

# Key Stage 3

## Recommended Reads Booklist



Mystery



Fantasy



Sci-Fi



Dystopian



Comedy



Historical



Family & Friends



Emotional



Packs a Punch



Horror



Action Adventure



Classics



Sports Stories

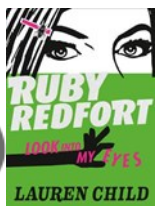


Books into Film



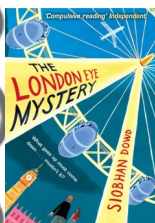
Far-Flung Places

# KS3 - Mystery



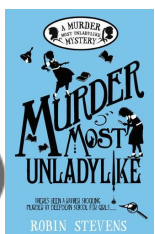
## **Look Into My Eyes (Ruby Redfort)** by Lauren Child

Ruby Redfort is a genius code-cracker, a daring detective, and a gadget-laden special agent who just happens to be a thirteen-year-old girl. She and her slick sidekick butler, Hitch, foil crimes and get into loads of scrapes with evil villains, but they're always ice-cool in a crisis.



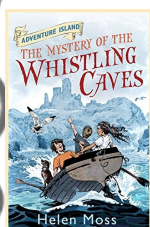
## **The London Eye Mystery** by Siobhan Dowd

When Ted and Kat watched their cousin Salim get on board the London Eye, he turned and waved before getting on. After half an hour it landed and everyone trooped off - but no Salim. Where could he have gone? How on earth could he have disappeared into thin air? Since the police are having no luck finding him, Ted and Kat become detective partners. Despite their prickly relationship, they overcome their differences to follow a trail of clues across London in a desperate bid to find their cousin. And ultimately it comes down to Ted, whose brain works in its own very unique way, to find the key to the mystery.



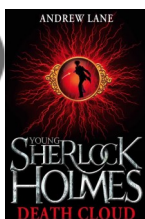
## **Murder Most Unladylike** by Robin Stevens

When Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong set up their very own secret detective agency at Deepdean School for Girls, they struggle to find any truly exciting mysteries to investigate. Then Hazel discovers the Science Mistress, Miss Bell, lying dead in the Gym. She assumes it was a terrible accident - but when she and Daisy return five minutes later, the body has disappeared. Now Hazel and Daisy not only have a murder to solve: they have to prove one happened in the first place. Determined to get to the bottom of the crime before the killer strikes again Hazel and Daisy must hunt for evidence, spy on their suspects and use all the cunning and intuition they can muster. But will they succeed?



## **The Mystery of the Whistling Caves** by Helen Moss

When Scott and Jack Carter have to stay with their great aunt for the summer they steel themselves for the most boring holiday ever. But then they meet Emily Wild and her loveable dog, Drift. Emily shows them the lighthouse, the castle - and the amazing whistling caves. Legend has it that when the caves stop whistling the castle will be attacked - and that's exactly what happens! Priceless treasures are stolen and Emily and the boys are determined to investigate. But how was the treasure smuggled out of the castle? Why did the caves stop whistling? And can the friends solve the mystery in time to catch the thief?



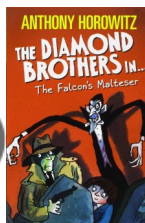
## **Young Sherlock Holmes: Death Cloud** by Andrew Lane

When 14 year old Sherlock's father is posted to India, Sherlock is sent to stay with his eccentric aunt and uncle. So begins a summer that leads Sherlock to uncover his first murder, kidnap, corruption and a brilliantly sinister villain with malign intent.



## **The Messenger Bird** by Ruth Eastham

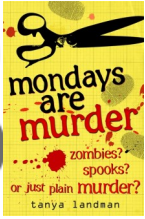
Nathan's father has been arrested. He works for the Ministry of Defence and is accused of leaking top secret information. But as he is dragged into a police car, he gives Nathan a message. It leads to a riddle, but it's not from Dad. It's from an ex-Bletchley Park employee, Lily Kenley, and was written in 1940. Nathan begins to follow the clues left behind by Lily. But how can this war-time story link to his father's fate? Hope for Dad's appeal is fading fast. He must solve the puzzle. Time is running out.



## **The Falcon's Malteser** by Anthony Horowitz

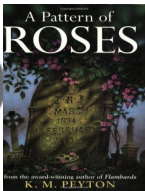
When a dwarf comes into the office and leaves a package, Tim Diamond, the world's worst private-detective, is faced with his toughest case yet. The office is ransacked and the package is found to contain simply a box of Maltesers. Who was the dwarf ... and why was he murdered shortly after his visit?

# KS3 - Mystery



## **Mondays are Murder (Poppy Fields Murder Mysteries)** by Tanya Landman

When Poppy Fields goes on an activity holiday to a remote Scottish island, she is looking forward to a week of climbing, hill-walking and horse riding. But things take a disastrous turn when their instructor has what appears to be a fatal abseiling accident. When Poppy discovers that his rope was cut, and more of the instructors start to have "accidents", she and best friend Graham suspect foul play and decide to investigate.



## **A Pattern of Roses** by K.M. Peyton

The initials on the drawing said T.R.I. - the same as Tim Ingram's. But the drawing was done in 1910 and the initials belonged to Tom Inskip. In the local churchyard Tim sees that Tom died suddenly at the age of 15 and he decides to try and unravel the mystery surrounding his death.



## **Twelve minutes to midnight** By Christopher Edge

Penelope Treadwell is the feisty 13 year old orphan authoress of the Penny Dreadful magazine, although no-one realises that she writes the macabre tales which are a hit all over Victorian London. When she receives a strange letter from the governor of Bedlam madhouse she is plunged into a terrifying adventure.



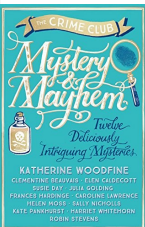
## **Small Change for Stuart** by Lissa Evans

Stuart Horten - ten years old and small for his age - moves to the dreary town of Beeton, far away from all his friends. And then he meets his new next-door neighbours, the unbearable Kingley triplets, and things get even worse. But in Beeton begins the strangest adventure of Stuart's life as he is swept up in quest to find his great-uncle's lost workshop - a workshop stuffed with trickery and magic. There are clues to follow and puzzles to solve, but what starts as fun ends up as danger, and Stuart begins to realise that he can't finish the task by himself.



## **Dead Man's Cove (Laura Marlin Mysteries)** by Lauren St. John

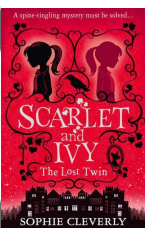
When orphaned Laura Marlin moves from a children's home to live with her uncle in Cornwall, she longs for a life of excitement just like the characters in her favourite detective novels. A real life adventure is on hand as she is deposited at her uncle's spooky house. Why does her uncle, Calvin Redfern, forbid her to go to Dead Man's Cove? What's the truth about Tariq, the silent Indian boy who lives with the flamboyant Mukthars? Who is J? Who has left the message in a bottle for Laura to discover?



## **Mystery and Mayhem (short stories)** by various authors

Twelve mysteries. Twelve authors. One challenge: can YOU solve the crimes before the heroes of the stories?

These are twelve brand-new short stories from twelve of the best children's crime writers writing today. These creepy, hilarious, brain-boggling, heart-pounding mysteries feature daring, brilliant young detectives, and this anthology is a must for fans of crime fiction and detection.



## **Scarlet and Ivy** by Sophie Cleverly

A spine-tingling mystery set in a creepily atmospheric boarding school. Ivy must uncover the secrets behind her twin sister Scarlet's disappearance before it's too late. When troublesome Scarlet mysteriously disappears from Rookwood School, terrifying Miss Fox invites her quiet twin sister Ivy to 'take her place'. Ivy reluctantly agrees in the hopes of finding out what happened to her missing sister. For only at Rookwood will Ivy be able to unlock the secrets of Scarlet's disappearance, through a scattered trail of diary pages carefully hidden all over the school.



## KS3 - Mystery



### **Beetle Boy** by M. G. Leonard

Darkus is miserable. His dad has disappeared, and now he is living next door to the most disgusting neighbours ever. A giant beetle called Baxter comes to his rescue. But can the two solve the mystery of his dad's disappearance, especially when links emerge to cruel Lucretia Cutter and her penchant for beetle jewellery? A coffee-mug mountain, home to a million insects, could provide the answer - if Darkus and Baxter are brave enough to find it .



### **Spy Camp** by Stuart Gibbs

Ben Ripley is spending the summer at Spy Camp, the top secret outdoor education facility of Ben's school, the Academy of Espionage. But any hopes he has for a relaxing break are quickly dashed when SPYDER resurfaces - and this time, the evil organisation is targeting Ben himself. It isn't long before Ben finds himself on the run in the wilderness with both Erica and Alexander Hale in tow. Can they survive long enough to figure out



# KS3 -Epic Fantasy



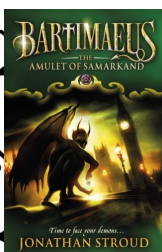
## **The Dark is Rising** by Susan Cooper

When Will Stanton wakes up on the morning of his birthday, he discovers an unbelievable gift - he is immortal. Bemused and terrified, he finds he is the last of the Old Ones, magical men and women sworn to protect the world from the source of evil, the Dark. At once Will is plunged into a quest to find six magical Signs to aid the powers of the Light. Six medallions - iron, bronze, wood, water, fire, and stone - created and hidden by the Old Ones centuries ago. But the Dark has sent out the Rider: evil cloaked in black, upon a midnight stallion, and on the hunt for this youngest Old One, Will. He must find the six great Signs before the Dark can rise, for an epic battle between good and evil approaches...



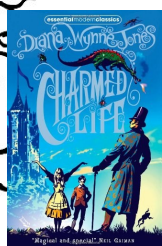
## **A Wizard of Earthsea** by Ursula Le Guin

A classic coming-of-age tale about a boy destined to become the greatest sorcerer in the world. In the 1001 island realm of Earthsea, Ged is a poor blacksmith's son born with an innate understanding of magic. But when he studies at the Roke Island school, he lets his arrogance and antipathy for another student lead him into a disastrous mistake—unleashing an evil spirit bent on devouring Ged's essence ...



## **The Amulet of Samarkand (Bartimaeus Trilogy)** by Jonathan Stroud

When the 5,000-year-old djinni Bartimaeus is summoned by Nathaniel, a young magician's apprentice, he expects to have to do nothing more taxing than a little levitation or a few simple illusions. But Nathaniel is a precocious talent and has something rather more dangerous in mind: revenge. Against his will, Bartimaeus is packed off to steal the powerful Amulet of Samarkand from Simon Lovelace, a master magician of unrivalled ruthlessness and ambition. Before long, both djinni and apprentice are caught up in a terrifying flood of magical intrigue, murder and rebellion.



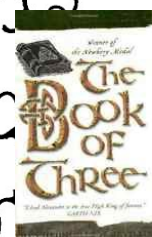
## **Charmed life (Chrestomanci Series)** by Diana Wynne-Jones

Everybody says that Gwendolyn Chant is a gifted witch with astonishing powers, so it suits her enormously when she is taken to live in Chrestomanci Castle. Her brother Eric (better known as Cat) is not so keen, for he has no talent for magic at all. However, life with the great enchanter is not what either of them expects and sparks begin to fly!



