divine Madness by Robert Muchamore

Teenage spies who go on missions! Sergio

#### Becoming A Son by David Labrava

An autobiography about how an actor went from crime and homelessness to turning his life around.

#### Keane

Leah

#### The Family Upstairs by Lisa Jewell

Three different families are linked to three bodies found in a house...

#### Thunderhead by Neal Shusterman

About a futuristic city where all diseases are gone and the only way to die is to be gleaned by a scythe.

#### Six of Crows by Leigh Bardugo

Six outcast criminals try to pull off an impossible heist without killing each other in the process.

#### Ella

#### Listen to the Moon by Michael Morpurgo

A girl doesn't remember who she is and people try to get her memories back after her ship sank.

#### Joe

#### The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time by Mark Haddon

This novel is about a teenager with Asperger's trying to figure out the murder of his neighbour's dog.

#### Naomi

### A Court of Thorns and Roses by Sarah

#### J. Maas

A hunter murders a faerie and is brought into Pythian.

#### Palak

#### The Hunger Games: Mockingjay by **Suzanne Collins**

A dystopian, futuristic story about defying and destroying the corrupt capitol.

#### Charlotte

#### Atonement by Ian McEwan

The novel explore an upper-class girl's half-innocent mistake that ruins lives, her adulthood in the shadow of that mistake, and a reflection on the nature of writing.

#### Phoebe

#### Follow Me Back by Nicci Cloke

A girl goes missing after messaging strangers on the internet.

#### Molly

Ed

#### Let Me Off At the Top by Ron **Burgundy**

Fictional biography from the main character in the Anchorman film.

### Five Feet Apart by Rachael Lippincott

Two young people are in hospital with cystic fibrosis. They must stay 6 feet apart at all times, but then they fall in love.

#### Annelie

#### The Fever Code by James Dashner

Prequel to the Maze Runner series, explaining Thomas and Teresa's life before they entered the maze.

#### Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng

It's about two families who end up meeting and one mother is trying to uncover the past of the other mother.

#### Eleana

#### Angels and Demons by Dan Brown

The fall of religion and the science that disproves, but also saves, it.

#### Invisible in a Bright Light by Sally Gardner

About a galleon that splinters into a thousand pieces, a girl abandoned as a baby on the steps of an opera house and a dangerous game called the Reckoning.

#### Lydia

#### **Promised Neverland** by Kaiu Shirai

A Japanese manga series. Some children have been taken to houses as orphans. However, they were brainwashed to think they were orphans, and a massive truth lays beyond the lies.

#### Sameer

#### Street Child by Berlie Doherty

With his mother dead and being poor, he is forced to go to the Workhouse. He hates it and wishes he could escape, but how?

#### Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them (the original screenplay) by J.K Rowling

Explorer and Magizoologist Newt Scamander has done a round the world trip searching for rare creatures. Arriving in New York, he intends his stay to be brief. But when his case is misplaced and some fantastic beasts escape into the city it creates trouble for everyone.

#### Nicole

#### Killing Stalking by Koogi

A South Korean manhwa. It's about a guy, Yoonbum, who was mentally unwell, with a difficult past. He falls in love with someone called Sangwoo. But Yoongbum uncovers a killer secret...

#### Hawra

#### After Tomorrow by Gillian Cross

In a dystopian world where England is uninhabitable, a family travel across the channel to France and learn to survive in a refugee camp. **Flora** 

### The Magic Faraway Tree by Enid Blyton

Where three kids discover a tree in the enchanted forest, they go on several adventures at the top of the tree.

#### Aimee

## Humble Pi: A Comedy of Mathematical Errors by Matt Parker

The title sums it up really... Jason

### The Quiet at the End of the World by Lauren James

Two teenagers are going to be the only two people on earth within the next 10 years.

#### Lois

#### Perfect by Rachel Joyce

The time supposedly changing by 2 seconds somehow links two completely separate lives. *Lily* 

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#### More Than This by Patrick Ness

It's about a boy who has died and wakes up in his old house but the whole world is abandoned. He has to figure out what has happened.