## **Eragon (The inheritance Cycle)** by Christopher Paolini

When Eragon finds a polished stone in the forest, he thinks it is the lucky discovery of a poor farm boy; perhaps it will buy his family meat for the winter. But when the stone brings a dragon hatchling, Eragon soon realizes he has stumbled upon a legacy nearly as old as the Empire itself. Overnight his simple life is shattered and he is thrust into a perilous new world of destiny, magic and power. With only an ancient sword and the advice of an old storyteller for guidance, Eragon and the fledgling dragon must navigate the dangerous terrain and dark enemies of an Empire ruled by a king whose evil knows no bounds. Can Eragon take up the mantle of the legendary Dragon Riders? The fate of the Empire may rest in his hands...



## **The Book of Three** (Chronicles of Prydain) by Lloyd Alexander

Taran wanted to be a hero, and looking after a pig wasn't exactly heroic, even though Hen Wen was an oracular pig. But the day that Hen Wen vanished, Taran was led into an enchanting and perilous world. With his band of followers, he confronted the Horned King and his terrible Cauldron-Born. These were the forces of evil, and only Hen Wen knew the secret of keeping the kingdom of Prydain safe from them. But who would find her first?

# KS3 - Magical Fantasy



## **Magyk** by Angie Sage

A powerful necromancer plans to seize control of all things Magykal. He has killed the Queen and locked up the Extraordinary Wizard. Now with Darke Magyk he will create a world filled with Darke creatures. But the Necromancer made one mistake. A vital detail he has overlooked means there is a boy who can stop him - the only problem is, the boy doesn't know it yet. For the Heap family, life as they know is about to change, and the most fantastically fast-paced adventure of confused identities, magyk and mayhem, begin.



## **The Spook's Apprentice** by Joseph Delaney

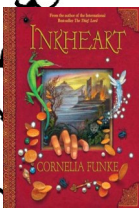
Not to be read after dark...

Thomas Ward is the seventh son of a seventh son and has been apprenticed to the local Spook. The job is hard, the spook is distant and many apprentices have failed before him. Somehow Thomas must learn how to exorcise ghosts, contain witches and bind boggarts. But when he is tricked into freeing Mother Malkin, the most evil witch in the Country, the horror begins...



## **The Ranger's Apprentice: Ruins of Gorlan** by John Flanagan

They have always scared him in the past – the Rangers, with their dark cloaks and shadowy ways. The villagers believe the Rangers practise magic that makes them invisible to ordinary people. And now 15-year-old Will, always small for his age, has been chosen as a Ranger's apprentice. What he doesn't yet realize is that the Rangers are the protectors of the kingdom. Highly trained in the skills of battle and surveillance, they fight the battles before the battles reach the people. And as Will is about to learn, there is a large battle brewing in the real world.



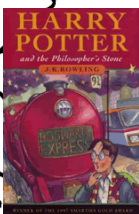
## **Inkheart** by Cornelia Funke

Meggie lives alone with her father, Mo, who is a book-binder. She has grown up believing that her mother went away when she was young. Mo taught her to read when she was five, and the two share a mutual love of books. When a strange man called 'Dustfinger' appears one night, Meggie discovers the truth. Her father can "read" characters out of books and when she was three, he read aloud from a book called Inkheart and released dangerous characters into the real world. At the same time, Meggie's mother disappeared into the story. Will they be able to get her back at last?



## **The Hobbit** by J.R.R. Tolkien

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.



## **Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone** by J. K. Rowling

Strange things always seem to happen when Harry Potter is around. Things that unsettle his guardians, the Dursleys. They strongly disapprove of strangeness. It's only when a letter arrives that Harry learns the truth that will transform his entire future: his parents were killed by the evil Lord Voldemort, and he, Harry, is a wizard. Whisked away to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, Harry discovers a world of enchantments, ghosts, Quidditch, and friends who will stand, throughout everything, by his side. But when Harry hears of a stone with great powers, he finds that his school has its own dark secrets – and an adventure that will become the stuff of legend begins...

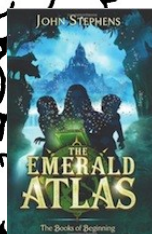


# KS3 - Fantasy Adventures



## **Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief** by Rick Riordan

Percy Jackson is about to be kicked out of boarding school... again. And that's the least of his troubles. Lately, mythological monsters and the gods of Mount Olympus seem to be walking straight out of the pages of Percy's Greek mythology textbook and into his life. And worse, he's angered a few of them. Zeus' master lightning bolt has been stolen, and Percy is the prime suspect. Now Percy and his friends have just ten days to find and return Zeus' stolen property and bring peace to a warring Mount Olympus.



## **The Emerald Atlas**—By John Stephens

Three children are taken from their beds one frozen night, when the world is covered in snow. All they remember is the silhouette of a tall, thin man. After ten years spent in miserable orphanages, they arrive in Cambridge Falls, a place they recognise and where an old, leather bound book found in a crooked house sends them on an incredible adventure.



## **Finding the Fox (Shapeshifter Series)** by Ali Sparkes

Dax Jones is an ordinary schoolboy . . . until something extraordinary happens one day. Whilst frightened for his life, he inexplicably changes into a fox! Before long, both a government agent and an ambitious young journalist are on his tail. The agent tells him that he is one of several children with special powers and he's been offered a place at a secret government school where he can develop, and learn to control, these powers. If Dax accepts, on no account can he tell anybody.



## **Sea (The Huntress)** by Sarah Driver

Ever since Ma died, Mouse has looked after her little brother, Sparrow, dreaming of her destiny as captain of the Huntress. But now Da's missing, Sparrow is in danger, and a deathly cold is creeping across Trianukka . . .



## **The Girl of ink and stars** by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

Forbidden to leave her island, Isabella dreams of the faraway lands her cartographer father once mapped. When her friend disappears, she volunteers to guide the search. The world beyond the walls is a monster-filled wasteland - and beneath the dry rivers and smoking mountains, a fire demon is stirring from its sleep. Soon, following her map, her heart and an ancient myth, Isabella discovers the true end of her journey: to save the island itself.



## **Department 19** by Will Hill

When Jamie Carpenter's mother is kidnapped by strange creatures, he finds himself dragged into Department 19, the government's most secret agency. Fortunately for Jamie, Department 19 can provide the tools he needs to find his mother, and to kill the vampires who want him dead. But unfortunately for everyone, something much older is stirring, something even Department 19 can't stand up against...



## **Itch** by Simon Mayo

Itchingham Lofte - known as Itch - is fourteen, and loves science, especially chemistry. He's also an element-hunter: he's collecting all the elements in the periodic table. Which has some interesting and rather destructive results in his bedroom. Then, Itch makes a discovery. A new element, never seen before. At first no one believes him - but soon someone hears about the strange new rock and wants it for himself. And Itch and his family are catapulted into a breathless adventure with terrifyingly high stakes . .



# KS3 - Action Fantasy



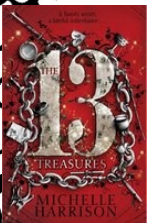
## **H.I.V.E** by Mark Walden

Otto Malpense may only be thirteen years old, but so far he has managed to run the orphanage where he lives, and he has come up with a plan clever enough to trick the most powerful man in the country. He is the perfect candidate to become the world's next supervillain. That is why he ends up at H.I.V.E. where all the kids are athletic, technically advanced and smart. Students are enrolled in Villainy Studies and Stealth and Evasion classes, but Otto soon comes to realise that leaving is not an option. With the help of his new friends: an athletic martial arts expert; a world-famous diamond thief; and a computer genius - the only other people who seem to want to leave - can Otto achieve what has never been done before and break out of H.I.V.E.?



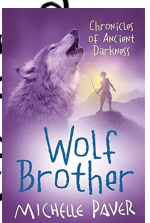
## **The School for Good and Evil** by Soman Chainani

Every four years, two girls are kidnapped from the village of Gavaldon. Legend has it these lost children are sent to the School for Good and Evil, the fabled institution where they become fairytale heroes or villains. Sophie, the most beautiful girl in town, has always dreamed of her place at the School for Good while her friend Agatha, with her dark disposition seems destined for the School for Evil. But when the two are kidnapped they find their fortunes reversed...



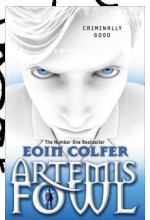
## **The Thirteen Treasures** by Michelle Harrison

While visiting her grandmother's house, an old photograph leads Tanya to an unsolved mystery. Fifty years ago a girl vanished in the woods nearby - a girl Tanya's grandmother will not speak of. Fabian, the caretaker's son, is tormented by the girl's disappearance. His grandfather was the last person to see her alive, and has lived under suspicion ever since. Together, Tanya and Fabian decide to find the truth. But Tanya has her own secret: the ability to see fairies. And, after disturbing an intruder in the night, it emerges that someone else shares her ability. The manor's sinister history is about to repeat itself...



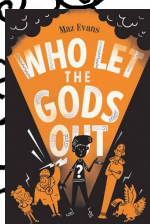
## **Wolf Brother** by Michelle Paver

Thousands of years ago, the land is one dark forest. Its people are hunter-gatherers. They know every tree and herb and they know how to survive in a time of enchantment and powerful magic. Until an ambitious and malevolent force conjures a demon: a demon so evil that it can be contained only in the body of a ferocious bear that will slay everything it sees, a demon determined to destroy the world. Only one boy can stop it - 12-year-old Torak, who has seen his father murdered by the bear. With his dying breath, Torak's father tells his son of his burden. He must lead the bear to the mountain of the World Spirit and beg that spirit's help to overcome it.



## **Artemis Fowl** by Eoin Colfer

Twelve-year-old villain, Artemis Fowl, is the most ingenious criminal mastermind in history. His bold and daring plan is to hold a leprechaun to ransom. But he's taking on more than he bargained for when he kidnaps Captain Holly Short of the LEPrecon (Lower Elements Police Reconnaissance Unit). For a start, leprechaun technology is more advanced than our own. Add to that the fact that Holly is a true heroine and that her senior officer Commander Root will stop at nothing to get her back and you've got the mother of all sieges brewing!



## **Who let the gods out?** by Maz Evans

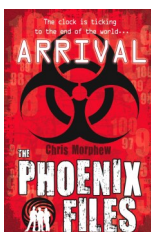
Elliot's mum is ill and his home is under threat, but a shooting star crashes to earth and changes his life forever. The star is Virgo - a young Zodiac goddess on a mission. But the pair accidentally release Thanatos, a wicked death daemon imprisoned beneath Stonehenge, and must then turn to the old Olympian gods for help. After centuries of cushy retirement on earth, are Zeus and his crew up to the task of saving the world - and solving Elliot's problems too?

# KS3 - Sci-Fi



## **The Wrong Side of the Galaxy** by Jamie Thompson

Abducted by aliens, Harry wakes up on his birthday marooned on a spaceship. His only companions: two freaky princess clones, a weird alien-fish-kangaroo hybrid with delusions of grandeur and a ship's computer with a serious attitude problem. It's the worst birthday ever. How is he ever going to get back to Earth now?



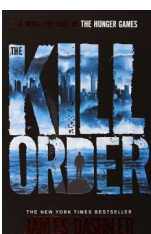
## **The Phoenix Files: Arrival** by Chris Morpew

Luke is having a rough year. When his parents split up, his mum drags him to Phoenix, a brand-new town in the middle of nowhere. But Phoenix is no ordinary town. There are no cars, no phones and no internet. Luke thinks this is as weird as it gets. Then he discovers that someone is plotting to wipe out the human race. Phoenix is suddenly the safest and most dangerous place on earth. One hundred days remain until the end of the world ... not something Luke thought would ever be HIS problem.



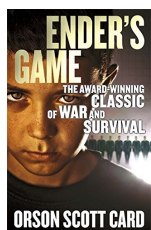
## **Pale** by Chris Wooding

The Lazarus Serum can bring you back from the dead. Only thing is, it turns you into a Pale. Jed can't imagine anything worse, but then the choice is taken out of his hands...



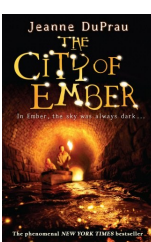
## **The Kill Order** by James Dashner

When sun flares hit the Earth, intense heat, toxic radiation and flooding followed, wiping out much of the human race. Those who survived live in basic communities in the mountains, hunting for food. For Mark and his friends, surviving is difficult, and then an enemy arrives, infecting people with a highly contagious virus. Thousands die, and the virus is spreading. Worse, it's mutating, and people are going crazy. It's up to Mark and his friends to find the enemy - and a cure - before the Flare infects them all ...



## **Ender's Game** by Orson Scott Card

The human race faces annihilation. An alien threat is on the horizon, ready to strike. And if humanity is to be defended, the government must create the greatest military commander in history. The brilliant young Ender Wiggin is their last hope. But first he must survive the rigours of a brutal military training program - to prove that he can be the leader of all leaders. A saviour for mankind must be produced, through whatever means possible. But are they creating a hero or a monster?



## **City of Ember** by Jeanne DuPrau

Many hundreds of years ago, the city of Ember was created by the Builders to contain everything needed for human survival. It worked - but now the storerooms are almost out of food, crops are blighted, corruption is spreading through the city and worst of all - the lights are failing. Soon Ember could be engulfed by darkness-But when two children, Lina and Doon, discover fragments of an ancient parchment, they begin to wonder if there could be a way out of Ember. Can they decipher the words from long ago and find a new future for everyone? Will the people of Ember listen to them?

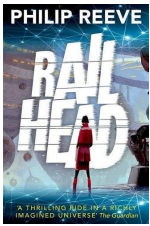


## **Larklight** by Philip Reeve

Arthur (Art) Mumby and his irritating sister Myrtle live with their father in the huge and rambling house, Larklight, travelling through space on a remote orbit far beyond the Moon. One ordinary sort of morning they receive a correspondence informing them that a gentleman is on his way to visit, a Mr Webster. Visitors to Larklight are rare if not unique, and a frenzy of preparation ensues. But it is entirely the wrong sort of preparation, as they discover when their guest arrives, and a Dreadful and Terrifying (and marvellous) adventure begins. It takes them to the furthest reaches of Known Space, where they must battle the evil First Ones in a desperate attempt to save each other - and the Universe.



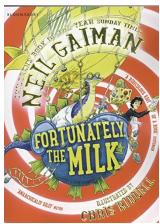
# KS3 - Sci-Fi



## **Railhead** by Philip Reeve

Step Aboard - the Universe is Waiting.

The Great Network is a place of drones and androids, Hive Monks and Station Angels. The place of the thousand gates, where sentient trains criss-cross the galaxy in a heartbeat. It is also a place of great dangers - especially for someone who rides the rails and rides his luck the way Zen Starling does. Once Zen was just a petty thief, stealing to support his family and living by his wits. Now everything has changed. Zen is still a thief - but it could be that the key to the whole universe rests on finding out what else he is . . .



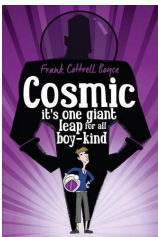
## **Fortunately, the Milk** by Neil Gaiman

You know what it's like when your mum goes away on a business trip and Dad's in charge. She leaves a really, really long list of what he's got to do. And the most important thing is DON'T FORGET TO GET THE MILK. Unfortunately, Dad forgets. So the next morning, before breakfast, he has to go to the corner shop, and this is the story of why it takes him a very, very long time to get back. Featuring: Professor Steg (a time-travelling dinosaur), some green globby things, the Queen of the Pirates, the famed jewel that is the Eye of Splod, some wumpires, and a perfectly normal but very important carton of milk.



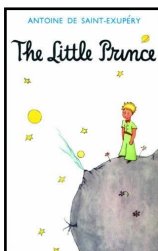
## **A Wrinkle in Time** by Madeleine L'Engle

When Charles Wallace Murry goes searching through a 'wrinkle in time' for his lost father, he finds himself on an evil planet where all life is enslaved by a huge pulsating brain known as 'It'. How Charles, his sister Meg and friend Calvin find and free his father makes this a very special and exciting mixture of fantasy and science fiction, which all the way through is dominated by the funny and mysterious trio of guardian angels known as Mrs Whatsit, Mrs Who and Mrs Which.



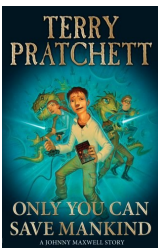
## **Cosmic** by Frank Cottrell-Boyce

Liam is a big lad, so big that strangers mistake the 12-year-old for an adult. Too often, they expect to act like an adult, so Liam decides to enter the Greatest Dad Ever Contest. In short order, he finds himself on a rocket ship that is off course and 200,000 miles above the earth.



## **The Little Prince** by Antoine De Saint-Exupéry

A pilot stranded in the desert awakes one morning to see the most extraordinary little fellow standing before him. "Please," asks the stranger, "draw me a sheep." And the pilot realises that when life's events are too difficult to understand, there is no choice but to succumb to their mysteries. He pulls out a pencil and paper . . . and thus begins this wise and enchanting fable that, in teaching the secret of what is really important in life, has changed the world forever for its readers.



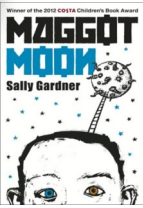
## **Only You Can Save Mankind** by Terry Pratchett

As the mighty alien fleet from the latest computer game thunders across the screen, Johnny prepares to blow them into the usual million pieces. And they send him a message: *We surrender*. They're not supposed to do that! They're supposed to die. And computer joysticks don't have 'Don't Fire' buttons . . .

But it's only a game, isn't it. *Isn't it?*



# KS3 - Dystopian



## **Maggot Moon** by Sally Gardner

A ruthless regime is determined to beat its enemies in a race to the moon. But when his best friend Hector is suddenly taken away, it is up to unlikely hero Standish, his grandfather, and a small band of rebels, to confront and defeat the ever-present oppressive forces of the Motherland.



## **The Maze Runner** by James Dashner

When Thomas wakes up in the lift, the only thing he can remember is his name. He's surrounded by strangers—boys whose memories are also gone. Outside the towering stone walls that surround the Glade is a limitless, ever-changing maze. It's the only way out - and no one's ever made it through alive. Everything is going to change. Then a girl arrives. The first girl ever. And the message she delivers is terrifying.



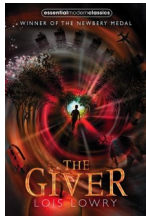
## **The Hunger Games** by Suzanne Collins

Set in a dark vision of the near future, a terrifying reality TV show is taking place. Twelve boys and twelve girls are forced to appear in a live event called The Hunger Games. There is only one rule: kill or be killed. When sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen steps forward to take her younger sister's place in the games, she sees it as a death sentence. But Katniss has been close to death before. For her, survival is second nature.



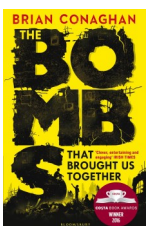
## **The Knife of Never Letting Go** by Patrick Ness

An unflinching novel about the impossible choices of growing up, by an award-winning writer. Imagine you're the only boy in a town of men. And you can hear everything they think. And they can hear everything you think. Imagine you don't fit in with their plans... Todd Hewitt is just one month away from the birthday that will make him a man. But his town has been keeping secrets from him. Secrets that are going to force him to run...



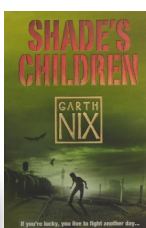
## **The Giver** by Lois Lowry

Jonas's world is perfect.. Everything is under control. There is no war or fear or pain. There are no choices. Every person is assigned a role in the Community. When Jonas turns twelve, he is singled out to receive special training from The Giver. The Giver alone holds the memories of the true pain and pleasure of life. Now, it is time for Jonas to receive the truth.



## **The Bombs that brought us together** by Brian Conag

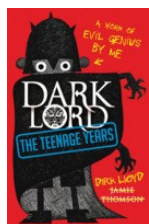
Fourteen-year-old Charlie Law has lived in Little Town, on the border with Old Country, all his life. He knows the rules: no going out after dark; no drinking; no litter; no fighting. You don't want to get on the wrong side of the people who run Little Town. When he meets Pavel Duda, a refugee from Old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



## **Shade's Children** by Garth Nix

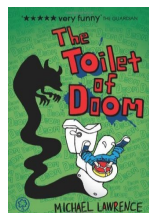
In a futuristic urban wasteland, evil Overlords have decreed that no child shall live a day past his fourteenth birthday. On that Sad Birthday, the child is the object of an obscene harvest resulting in the construction of a machinelike creature whose sole purpose is to kill. The mysterious Shade -- once a man, but now more like the machines he fights -- recruits the few children fortunate enough to escape. With luck, cunning, and skill, four of Shade's children come closer than any to discovering the source of the Overlords' power -- and the key to their downfall. But the closer the children get, the more ruthless Shade seems to become!

# KS3 - Comedy



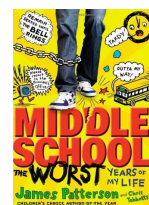
## **Dark Lord: The Teenage Years** by Jamie Thomson

Thirteen-year-old schoolboy, Dirk Lloyd, has a dark secret - in fact he is a dark secret. Dirk - according to his own account - is the earthly incarnation of a Dark Lord, supreme ruler of the Darklands and leader of great armies of orcs and warriors, intent on destruction and bloody devastation. Following a colossal final battle between the forces of good and evil, the Dark Lord was defeated and hurled by his arch-foe's spells into the Pit of Uttermost Despair. At the bottom of the Pit lies...a supermarket car park in the municipal town of Whiteshields, somewhere in modern day England. And when he is found, and tries to explain that he is the Dark Lord, people think he means Dirk Lloyd. The fact that he's trapped in the puny body of a schoolboy doesn't help...