#### 1984 by George Orwell

It's about a dystopian world where Big Brother is always watching and it follows Winston Smith, who works for the government and rewrites history. **Daniel** 

#### **Back Story** by David Mitchell

An autobiography by the British comedian, actor and writer. **Amelie** 

#### How To by Randall Munroe

Absurd scientific advice for common real world problems. AKA- how to perform everyday tasks such as jumping very high, destroying a drone using sports equipment, or powering your house on Mars, in the best (read: worst) way possible.

#### Joseph

### Girl, Woman, Other by Bernardine Evaristo

The story follows twelve very different characters on an entwined journey that discusses themes of race, sexuality and politics in Britain.

#### Marie-Anna

#### A Skinful of Shadows by Frances Hardinge

A story about a family during the war between parliament and the king who can be possessed by ghosts. Their lives are affected from unwanted possessions and old ancestors trying to take over their bodies.

#### Arryan

### The Devil All the Time by Donald Ray Pollock

It's set in the south of the US in the 60s and follows a few different characters. Includes murder and sacrifice.

#### Phoebe

#### Frankenstein by Mary Shelley

A scientist builds a monster in the attic of his boarding house but is disgusted by his creation and flees. The monster wanders through wilderness and eventually seeks revenge...

#### Ruby

### The Turn of the Screw by Henry James

It's about a governess who's caring for two children at a remote estate but the grounds are haunted. **Holly** 

#### **Breathe** by Sarah Crossan

A dystopian book where the last of humanity live in a dome and oxygen is in short supply. It's told from multiple perspectives as a group of teenagers venture out into the world and discover revealing secrets...

#### Flora

## What We're Reading At CHHS Sixth Form

#### **Beautiful Boy by David Sheff**

Brilliant story about a young addict but it is told from his father's perspective.

Steph

### And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie

Ten people are invited to an island and it soon becomes clear that their mysterious host's intent is not to be hospitable...

Katie

#### **Maurice** by EM Forster

This is about an upper middle class man called Maurice Hall trying to come to terms with his homosexuality in England in a pre-WW1 society and the struggles he faces.

Daisy

#### Inferno by Dan Brown

Robert Langdon wakes up in a hospital, not knowing how he got there, or why there are people who want to kill him.

Jennifer

#### Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn

It's about the mysterious disappearance of Nick Dunne's wife, Amy Dunne.

Tia

#### Apt Pupil by Stephen King

It's really dark and about a boy who seems like a really sweet, typical 'American' boy. He finds a Nazi who escaped persecution and starts blackmailing him...

Stella

#### Red Dragon by Thomas Harris

It is a novel about a retired detective who is pulled in to track down the elusive serial killer - the Red Dragon - with the help of Hannibal Lector.

Callum

#### **Trainspotting** by Irvine Welsh

Short stories set in the late 1980s about a group of friends who suffer from addiction.

Tyler

#### **Dune** by Frank Herbert

A young noble called Paul has to survive in the deserts of the planet Arrakis after his family was betrayed. Jayden

#### Chronicles by Bob Dylan

Non-fiction recount of Bob Dylan's experience in Greenwich Village, New York in the early 60s and his experience making the albums "Oh Mercy" and "New Morning."

### Call Me By Your Name by Andre Aciman

A young boy meets an older man in an idyllic setting in Italy and they begin a romance.

Jess

### The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy

Rahel and Estha are twins living in India in 1969. The story flicks between their childhood together, before a mysterious event wrecks their lives, and a time when they are adults and have been reunited.

Maeve

#### Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

A smart girl and a man with crippling social anxiety try to navigate a relationship despite him literally insulting her by accident at every important moment.

Laura

#### The Sun and Her Flowers by Rupi Kaur

A collection of poetry. A reflection on other people's experiences and feelings. It made me appreciate how little I have gone through compared to others.

Millie

### The Second Sex by Simone DeBeauvoir

I can only read a couple pages at a time - it's pretty dense and more biological than what I was expecting! But also very eye opening in showing how feminism has progressed since it was written in 1946.