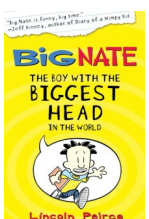
## **The Toilet of Doom** by Michael Lawrence

'Feel that your life has gone down the pan? Well here's your chance to swap it for a better one!' When these tempting words appear on the computer screen, Jiggy McCue just can't resist. He hits 'F for Flush' and...Oh dear. He really shouldn't have done that. Because the life he gets in place of his own is a very embarrassing one - for a boy.



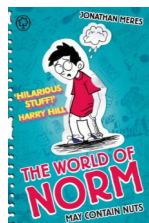
## **Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life** by James Patterson

Rafe Khatchadorian has enough problems at home without throwing his first year of middle school into the mix. Luckily, he's got an ace plan for the best year ever, if only he can pull it off: With his best friend Leonardo the Silent awarding him points, Rafe tries to break every rule in his school's oppressive Code of Conduct. Chewing gum in class-5,000 points! Running in the hallway-10,000 points! Pulling the fire alarm-50,000 points! But when Rafe's game starts to catch up with him, he'll have to decide if winning is all that matters, or if he's finally ready to face the rules, bullies, and truths he's been avoiding.



## **Big Nate** by Lincoln Peirce

Big-head Nate Wright truly believes he is destined for greatness! He's a table tennis champ, a genius comic book artist and the self-proclaimed king of his class. One school morning, Nate barely survives his Dad's toxic porridge before rushing off to school, forgetting his lunch. He thinks he has a test and he hasn't studied for it! Nate's class notes are full of doodles but sadly lacking any useful information... On the way to school he accidentally body slams his head teacher, then, during his first lesson of the day, he manages to insult his least favourite teacher, Mrs. Godfrey (aka Godzilla)....



## **The World of Norm: May contain Nuts** by Jonathan Meres

Nothing is ever fair in Norm's world - and since his family moved house, things are even worse than usual. Why on earth did they have to move, anyway? In their old place, he never tried to pee in anything but a toilet! And when Norm is in bed, he's kept awake by his dad snoring like a constipated rhinoceros. Will he ever get used to their rubbish new house, where you can hear every tiny noise through the flimsy walls? Will he stop being pestered by his annoying little brothers? Will life ever get less unfair for Norm?



## **The Killer Underpants** by Michael Lawrence

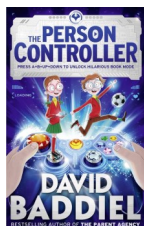
Jiggy McCue has a problem. His new underpants won't come off. Worse still, they have a mind of their own. An evil mind that seems to want to ruin his life. And it's succeeding!



## **What not to do if you turn invisible** by Ross Welford

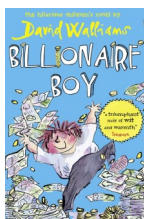
Turning invisible at will: it's one way of curing your acne. But far more drastic than 13 year-old Ethel Leatherhead intended when she tried a combination of untested medicines and a sunbed. It's fun at first, being invisible. And aided by her friend Boydy, she manages to keep her extraordinary ability secret. Or does she...?

# KS3 - Comedy



## **The Person controller** by David Baddiel

Fred and Ellie are twins. They do like all the same things, though. Especially video games. Which they are very good at. They aren't that good, however, at much else – like, for example, football, or dealing with the school bullies. Then, they meet the Mystery Man, who sends them a video game controller, which doesn't look like any other controller they've ever seen. And it doesn't control any of their usual games. When the twins find out what it does control, though, it seems like the answer to all their problems. And the key to all their wildest dreams. At least it seems like that...



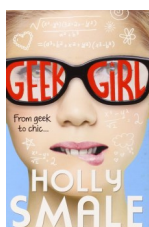
## **Billionaire Boy** by David Walliams

Joe has a lot of reasons to be happy. About a billion of them, in fact. You see, Joe's rich. Really, really rich. Joe's got his own bowling alley, his own cinema, even his own butler who is also an orangutan. He's the wealthiest twelve-year-old in the land. Yes, Joe has absolutely everything he could possibly want. But there's just one thing he really needs: a friend...



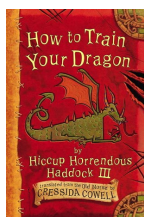
## **Diary of a Wimpy Kid** by Jeff Kinney

Let me get something straight: this is a JOURNAL, not a diary. This was Mom's idea, not mine. But if she thinks I'm going to write down my "feelings" in here or whatever, she's crazy. The only reason I agreed to do this at all is because I figure later on when I'm rich and famous, this book is gonna come in handy. But for now I'm stuck with a bunch of morons. Today is the first day of school, so I figured I might as well write in this book to pass the time. Just don't expect me to be all "Dear Diary" this and "Dear Diary" that.



## **Geek Girl** by Holly Smale

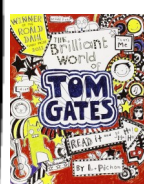
Harriet Manners knows that a cat has 32 muscles in each ear, a "jiffy" lasts 1/100th of a second, and the average person laughs 15 times per day. She knows that bats always turn left when exiting a cave and that peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite. But she doesn't know why nobody at school seems to like her. So when Harriet is spotted by a top model agent, she grabs the chance to reinvent herself. Even if it means stealing her best friend's dream, incurring the wrath of her arch enemy Alexa, and repeatedly humiliating herself in front of impossibly handsome model Nick. Even if it means lying to the people she loves.



## **How to train your dragon** by Cressida Cowell

Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III was an awesome sword-fighter, a dragon-whisperer and the greatest Viking Hero who ever lived. But it wasn't always like that.

In fact, in the beginning, Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III was the most put upon Viking you'd ever seen. Not loud enough to make himself heard at dinner with his father, Stoick the Vast; not hard enough to beat his chief rival, Snotlout, at Bashyball, the number one school sport and CERTAINLY not stupid enough to go into a cave full of dragons to find a pet... It's time for Hiccup to learn how to be a Hero.

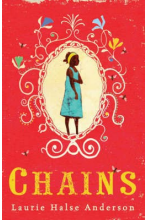
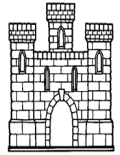


## **The Brilliant world of Tom Gates** by Liz Pichon

Tom Gates is the master of excuses for late homework: dog attacks; spilt water; and, lightning. Tom's exercise book is full of his doodles, cartoons and thoughts, as well as comments from his long-suffering teacher, Mr Fullerton. After gaining five merits for his "Camping Sucks" holiday story, Tom's work starts to go downhill - which is a pity, as he's desperate to impress Amy Porter, who sits next to him...

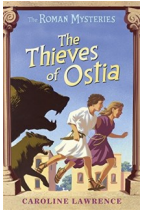


# KS3 - Historical



## **Chains** by Laurie R. King

Set in New York during the American Revolution, Chains tells the story of Isabel and her sister Ruth, sold into slavery to the wealthy, Loyalist, Lockton family. In the name of freedom, the George Washington-supporting Patriots are fighting the British-supporting Loyalists, but Isabel is in search of a more personal freedom and cannot determine which faction is the most likely to help her. Mrs Lockton is devastatingly cruel to Isabel, and with little to rely on, Isabel becomes increasingly attached to Curzon, a slave who has set himself strongly in support of his own master's Patriot cause.



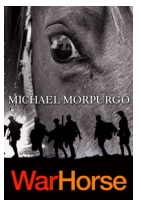
## **The Thieves of Ostia** by Caroline Lawrence

Flavia Gemina is a natural at solving mysteries. The daughter of a ship's captain living in Ostia, the port of Rome, in AD79, she and her three friends, Jonathan, a Jewish boy (and secretly a Christian); Nubia, an African slave girl; and Lupus, a mute beggar boy, must work together to discover who is beheading the watchdogs that guard people's homes, and why.



## **Hetty Feather** by Jacqueline Wilson

London, 1876. Hetty Feather is just a tiny baby when her mother leaves her at the Foundling Hospital. The Hospital cares for abandoned children - but Hetty must first live with a foster family. Life in the countryside is sometimes hard, but with her foster brothers, Jem and Gideon, Hetty helps in the fields and plays vivid imaginary games. Together they sneak off to visit the travelling circus, and Hetty is mesmerised by the show - especially the stunning Madame Adeline and her performing horses. But Hetty's happiness is threatened once more when she must return to the Foundling Hospital to begin her education. The new life of awful uniforms and terrible food is a struggle for her, and she desperately misses her beloved Jem. But now she has the chance to find her real mother. Could she really be the wonderful Madame Adeline? Or will Hetty find the truth is even more surprising?



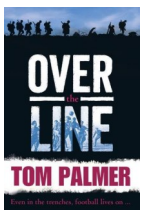
## **War Horse** by Michael Morpurgo

An incredibly moving story about one horse's experience in the deadly chaos of the First World War. In 1914, Joey, a young farm horse is sold to the army and thrust into the midst of the war on the Western Front. With his officer, he charges towards the enemy, witnessing the horror of the frontline. But even in the desolation of the trenches, Joey's courage touches the soldiers around him.



## **Twelve Minutes to Midnight** by Christopher Edge

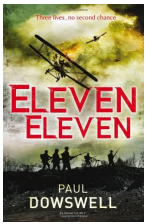
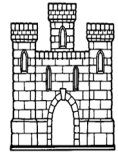
Penelope Tredwell is the feisty thirteen-year-old orphan heiress of the bestselling magazine, The Penny Dreadful. Her masterly tales of the macabre are gripping Victorian Britain, even if no one knows she's the real author. One day a letter she receives from the governor of the notorious Bedlam madhouse plunges her into an adventure more terrifying than anything she ever imagined.



## **Over the Line** by Tom Palmer

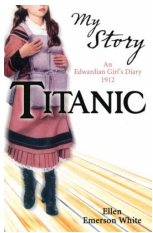
It's 1914 and Jack is making his debut as a pro footballer. But his first match is marred by a demonstration demanding that the teams sign up to do their duty in France. Word of the Footballer's Battalion and a cup in Flanders provides a glimmer of hope that Jack can keep his dream of playing for England alive. But as the war drags on, Jack is thrown into a nightmare world he will be lucky to survive.

# KS3 - Historical



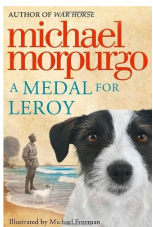
## **Eleven Eleven** by Paul Dowswell

Set during the final 24 hours before the armistice at 11 a.m. on 11th November 1918, the story follows a German storm trooper, an American airman and a British Tommy. Their destinies converge during the death throes of the first ever conflict to spread across the globe. War becomes incredibly personal as nationality and geography cease to matter to each of these teenagers on the Western Front, and friendship becomes the defining aspect of their encounter. But who will live and who will die before the end of the day?



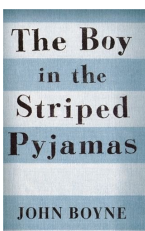
## **Titanic (My Story)** by Ellen Emerson White

Margaret Anne dreams of leaving the orphanage behind, and she can hardly believe her luck when she is chosen to accompany wealthy Mrs Carstairs aboard the great Titanic. But when the passengers are woken on a freezing night in April 1912, she finds herself caught up in an unimaginable nightmare...