Lucy

### They Both Die At The End by Adam Silvera

Focuses on two teenage boys, Rufus and Mateo, who discover that they only have one day to live. **Lois** 

#### The Lingering by SJI Holiday

A couple moves to a village, living in a former psychiatric home haunted by witches who are seeking retribution. **Sherazam** 

### **Doughnut Economics** by Kate Raworth

This book essentially redefines traditional economic theory and points out its fundamental flaws.

Fred

#### **Eve Was Framed** by Helena Kennedy

A critique of the treatment of women in the justice system (and in the legal profession as a whole)

Kyra

#### Our House by Louise Candlish

A separated couple share a house and take turns living with the children. One day, Fi returns home to find the house has been sold and her ex husband has disappeared. **Mia** 

#### The Last Act by Brad Parks

An actor gets sent to prison by the FBI to help pull apart a drug cartel.

#### Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte

The story of an orphan who gets a job as a governess for a rich family with a dark past, which Jane accidentally uncovers

Amelia



#### Throne of Glass by Sarah J Maas

What if Cinderella was an assassin? And what if she went to the ball to kill the Prince, as opposed to marrying him?

Mrs Barnes (English)

### The Bee Keeper of Aleppo by Christy Lefteri

This book follows the long journey of a man called Nuri and his family escaping the war that ripped through their home, city and country - and destroyed their bees. Miss Green (MFL), Mrs Beresford (PSHE) and Mrs Horsfield (Science)

## The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse by Charlie Mackesy

It's about kindness and finding positives, a great help to look through right now.

Dr. Martin (Physics)

## The Body - A Guide for Occupants by Bill Bryson

A non-fiction book filled with amazing facts about every part of the human body, from head to toe. *Miss Lucas (MFL)* 

#### Steve Jobs by Walter Isaacson

The life and times of Steve Jobs, the creator of Apple.

Mr Preston (PE)

#### **Untamed** by Glennon Doyle

A non-fiction memoir, recommended by the likes of Adele and Oprah, that is all about letting go of the world's expectations for you and instead, finding your true voice and self.

Miss McGowan (English)

### The Call of the Wild by Jack London

A fantastic short novel following the adventures of a dog called Buck as a sled dog in the wilderness of the Yukon Territories, Canada. **Mr Colwill (Maths)** 

#### A Fistful of Shells by Toby Green

500 years ago, West Africa was one of the most wealthy and powerful places on earth, and it transformed the modern world we live in today... **Dr. Dickins (History)** 

#### I am Pilgrim by Terry Hayes

Told from the perspective of the leader of an espionage unit for US intelligence, this thriller tries to solve the 'text book' murder of a woman whose identity was erased by the bath of acid she was found face down in. Our narrator wrote the book.

Mrs Muldoon and Miss Milosevic (English)

#### Lethal White by Robert Galbraith

The fourth book in the series about ex-army veteran turned private investigator Cormoran Strike and his newly formed partnership with Robin, each book focusing on a different investigation.

Ms Taylor (Admin)

### Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman

A group of pensioners living in a retirement village investigate the murder of two local men. Delightful characters and some poignant scenes...with an inevitable twist...

Mrs Booth (SEN), Mr Cordrey (Physics) and Ms Eagar (Drama)

Why does asparagus make your wee smell? And 57 other curious food and drink questions by Andy Brunning Everyday chemistry!

Ms Campbell (Science)

#### Black and British by David Olusoga

An exploration of the relationship between Africa and Britain over time, this book confronts taboos and misconceptions in describing the presence of Black Britons since Roman times.

Mrs Brooks (MFL/Deputy Head)

#### Black Klansman: Race, Hate and the Undercover Operation of a Lifetime by Ron Stallworth

Ron Stallworth was the first African American Detective in the Colorado Springs Police Department. In 1978 he set up an undercover investigation into the activities of the Ku Klux Klan in his town and set about infiltrating the organisation.

Miss Carney (Music)

#### Atrapados por la lengua by Sheila Queralt

Sheila Queralt is one of the leading forensic linguists in Spain. In this book she talks about 50 cases in which forensic linguistics was used to solve crimes.

Miss Aquilar (SEN/MFL)

#### **Animal Farm** by George Orwell

A group of animals plot to take over their farm and remove the farmer in search of a better life, but all does not work out as they hoped.