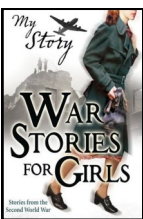
## **A Medal for Leroy** by Michael Morpurgo

Inspired by the true story of Walter Tull, the first black officer in the British army. A novel about families, identity and loss by bestselling award-winning author of WAR HORSE. Michael doesn't remember his father, an RAF pilot lost in the war. And his French mother, heartbroken and passionate, doesn't like to talk about her husband. But then Auntie Snowdrop gives Michael a medal, followed by a photograph, which begin to reveal a hidden history. A story of love and loss. A story that will change everything – and reveal to Michael who he really is...



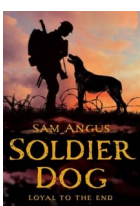
## **The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas** by John Boyne

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.



## **War Stories for Girls**

Stories featuring girls from the second World War. **Blitz:** It's 1940, and with London under fire Edie and her little brother are evacuated to Wales. Miles from home and missing her family, Edie is determined to be strong, but when life in the countryside proves tougher than in the capital she is torn between obeying her parents and protecting her brother. **Sophie's Secret War:** In 1939, the start of the Second World War, Sophie becomes a messenger for a Resistance group in Northern France. But as the German invaders overwhelm the British forces on the French coast, Sophie finds herself more deeply involved with the Resistance - in a dangerous plan to save a young Scottish soldier. **War Nurse** is the tale of Kitty, an 18-year-old Red Cross nurse in WWII who becomes a heroine. Kitty sees at close hand the effects of war - notably the casualties of Dunkirk. The story is told through her diary, which details historically accurate events and describes the day to day life of a military hospital.



## **Soldier Dog** by Sam Angus

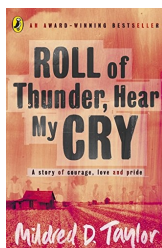
It's 1917. In the trenches of France, miles from home, Stanley is a boy fighting a man's war. He is a dog handler, whose dog must be so loyal that he will cross no-man's-land alone under heavy fire to return to Stanley's side, carrying a message that could save countless lives. But this journey is fraught with danger, and only the bravest survive.

# KS3 - Historical



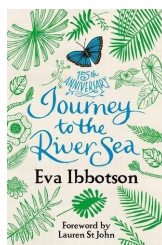
## **Coram Boy** by Jamila Gavin

The Coram man takes babies and money from desperate mothers, promising to deliver them safely to a Foundling Hospital in London. Instead, he murders them and buries them by the roadside, to the helpless horror of his mentally ill son, Mish. Mish saves one, Aaron, who grows up happily unaware of his history, proving himself a promising musician. As Aaron's new life takes him closer to his real family, the watchful Mish makes a terrible mistake, delivering Aaron and his best friend Toby back into the hands of the Coram man.



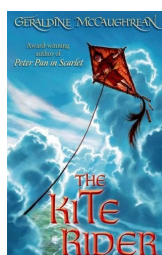
## **Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry** by Mildred D. Taylor

Cassie finds it difficult to understand why the farm means so much to her father. But, as she witnesses the hatred and destruction all around her, she begins to learn the importance of standing up for your rights. The powerful and moving story of growing up during the American Depression.



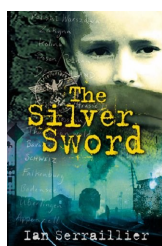
## **Journey to the River Sea** by Eva Ibbotson

It is 1910 and Maia, tragically orphaned at thirteen, has been sent from England to start a new life with distant relatives in Manaus, hundreds of miles up the Amazon. She is accompanied by an eccentric and mysterious governess who has secret reasons of her own for making the journey. Both soon discover an exotic world bursting with new experiences in *Journey to the River Sea*



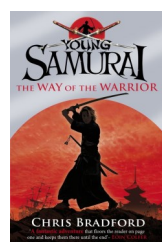
## **The Kite Rider** by Geraldine McCaughrean

In 13th century China, Haoyou's father is dead - his spirit lives among the clouds above Ancient China. Feeling powerless when the man responsible for his father's death demands to marry his mother, Haoyou determines to follow in his father's footsteps and joins a travelling circus. The Jade Circus offers him the chance to escape his enemies and perform: strapped to a kite, he takes to the skies, and soon amazes audiences across the land - including the infamous Kublai Khan himself. But is the circus master leading him into even greater danger?



## **The Silver Sword** by Ian Serraillier

Alone and fending for themselves in a Poland devastated by World War Two, Jan and his three homeless friends cling to the silver sword as a symbol of hope. As they travel through Europe towards Switzerland, where they believe they will be reunited with their parents, they encounter many hardships and dangers. This extraordinarily moving account of an epic journey gives a remarkable insight into the reality of a Europe laid waste by war.

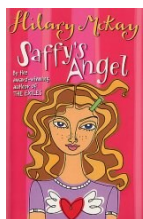


## **The Way of the Warrior (Young Samurai)** by Chris Bradford

August 1611. Jack Fletcher is shipwrecked off the coast of Japan - his beloved father and the crew lie slaughtered by ninja pirates. Rescued by the legendary sword master Masamoto Takeshi, Jack's only hope is to become a samurai warrior. And so his training begins. But life at the samurai school is a constant fight for survival. Even with his friend Akiko by his side, Jack is singled out by bullies and treated as an outcast. With courage in his heart and his sword held high, can Jack prove himself and face his deadliest rival yet?

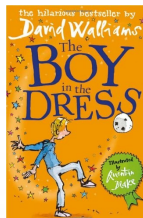


# KS3 - Family and Friends



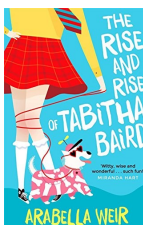
## **Saffy's Angel** by Hilary McKay

The Casson family are madly artistic; well, mad anyway. Indigo and his three sisters are named after colours, but when middle sister Saffron can't find her name on the paint chart she starts to remember living a very different life when she was young. She sets off on a mad quest to find the mysterious stone angel she remembers and discover the truth about her family.



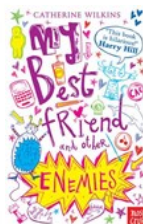
## **The Boy in the Dress** By David Walliams

12 year old Dennis lives a normal life with his older brother and father, as their mother walked out a couple of years before. However, Dennis has an extraordinary secret - he likes looking at women's fashions. When he becomes friends with Lisa, a slightly older girl, he takes things a bit further. And so for Dennis his life is about to enter a new and challenging path, as he tries on dresses and even wears one to school as his alter ego, Denise.



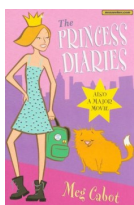
## **The Rise and Rise of Tabitha Baird** by Arabella Weir

When 13-year-old Tab Baird starts at a new school, she's determined to be the coolest, most popular girl there - whatever it takes. She adjusts her school skirt so it's just the right length. She has enough attitude to make it into the in-crowd. She even gets the attention of the hottest guys. But it's not easy being uber-cool. No one must find out that her mum, brother and her have moved into her gran's house, so she tries to persuade Gran to pose as a house-keeper. And if anyone discovers her mum's blog - about her teenage daughter - it'll be the ultimate in social death.



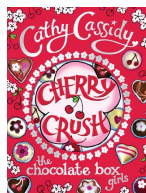
## **My Best Friend and other enemies** by Catherine Wilkins

When Jessica's best friend goes off with new-girl Natalie, Jessica is hurt but determined not to take it lying down. She has a plan, and a secret weapon - her felt-tips. The pen is mightier than the sword, after all, and having a sense of humour wins Jessica far more friends than she loses.



## **The Princess Diaries** by Meg Cabot

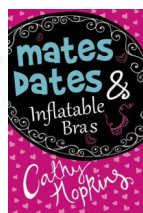
Mia Thermopolis is a normal, American, 14-year-old girl, whose main worry in life is the fact no one's ever asked her out and her mum is dating her algebra teacher. That is, until her dad tells her she's the Princess of Genovia! This causes lots of problems - she has to have a bodyguard with her, she loses her best friend, and she has to take "princess lessons" with her grandmother, who she loathes!



## **Cherry Crush** by Cathy Cassidy

Cherry Costello's life is about to change forever.

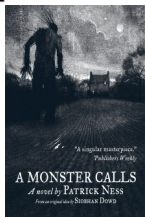
She and Dad are moving to Somerset where a new mum and a bunch of brand-new sisters await. And on Cherry's first day there she meets Shay Fletcher - the kind of boy who should carry a government health warning. But Shay already has a girlfriend, Cherry's new stepsister, Honey. Cherry knows her friendship with Shay is dangerous - it could destroy everything. But that doesn't mean she's going to stay away from him...



## **Mates, Dates and Inflation Bras** by Cathy Hopkins

Lucy feels like everything is changing around her, and suddenly she is required to make all sorts of decisions. Everyone else knows who they are and what they want to be except for her. Worse still, her best friend has hooked up with the glamorous Nesta. Can three girls be best friends? But then the day Lucy sees the most wonderful boy crossing the street, things do start to change - in all areas of her life...

# KS3 - Emotional



## **A Monster Calls** by Patrick Ness

Conor has the same dream every night, ever since his mother first fell ill, ever since she started the treatments that don't quite seem to be working. 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.



## **Apple and Rain** by Sarah Crossan

When Apple's mother returns after eleven years of absence, Apple feels whole again. She will have an answer to her burning question - why did you go? And she will have someone who understands what it means to be a teenager - unlike Nana. But just like the stormy Christmas Eve when she left, her mother's homecoming is bitter sweet, and Apple wonders who is really looking after whom. It's only when Apple meets someone more lost than she is, that she begins to see things as they really are.



## **Wonder** by R. J. Palacio

August (Auggie) Pullman was born with a facial deformity that prevented him from going to an ordinary school—until now. He's about to start 5th grade at Beecher Prep, and if you've ever been the new kid then you know how hard that can be. The thing is Auggie's just an ordinary kid, with an extraordinary face. But can he convince his new classmates that he's just like them, despite appearances?



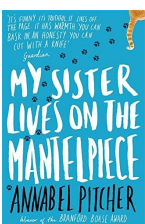
## **Stargirl** by Jerry Spinelli

From the day she arrives at quiet Mica High in a burst of colour and sound, corridors hum "Stargirl." She captures Leo 's heart with one smile. She sparks a school-spirit revolution with one cheer. The students of Mica High are enchanted. Until things change and Leo urges her to become the very thing that can destroy her - normal.



## **Bridge to Terabithia** by Katherine Patterson

When a girl named Leslie Burke moves into the neighbouring farm, Jess's life changes forever. Even though she runs faster than him, Jess begins to think Leslie might be okay - she's clever and funny and not a bit soppy. And it is Leslie who invents Terabithia, the secret country on an island across the creek where he can escape his troublesome family. The only way to reach Terabithia is by rope-swing where Jess and Leslie become King and Queen, defeating giants, sharing stories and dreams, and plotting against their enemies. They are invincible - until tragedy strikes.



## **My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece** by Annabel Pitcher

Ten-year-old Jamie Matthews has just moved to the Lake District with his Dad and his teenage sister, Jasmine for a 'Fresh New Start'. Five years ago his sister's twin, Rose, was blown up by a terrorist bomb. His parents are wrecked by their grief, Jasmine turns to piercing, pink hair and stops eating. The family falls apart. But Jamie hasn't cried in all that time. To him Rose is just a distant memory. Jamie is far more interested in his cat, Roger, his birthday Spiderman T-shirt, and in keeping his new friend Sunya a secret from his dad. And in his deep longing and unshakeable belief that his Mum will come back to the family she walked out on months ago. When he sees a TV advert for a talent show, he feels certain that this will change everything and bring them all back together once and for all.



# KS3 - Emotional



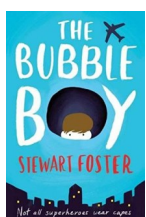
## **The Goldfish Boy** by Lisa Thompson

Twelve-year-old Matthew is trapped in his bedroom by crippling OCD, spending most of his time staring out of his window as the inhabitants of Chestnut Close go about their business. Until the day he is the last person to see his next door neighbour's toddler, Teddy, before he goes missing. Matthew must turn detective and unravel the mystery of Teddy's disappearance - with the help of a brilliant cast of supporting characters.



## **Just call me Spaghetti-Hoop Boy** by Lara Williamson

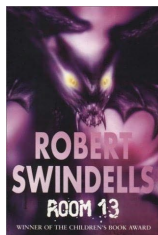
My name is Adam Butters. I live on planet Earth, I like eating spaghetti hoops and I've decided I'm going to be a SUPERHERO. Everyone loves superheroes, they solve problems and make people happy, and that's good because my mum needs cheering up. Also, I've found out that before I was adopted my real mum called me ACE. So now I've just got to prove to the world that's what I am. One mission at a time...



## **The Bubble Boy** by Stewart Foster

Eleven-year-old Joe can't remember a life outside of his hospital room, with its beeping machines and view of London's rooftops. His condition means he's not allowed outside, not even for a moment, and his few visitors risk bringing life-threatening germs inside his 'bubble'. But then someone new enters his world and changes it for ever.

# KS3 - Horror



## **Room 13** by Robert Swindells

There is no room thirteen in the creepy Crow's Nest Hotel, where Fliss and her friends are staying on a school trip. Or is there? For at the stroke of midnight, something peculiar happens to the door of the linen cupboard next to room 12. And something is happening to Ellie-May Sunderland, too - something very sinister . . .



## **Haunted: Short stories** by Susan Cooper

Eleven ghost stories by various well-known authors: from a ghost walk around York; to a drowned boy, who's determined to find someone to play with; to a lost child trapped in a mirror, ready to pull you in; to devilish creatures, waiting with bated breath for their next young victim; to an ancient woodland reawakened.



## **The Graveyard Book** by Neil Gaiman

When a baby escapes a murderer intent on killing the entire family, who would have thought it would find safety and security in the local graveyard? Brought up by the resident ghosts, ghouls and spectres, Bod has an eccentric childhood learning about life from the dead. But for Bod there is also the danger of the murderer still looking for him - after all, he is the last remaining member of the family.



## **Skulduggery Pleasant** by Derek Landy

Twelve year old Stephanie's uncle Gordon is a writer of horror fiction. But when he dies and leaves her his estate, Stephanie learns that while he may have written horror, it certainly wasn't fiction. Pursued by evil forces intent on recovering a mysterious key, Stephanie finds help from an unusual source - the wisecracking skeleton of a dead wizard. When all hell breaks loose, it's lucky for Skulduggery that he's already dead. Will evil win the day? Will Stephanie and Skulduggery stop bickering long enough to stop it? One thing's for sure: evil won't know what's hit it.



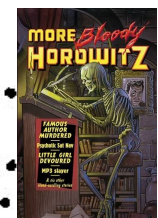
## **Cirque Du Freak** by Darren Shan

Darren goes to a banned freak show with his best mate Steve. It's the wonderfully gothic Cirque Du Freak where weird, frightening half human/half animals appear who interact terrifyingly with the audience. Darren - a spider freak - 'falls in love' with Madam Octa - an enormous tarantula owned by Mr Crepsley. Darren determines to steal the spider so that he can train it to perform amazing deeds. But his daring theft goes horribly wrong and Darren finds himself having to make a bargain with a creature of the night.



## **The Crowfield Curse** by Pat Walsh

It's 1347 and fifteen-year-old Will, an orphan boy, lives at Crowfield Abbey. Sent into the forest to gather wood, he rescues instead, a creature from a trap - a hob, who shares with Will a terrible secret. Somewhere in the forest behind the abbey where he lives, is a grave. And buried deep in the snow is an angel. But how can an angel die? What has it to do with the monks of the Abbey? When two hooded strangers arrive at Crowfield asking questions about the angel's grave. Will is drawn into a world of dangerous Old Magic.



## **More Bloody Horowitz** by Anthony Horowitz

Stories of ultimate revenge, from freshly sold human meat and uncontrollable robots, to life-sucking MP3 players and reality TV where death is the penalty - all told with dark humour and gruesome relish,



# KS3 - Horror



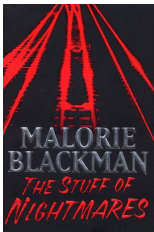
## **The Spook's Apprentice** by Joseph Delaney

For years, the local Spook has been keeping the County safe from evil. Now his time is coming to an end, but who will take over? Many apprentices have tried. Some floundered, some fled, some failed to stay alive. Just one boy is left. Thomas Ward. He is the last hope. But does he stand a chance against Mother Malkin, the most dangerous witch in the County?



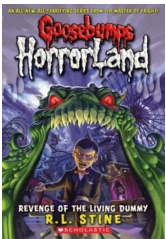
## **Lockwood and Co.** by Jonathan Stroud

For more than fifty years, the country has been affected by a horrifying epidemic of ghosts. A number of Psychic Investigations Agencies have sprung up to destroy the dangerous apparitions. Lucy Carlyle, a talented young agent, arrives in London hoping for a notable career. Instead she finds herself joining the smallest most ramshackle agency in the city, run by the charismatic Anthony Lockwood. When one of their cases goes horribly wrong, Lockwood & Co. have one last chance of redemption. Unfortunately this involves spending the night in one of the most haunted houses in England, and trying to escape alive.



## **The Stuff of nightmares** by Malorie Blackman

Kyle has always been afraid of things, especially dying. But when he gets on the train that is taking him and his class on a school trip, he has no idea how close to Death he is going to come. Death enters the train and Kyle moves with him, past his friends, who are frozen in time, in life-or-death situations. Kyle finds that he can pick up on their deepest, darkest fears - real things that have happened to them, or may happen in the future, and sometimes their surreal nightmares too.



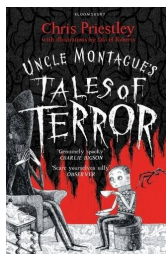
## **Goosebumps: Horrorland** by R. L. Stine

Britney Crosby thinks her cousin Ethan is pretty weird—and she happens to be right. Ethan won't stop tormenting Britney with an old ventriloquist's dummy. And the puppet has plans for Britney, too! Next, someone will be offered a vacation at a popular "scream park." An entire week for free? You'd have to be a real dummy to refuse that! But some guests aren't allowed to escape HorrorLand after just six days and seven frights...



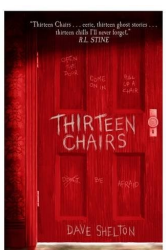
## **Say her name** by Juno Dawson

Roberta 'Bobbie' Rowe is not the kind of person who believes in ghosts. A Halloween dare at her ridiculously spooky boarding school is no big deal, especially when her best friend Naya and cute local boy Caine agree to join in too. They are ordered to summon the legendary ghost of Bloody Mary: say her name five times in front of a candlelit mirror, and she shall appear... But, surprise surprise, nothing happens. Or does it?



## **Uncle Montague's Tales of Terror** by Chris Priestley

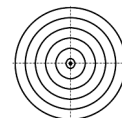
Uncle Montague lives alone in a big house and his regular visits from his nephew give him the opportunity to retell some of the most frightening stories he knows. But as the stories unfold, another even more spine-tingling narrative emerges, one that is perhaps the most frightening of all. Uncle Montague's tales of terror, it transpires, are not so much works of imagination as dreadful, lurking memories. Memories of an earlier time in which Uncle Montague lived a very different life to his present solitary existence...



## **Thirteen Chairs** by Dave Shelton

Jack stands in the dark on the landing of the old house, and looks at his feet - He has been here for minutes, his hand on the door handle, debating whether or not to go in. A high-ceilinged room lit only by candles. Thirteen chairs, one empty. Twelve ghostly storytellers, waiting to begin. Come in! Take your place. We have been expecting you. Do you dare to listen to our stories? Do you dare to tell your own?

# KS3 - Action Adventure



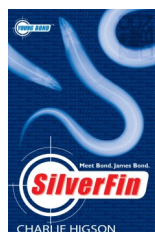
## **Stormbreaker** by Anthony Horowitz

After the death of his uncle, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider is forcibly recruited into MI6. Armed with secret gadgets, he is sent to investigate Herod Sayle, a man who is offering state-of-the-art Stormbreaker computers to every school in the country. But the teenage spy soon finds himself in mortal danger.



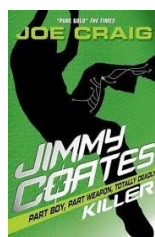
## **I'd tell you I Love you, But then I'd Have to Kill You** by Ally Carter

Gallagher Academy might claim to be a school for geniuses - but it's really a school for spies. Cammie Morgan is fluent in fourteen languages and capable of killing a man in seven different ways (three of which involve a piece of uncooked spaghetti). But the one thing the Gallagher Academy hasn't prepared her for is what to do when she falls for an ordinary boy who thinks she's an ordinary girl. Sure, she can tap his phone, hack into his computer, and track him through a mall without his ever being the wiser, but can Cammie have a normal relationship with a boy who can never know the truth about her?



## **Silverfin (Young James Bond)** by Charlie Higson

This thrilling prequel to the James Bond dynasty shows young James at boarding school at Eton in the 1930's, where he spent his formative years. Acclaimed British writer Charlie Higson, with the Ian Fleming Estate, writes an edge-of-your seat thriller that brilliantly plants the seeds to show how young James learns the skills that will eventually make him history's most formidable and suave super spy.



## **Jimmy Coates: Killer** by Joe Craig

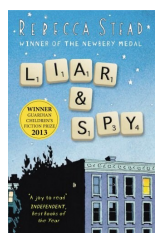
Who are the mysterious men chasing Jimmy across the city?

Why are they after him?

What are Jimmy's parents hiding and who can he trust?

And how come he can suddenly do all this really cool stuff?

Jimmy Coates is a boy with a secret and even he doesn't know what it is. But it's a matter of life and death...