Dr Garraway (Science)

#### How to Stop Time by Matt Haig

A love story across the ages - and for the ages - about a man lost in time, the woman who could save him, and the lifetimes it can take to learn how to live.

Mr Lettice (English)

#### *Troy* by Stephen Fry

It is an account of the Trojan war; the catalyst, history and the battle itself. It is a fictional account of the role of men and of the interventions of the Greek Gods and which of them took each side.

Mrs Thompson (MFL)

#### Jurassic Park by Michael Crichton

Before the film was the much better book - it details the collapse of a theme park that just happens to have genetically modified dinosaurs...

Mr Boden and Mr Isgar (Geography)



#### A Song for the Dark Times by Ian Rankin

The twenty-fourth novel in the 'Inspector Rebus' series (I have read them all!) involves two seemingly unconnected murders: one in Edinburgh and one in the far north of Scotland.

Mr Rath (Maths) and Mr Brown (Head of School)

### Testament of Youth by Vera Brittain

It is based on the true story and WW1 memoirs of Vera Brittain. It is a powerful coming of age story which tackles love, war, loss and remembrance.

Mrs Irvine (Food & Nutrition)

#### Wool by Hugh Howey

It's a post-apocalyptic novel set in a near-future where humanity has been forced into an underground silo.

Ms Victoria (Media/English)

#### The Evening and The Morning by Ken Follett

It is 997 CE, the end of the Dark Ages, and England faces attacks from the Welsh in the west and the Vikings in the east. Life is hard, and those with power wield it harshly, bending justice according to their will...

Miss Dobie (Geography)

#### Bloody Brilliant Women: The Pioneers, Revolutionaries and Geniuses Your History Teacher Forgot to Mention by Cathy Newman

A Channel 4 journalist's take on the career achievements of fabulous women who lived when women didn't have careers...

Mrs Dangerfield (Economics)

### Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens

A "marsh girl" is abandoned by her family and learns to survive on her own in the marshland...

Miss Preddy (Computing) and Mrs Moroney (English/Assistant Head)

#### Women and Power by Mary Beard

Mary Beard looks at how history has treated powerful women from the classical world to the modern day.

Mrs Searle (Deputy Head)

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#### A Perfect Planet by Huw Cordey

"The story of the Earth's power and fragility."

Miss Licata (MFL)

#### Troubled Blood by Robert Galbraith

Embarking on their most complex case yet, Strike and Robin Ellacott take on their first cold case, unpicking the intricacies of a young doctor's disappearance in the 70s.

Miss Daniels (English)

#### The Cactus by Sarah Haywood

A woman embarks upon a journey of discovery about her own family secrets before welcoming a family of her own. A New York Times bestseller!

Miss Rainford (Law)

#### A Promised Land by Barack Obama

A reflective account of the journey Barack Obama took to becoming president of the USA, and the many lessons he learnt from his time in office.

Mr Cheshire (Psychology)

#### Daughter of Smoke and Bone by Laini Taylor

Since lockdown I've really struggled to concentrate to read so I'm revisiting books I've loved in the past. I would recommend it to anyone who loves old-school fantasy with angels and demons and a timeless love story that transcends worlds.

Mrs Bond (Librarian)

#### **Becoming** by Michelle Obama

A personal memoir reflecting on life experiences which, by defying expectations, helped her to find a voice to become the person she is today. An interesting and truly inspirational read.

Mrs Murphy (Computing)

### All The Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr

It's about a German soldier whose job it is to track down illegal radio transmissions and a blind French girl who is responsible for sending some... **Miss Collins and Mrs Horan (English)** 

#### The Midnight Library by Matt Haig

It's about a woman who feels like her life has been a waste and at the point of desperation is given the opportunity to explore all of the other lives she might have lived.

Ms Rowley (Photography)

#### **Underland** by Robert Macfarlane

"Robert Macfarlane takes us on a journey into the worlds beneath our feet. From the ice-blue depths of Greenland's glaciers, to the underground networks by which trees communicate...this is a deeptime voyage into the planet's past and future."