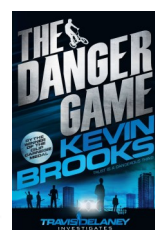
## **Liar and Spy** by Rebecca Stead

When Georges moves into a new apartment block he meets Safer, a twelve-year-old self-appointed spy. Soon Georges has become his spy recruit. His first assignment? To track the mysterious Mr X, who lives in the flat upstairs. But as Safer becomes more demanding, Georges starts to wonder: what is a game and what is a lie? How far is too far to go for your only friend?



## **Itch** by Simon Mayo

Itchingham Lofte - known as Itch - is fourteen, and loves science, especially chemistry. He's also an element-hunter: he's collecting all the elements in the periodic table. Which has some interesting and rather destructive results in his bedroom. Then, Itch makes a discovery. A new element, never seen before. At first no one believes him - but soon someone hears about the strange new rock and wants it for himself. And Itch and his family are catapulted into a breathless adventure with terrifyingly high stakes . . .



## **The Danger Game** by Kevin Brooks

Fourteen-year-old Travis Delaney is trying to get his life back on track following the crash that killed his parents last summer. The police called it an accident, but Travis knows better. His parents were on to something, and whatever they were investigating . . . ended with their murder.

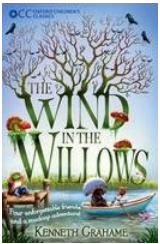


## KS3 - Classics



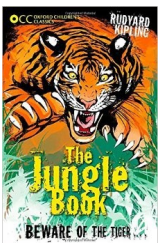
### **Alice in Wonderland** by Lewis Carroll

"What's at the bottom of the rabbit hole? Wonder! Adventure! Confusion! Cake! Join Alice as she tumbles into a strange world where curious things are normal, and normal things are ...curiouser!"



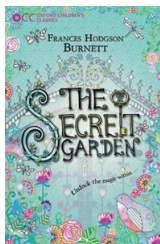
### **The Wind in the Willows** by Kenneth Grahame

Bored of spring-cleaning, Mole goes to the riverbank and meets Ratty, with whom he becomes good friends. Through Ratty, Mole also meets Badger and Toad and the group have many adventures and misadventures, involving crashed motor cars, escaping from prison and Toad Hall being taken over by menacing animals from the Wild Woods...



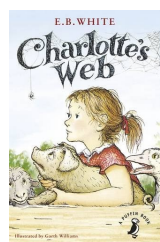
### **The Jungle Book** by Rudyard Kipling

A collection of animal stories and poems including the tale of Mowgli, a boy raised by a pack of wolves in the Indian jungle. We meet the tiger Shere Khan, Bagheera, the black panther, Baloo, the 'sleepy brown bear', and the python, Kaa. Other famous stories include the tale of the fearless mongoose Rikki-Tikki-Tavi, and that of elephant-handler Toomai of the Elephants.



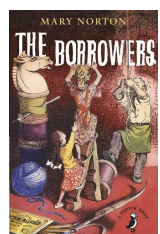
### **The Secret Garden** by Frances Hodgson Burnett

When Mary Lennox is sent to Misselthwaite Manor to live with her uncle everybody says she is the most disagreeable-looking child ever seen. It is true, too. Mary is pale, spoilt and quite contrary. But she is also horribly lonely. Then one day she hears about a garden in the grounds of the Manor that has been kept locked and hidden for years. And when a friendly robin helps Mary find the key, she discovers the most magical place anyone could imagine...



### **Charlotte's Web** by E.B. White

This is the story of a little girl named Fern who loved a little pig named Wilbur and of Wilbur's dear friend, Charlotte A. Cavatica, a beautiful large grey spider. With the unlikely help of Templeton the rat, and a wonderfully clever plan of her own, Charlotte saves the life of Wilbur, who by this time has grown up to be quite a pig.

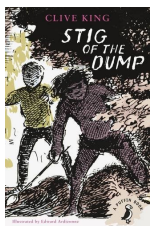


### **The Borrowers** by Mary Norton

The Borrowers live in the secret places of quiet old houses; behind the mantelpiece, inside the harpsichord, under the kitchen clock. They own nothing, borrow everything, and think that human beings were invented just to do the dirty work. Arrietty's father, Pod, was an expert Borrower. He could scale curtains using a hatpin, and bring back a doll's teacup without breaking it. Girls weren't supposed to go borrowing but as Arrietty was an only child her father broke the rule, and then something happened which changed their lives. She made friends with the human boy living in the house...

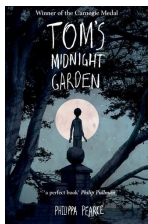


## KS3 - Classics



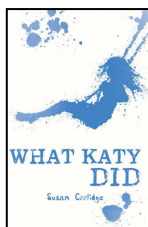
### **Stig of the Dump** by Clive King

Barney is a solitary little boy, given to wandering off by himself. One day he is lying on the edge of a disused chalk-pit when it gives way and he lands in a sort of cave. Here he meets 'somebody with a lot of shaggy hair and two bright black eyes' wearing a rabbit skin and speaking in grunts. He names him Stig. Of course nobody believes Barney when he tells his family all about Stig, but for Barney cave-man Stig is totally real. They become great friends, learning each others ways and having a series of unforgettable adventures.



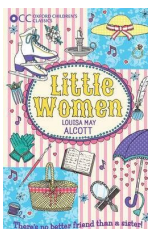
### **Tom's Midnight Garden** by Philippa Pearce

When Tom is sent to stay at his aunt and uncle's house for the summer, he resigns himself to endless weeks of boredom. As he lies awake in his bed he hears the grandfather clock downstairs strike . . . eleven . . . twelve . . . thirteen . . . Thirteen! Tom races down the stairs and out the back door, into a garden everyone told him wasn't there. In this enchanted thirteenth hour, the garden comes alive - but Tom is never sure whether the children he meets there are real or ghosts . . .



### **What Katy Did** by Susan Coolidge

Twelve-year-old Katy Carr has grand dreams for the future. She longs to be good, kind and beautiful, inspired by her beloved cousin Helen. For now, though, she can't help getting into mischief. But a terrible accident casts a shadow over Katy's dreams, and she must draw on every ounce of courage and good humour to see her through.



### **Little Women** by Louisa M. Alcott

Christmas won't be the same this year for Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy, as their father is away fighting in the Civil War, and the family has fallen on hard times. But though they may be poor, life for the four March sisters is rich with colour, as they play games, put on wild theatricals, make new friends, argue, grapple with their vices, learn from their mistakes, nurse each other through sickness and disappointments, and get into all sorts of trouble.



### **Black Beauty** by Anna Sewell

Black Beauty is born in a beautiful meadow and cared for by gentle humans. But life takes him far from home, from the stable of a gentleman, to gruelling work as a cab horse in the city. Where will Black Beauty's journey lead him next? And is there anyone he can truly trust?



### **Goodnight Mr Tom** by Michelle Magorian

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 . . .



### **A Christmas Carol** by Charles Dickens

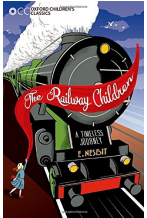
Ebenezer Scrooge is a mean, miserable, bitter old man with no friends. One cold Christmas Eve, three ghosts take him on a scary journey to show him the error of his nasty ways. By visiting his past, present and future, Scrooge learns to love Christmas and the people all around him.

## KS3 - Classics



### **The Silver Sword** by Ian Serrailier

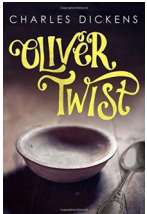
Having lost their parents in the chaos of war, Ruth, Edek and Bronia are left alone to fend for themselves and hide from the Nazis amid the rubble and ruins of their city. They meet a ragged orphan boy, Jan, who treasures a paperknife - a silver sword - which was entrusted to him by an escaped prisoner of war. The three children realise that the escapee was their father, the silver sword a message that he is alive and searching for them. Together with Jan they begin a dangerous journey across the battlefields of Europe to find their parents.



### **The Railway Children** by E. Nesbit

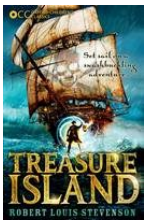
Family! Friendship! Adventure! Mystery!

Roberta, Peter, and Phyllis have their lives turned upside down when their father mysteriously has to go away. The railway becomes the centre of their new life, but little do they know what wonders and changes it will bring to them - maybe even the answer to Father's disappearance.



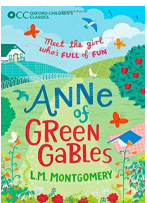
### **Oliver Twist** by Charles Dickens

Oliver Twist is orphaned and on the streets of London. Alone and vulnerable, he forms a new kind of family with a group of pickpockets, led by the enigmatic Fagin. At first Oliver's new family provides a sense of hope, but it is not long before the true colours of London's underclass reveals itself: prostitution, scheming, desperation and greed surround Oliver, making his prospects of happiness seem bleak. But this young boy, who never seems to stop running, is nothing like those he runs from.



### **Treasure Island** by Robert Louis Stevenson

An exciting adventure involving a treasure map, a perilous sea journey across the Spanish Main, a mutiny led by the infamous Long John Silver, and a lethal scramble for buried treasure as seen through the eyes of cabin boy Jim Hawkins.



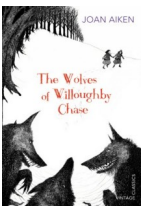
### **Anne of Green Gables** by L.M. Montgomery

Anne wishes her bright red hair was a beautiful auburn (not the green she accidentally dyed it). She dreams of pretty dresses and eating fancy cakes (made with all the right ingredients instead of the medicine she accidentally used). And she's determined to beat Gilbert Blythe to be top of the class (and doesn't care one bit how handsome he is). But most of all, she wants to stay at Green Gables forever, with her very best friend, Diana. With friendship, family, catastrophes, and romance; come and meet the girl who's full of fun!



### **Ballet Shoes** by Noel Sreatfeild

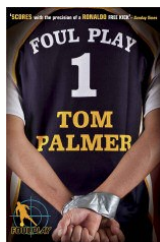
Pauline, Petrova and Posy Fossil are sisters - with a difference. All three were adopted as babies by Great Uncle Matthew, an eccentric and rich explorer who then disappeared, leaving them in the care of his niece Sylvia. The girls grow up in comfort until their money begins to run out and nobody can find Great Uncle Matthew. Things look bleak until they hit on an inspired idea: Pauline, Petrova and Posy will take to the stage. But it's not long before the Fossils learn that being a star isn't as easy as they first thought...



### **The Wolves of Willoughby Chase** by Joan Aiken

Long ago, at a time in history that never happened, England was overrun with wolves. But as Bonnie and her cousin Sylvia discover, real danger often lies closer to home. Their new governess, Miss Slighcarp, doesn't seem at all nice. She shuts Bonnie in a cupboard, fires the faithful servants and sends the cousins far away from Willoughby Chase to a place they will never be found. Can Bonnie and Sylvia outwit the wicked Miss Slighcarp and her network of criminals, forgers and snitches?

# KS3 - Sports Stories



## **Foul Play** by Tom Palmer

Danny is obsessed with two things: football - especially City Football Club - and investigating crime. So when England and City footballing hero Sam Roberts is reported missing the day after Danny saw him being taken, blindfolded, into the bowels of the City FC stadium late at night, he's determined to get to the bottom of it. But is Danny getting into something he can't handle?



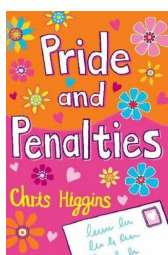
## **Glory Gardens: Glory in the Cup** by Bob Cattell

Hooker, Azzie, Erica and the rest all play cricket in their spare time, but they've never taken it very seriously until now. Kiddo, one of their school teachers, suggests they form an official team and play proper matches - and Glory Gardens C.C. is formed. Hooker, as captain, soon finds out that cricket teams weren't built in a day: some players squabble, some can't catch, and some have tantrums and go home at half-time! So will Glory Gardens go all out for victory . . . or will they be out for a duck?



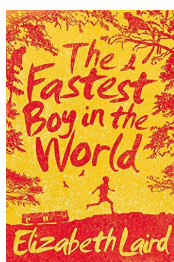
## **Rugby Academy: Combat Zone** by Tom Palmer

Borderlands is no ordinary school - all of the students boarding there have parents in the armed forces, and the UK is drawing perilously close to war in the Middle East. New boy Woody is desperate to escape the school and find his way to his dad's military base, but his dad has been mobilised. He's gone. Worried and unhappy, Woody turns to the only thing that could help get him through - rugby.



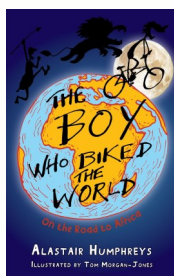
## **Pride and Penalties** by Chris Higgins

Charlotte doesn't want a lot - just to play rugby and for her dad to be proud of her. But her brother Will is the rugby star of the family, only he's got very different stars in his eyes. Soon they're both keeping secrets and so is their mum! Plus Gran is acting stranger and stranger... It also doesn't help that her sworn enemy is the one boy she can't stop thinking about... Good thing she's known as Spider. She'll need all the help she can get to untangle this.



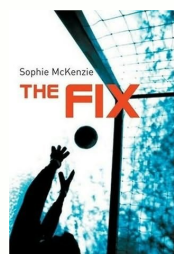
## **The Fastest Boy in the World** by Elizabeth Laird

Eleven-year-old Solomon loves to run! The great athletes of the Ethiopian national team are his heroes and he dreams that one day he will be a gold-medal-winning athlete like them, in spite of his ragged shorts and bare feet. When his grandfather announces that he's going to take Solomon to Addis Ababa, Solomon cannot believe his ears. Solomon's joy is increased when he realizes that the Ethiopian running team will be doing a victory parade through the city that day. But Solomon's grandfather has other plans. When grandfather collapses, Solomon knows that getting help from his village is up to him. It's a twenty-mile run from the city to home, and grandfather's life hangs in the balance. Can the small bare-footed runner with the big heart do it?



## **The Boy Who Biked the World** by Alastair Humphreys

Tom really wants to be an explorer. His favourite book is an atlas and he follows adventurers not footballers. His schooldays are spent daydreaming about travelling from Tibet to Timbuktu. A private wish blurted out loud started his freewheeling adventure: I'm going to cycle round the world. His classmates laughed. No one believed him, least of all his teacher. The mountains will be too high! The desert is too hot! Everyone shouted their reasons why his dream was impossible. But it was a funny thing, the more that people told him he couldn't do it, the more Tom found himself wanting to prove them wrong.

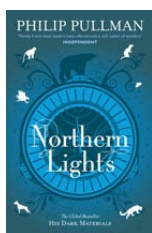


## **The Fix** by Sophie McKenzie

Football is Blake's life - but it doesn't pay the rent. And if his mum can't do that, they're out on the street. So when a stranger makes him an offer, Blake finds it hard to resist. All he has to do is miss some goals and he'll earn enough cash to keep them going a little while longer. But what if Blake does fix the match? He could end up risking a lot more than just losing a game.



# KS3 - Books into Film



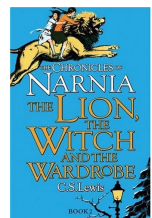
## **Northern Lights** by Philip Pullman

Lyra is no ordinary child. Plucky, wild, feisty and fey, she leads a wild and carefree life tramping the roofs of Jordan College, Oxford, and fighting with the Gyptian children on the canal. But now children are mysteriously disappearing. A reign of terror is coming. And when Lyra's friend Roger vanishes, she sets off on a mission to save him. It's a journey into a glittering Arctic north of ice and snow, where witch-queens ride the skies, armoured bears roam the snow... and scientists are conducting experiments of unspeakable terror. Does one girl have the courage and cunning to stop them?



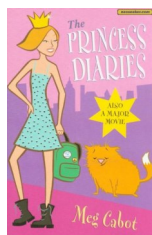
## **The Hobbit** by J.R.R. Tolkien

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.



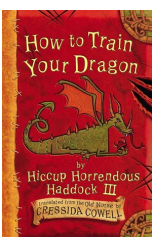
## **The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe** by C.S. Lewis

Four adventurous siblings: Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy Pevensie step through a wardrobe door and into the land of Narnia, a land frozen in eternal winter and enslaved by the power of the White Witch. But when almost all hope is lost, the return of the Great Lion, Aslan, signals a great change . . . and a great sacrifice.



## **The Princess Diaries** by Meg Cabot

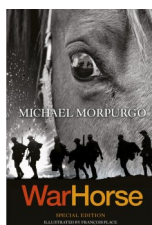
Mia Thermopolis is a normal, American, 14-year-old girl, whose main worry in life is the fact no one's ever asked her out and her mum is dating her algebra teacher. That is, until her dad tells her she's the Princess of Genovia! This causes lots of problems - she has to have a bodyguard with her, she loses her best friend, and she has to take "princess lessons" with her grandmother, who she loathes!



## **How to train your dragon** by Cressida Cowell

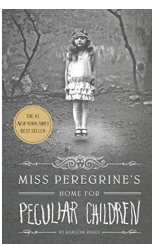
Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III was an awesome sword-fighter, a dragon-whisperer and the greatest Viking Hero who ever lived. But it wasn't always like that.

In fact, in the beginning, Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III was the most put upon Viking you'd ever seen. Not loud enough to make himself heard at dinner with his father, Stoick the Vast; not hard enough to beat his chief rival, Snotlout, at Bashyball, the number one school sport and CERTAINLY not stupid enough to go into a cave full of dragons to find a pet... It's time for Hiccup to learn how to be a Hero.



## **War Horse** by Michael Morpurgo

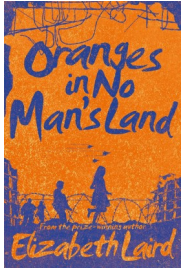
In the deadly chaos of the First World War, one horse witnesses the reality of battle from both sides of the trenches. Bombarded by artillery, with bullets knocking riders from his back, Joey tells a powerful story of the truest friendships surviving in terrible times. One horse has seen the best and the worst of humanity. The power of war and the beauty of peace. This is his story.



## **Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children** by Ransome Riggs

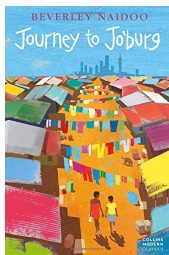
A horrific family tragedy sets sixteen-year-old Jacob journeying to a remote island off the coast of Wales, where he discovers the crumbling ruins of Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children. As Jacob explores its abandoned bedrooms and hallways, it becomes clear that the children were more than just peculiar. They may have been dangerous. They may have been quarantined on a deserted island for good reason. And somehow impossible though it seems they may still be alive.

## KS3 - Far-flung places



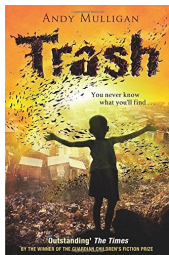
### **Oranges in No Man's Land** by Elizabeth Laird

Since her father left Lebanon to find work and her mother tragically died in a shell attack, ten-year-old Ayesha has been living in the bomb-ravaged city of Beirut with her granny and her two younger brothers. The city has been torn in half by civil war and a desolate, dangerous no man's land divides the two sides. Only militiamen and tanks dare enter this deadly zone, but when Granny falls desperately ill, Ayesha sets off on a terrifying journey to reach a doctor living in enemy territory.



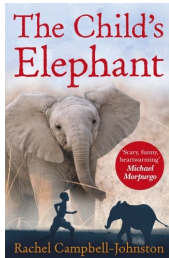
### **Journey to Jo'burg** by Beverley Naidoo

Frightened that their baby sister Dineo will die, thirteen-year-old Naledi and her younger brother Tiro run away from their grandmother to Johannesburg to find their mother, who works there as a maid. Their journey illustrates at every turn the grim realities of apartheid - the pass laws, bantustans, racism, the breakdown of family life. The opulence of the white "Madam's" house contrasts starkly with the reality that Naledi and Tiro face - that their baby sister is suffering from starvation, not an incurable disease.



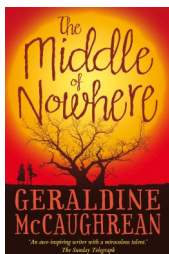
### **Trash** by Andy Mulligan

In an unnamed Third World country, in the not-so-distant future, Raphael lives on the dumpsite, eking out a living sifting through rubbish. One unlucky-lucky day, he makes an extraordinary and deadly discovery. Now he and his two friends, Gardo and Rat, are wanted by the corrupt forces that run the city and will stop at nothing to get back what they've lost.



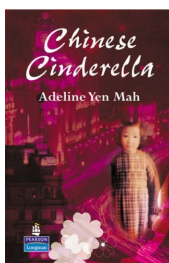
### **The Elephant's Child** by Rachel Campbell Johnston

When a baby elephant is abandoned on the African savannah, a young boy named Bat takes her back to his village and cares for her. But Bat's grandmother explains that Meya cannot stay with them for ever - the call of the wild will always be sounding in her soul. Then frightening rumours arrive at the village; rumours of kidnapping, suffering and war. Bat and his friend Muka are snatched, and catapulted into a new life of unimaginable terror. Will the bond between Bat and Meya strong enough to save them?



### **The Middle of Nowhere** by Geraldine McCaughrean

When her mother dies from a snakebite, Comity's life in the Australian outback changes forever. As her father retreats into his work, Comity turns to Fred, the Aboriginal yard boy, who becomes her only friend. But then a new assistant arrives who delights in playing cruel games. As Fred becomes his target, events spiral dangerously out of control.



### **Chinese Cinderella** by Adeline Yen Mah

Jung-ling's family considers her bad luck because her mother died giving birth to her. They discriminate against her and make her feel unwanted yet she yearns and continuously strives for her parents' love. Her stepmother is vindictive and cruel and her father dismissive. Jung-ling grows up to be an academic child, with a natural ability for writing. Only her aunt and grandfather offer her any love and kindness. The story is of survival in the light of the mental and physical cruelty of her stepmother and the disloyalty of her siblings. Jung-ling blossoms in spite of everything and the story ends as her father agrees to let her study in England.