Miss Blower (Maths)

#### **Dominicana** by Angie Cruz

The story is about Ana, a 15 year old girl who is married off to an older man, who takes her from her home in the Dominican Republic to New York, to make a new life for her and her entire family. Lonely and miserable, she hatches a (failed) plan to escape. *Ms Hussain (Science)* 

#### Peace Talks by Jim Butcher

This book is part of the Harry Dresden series of books which feature a wizard who is a private detective.

Ms Ridgway (English)



#### The Dutch House by Ann Patchett

A brother and sister grow up in the lavish Dutch House but are thrown into poverty through a turn in life's events. Over the years they reflect together over what they have lost whilst maintaining their close bond, and we follow the story of the routes their lives have taken them. *Mrs Robertson (Admin)* 

#### The Salt Path by Raynor Winn

Just days after Raynor learns that Moth, her husband of 32 years, is terminally ill, their home and livelihood is taken away. With nothing left and little time, they make the brave and impulsive decision to walk the 630 miles of the sea-swept South West Coast Path, from Somerset to Dorset, via Devon and Cornwall.

Ms Foley (First Aid)

### The Husband's Secret by Liane Moriarty

The usual Moriarty peek into a small community set against a back-drop of crime with a hint of mystery. Whose husband has the secret of the title? I'm almost finished, but still wouldn't like to place a bet...

Ms Eckhardt (Assistant Head)

#### Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race by Reni Eddo-Lodge

Powerful and vital reading, Eddo-Lodge explores historic and contemporary scenarios in a clear, illuminating style to help articulate an understanding of race relations in Britain today.

Mr Nall (English)

### The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris

It's the story of a prisoner of Auschwitz who is assigned the job of tattooing the prisoners with numbers to identify them by. One of the people waiting to be tattooed is a woman named Gita. The story follows their tale of love and survival.

Ms Ballard (PE/Assistant Head)

### Stuart: A Life Backwards by Alexander Masters

It's about the life of Stuart Shorter, who spent a lot of his life homeless and in prisons. The writer worked with him in a homeless shelter for a few years and wrote a book about him because Stuart was so funny and intelligent, particularly about homelessness and the prison system. *Ms Cadney (Cover)* 

### The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes by Suzanne Collins

I am currently less than halfway through this book, but it has had me hooked so far. It is the prequel to The Hunger Games book series and tells the backstory of President Snow. Anyone who likes the Hunger Games books will love this one.

Miss Ogden (Geography)

### The Marble Collector by Cecelia Ahern

'An unexpected break in a woman's monotonous life leaves her with only one day to unlock the secrets of the father she thought she knew. A day to unearth memories, stories and people she never knew existed.'

Miss Alafiatayo (Beliefs and Values)

#### **Atomic Habits** by James Clear

A non-fiction book focussing on habit formation with the aim of helping those who read it accomplish more by focusing on less.

Mrs Moroney (English/Assistant Head)

#### Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi

The story is about two half-sisters, born in different Ghanaian villages. One is sold into slavery and the other marries a British slaver. The story follows them and their descendants over 300 years and how the legacy of slavery still impacts today.

Miss Blackledge (Geography)

#### The Pillars of Earth by Ken Follett

'A spellbinding, epic tale of ambition, anarchy and absolute power, set against the sprawling medieval canvas of twelfth-century England. . . a struggle between good and evil that will turn church against state, and brother against brother.'

Miss Buck (History)

### 100 Years of Solitude by Gabriel García Márquez

It not a recent book as it was written in 1967, yet it seems totally relevant in a modern-day context. Through the story of a family across many generations and their struggles with desire for love and solitude, it gives an insight into Columbian history and culture with the most amazing description and imagery.

Ms Schlindwein (Assistant Head)

### The Monk Who Sold His Ferrari by Robin Sharma

It is the story of a high-flying lawyer who sold all his material possessions to go on a spiritual journey to fulfil his dreams and reach his destiny. It is light-hearted and funny in places but is very captivating.

Ms Stewart-Banks (Cover)

#### **Ghosts** by Dolly Alderton

A poignant, funny tale of early-thirties love and loss.

Miss Monaghan (English)