

# Welcome to the English Department



Please find below our Year 7 reading list, a collection of novels selected by the school librarian, some of which you may like to read in the next few months. We'd like you to read at least four books you have not read before, **each from a different section of the list.**

Please set aside a few hours to work on the following Author Study Project, based on your reading. Miss Brown, the librarian, will expect to receive this in September and the best examples will be used for display. You could complete it on the computer and email it to [w.brown@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk](mailto:w.brown@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk) if you prefer.

Challenge yourself to choose one of these titles.

We look forward to welcoming you to BVGS.

**Mrs R Haywood**  
**Head of English**

## Recommended Reading List

### Action and Adventure

Hacker	Malorie Blackman
The Way of the Warrior (Young Samurai)	Chris Bradford
Artemis Fowl	Eoin Colfer
The London Eye Mystery	Siobhan Dowd
Small Change for Stuart	Lissa Evans
Silverfin	Charlie Higson
Stormbreaker	Anthony Horowitz
Raven's Gate	Anthony Horowitz
Deep End (Special Agents)	Sam Hutton
Blood Ties	Sophie McKenzie
The Set Up (The Medusa Project)	Sophie McKenzie
The Escape	Robert Muchamore
Trash	Andy Mulligan
The Wind Singer	William Nicholson
Imperial Spy	Mark Robson
Montmorency	Eleanor Updale
H.I.V.E.	Mark Walden

### Fantasy and Magic

The Dream Master	Theresa Breslin
The Spook's Apprentice	Joseph Delaney
The Black Book of Secrets	F.E. Higgins
Any title from the Redwall series	Brian Jacques
Archer's Goon	Diana Wynne Jones
A Wizard of Earthsea	Ursula Le Guin
The Doomspell	Cliff McNish
The Fall	Garth Nix
Sabriel	Garth Nix
Airborn	Kenneth Oppel
Gods and Warriors	Michelle Paver
Wolf Brother	Michelle Paver
Northern Lights	Philip Pullman

Mortal Engines  
Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief  
Magyk  
Cirque Du Freak  
Beyond the Deepwoods  
The Hobbit

Philip Reeve  
Rick Riordan  
Angie Sage  
Darren Shan  
Paul Stewart & Chris Riddell  
J R R Tolkien

## Historical and War Stories

Chains  
Little Soldier  
The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas  
Ghost Hawk  
The Seeing Stone  
Corm Boy  
Once  
Stop the Train  
Private Peaceful  
The Wreck of the Zanzibar  
Here Lies Arthur  
The Foreshadowing  
The Eagle

Laurie Halse Anderson  
Bernard Ashley  
John Boyne  
Susan Cooper  
Kevin Crossley-Holland  
Jamila Gavin  
Morris Gleitzman  
Geraldine McCaughrean  
Michael Morpurgo  
Michael Morpurgo  
Philip Reeve  
Marcus Sedgwick  
Rosemary Sutcliff

## Humour

Awful End  
Bring Me the Head of Oliver Plunkett  
Boy 2 Girl  
Cosmic  
Framed  
Boom  
Hoot  
Any title from The Diamond Brothers series  
Unbearable  
Diary of an (Un)Teenager  
Rescuing Dad  
The Amazing Maurice and his Educated Rodents  
The Wee Free Men

Philip Ardagh  
Colin Bateman  
Terence Blacker  
Frank Cottrell Boyce  
Frank Cottrell Boyce  
Mark Haddon  
Carl Hiaasen  
Anthony Horowitz  
Paul Jennings  
Pete Johnson  
Pete Johnson  
Terry Pratchett  
Terry Pratchett

## Real Life

The Transfer  
Pig-Heart Boy  
Billy Elliot  
The Weight of Water  
Boy  
The Edge  
Broken Glass  
Wonder  
Concrete Chips  
Dream On  
Refugee Boy

Terence Blacker  
Malorie Blackman  
Melvin Burgess  
Susan Crossan  
Roald Dahl  
Alan Gibbons  
Sally Grindley  
R J Palacio  
Bali Rai  
Bali Rai  
Benjamin Zephaniah

## Prize Winners

Skellig  
Riverboy  
Millions

David Almond	(Carnegie Medal)
Tim Bowler	(Carnegie Medal)
Frank Cottrell Boyce	(Carnegie Medal)

The Other Side of Truth	Beverley Naidoo	(Carnegie Medal)
The Machine-Gunners	Robert Westall	(Carnegie Medal)
Skulduggery Pleasant	Derek Landy	(Red House Book Award)
Time Riders	Alex Scarrow	(Red House Book Award)
Fire, Bed and Bone	Henrietta Branford	(Guardian Children's Fiction Prize)
The Village by the Sea	Anita Desai	(Guardian Children's Fiction Prize)
A Charmed Life	Dianna Wynne-Jones	(Guardian Children's Fiction Prize)
Shadow of the Minotaur	Alan Gibbons	(Blue Peter Award)
Journey to the River Sea	Eva Ibbotson	(Smarties)
Vampirates: Demons of the Ocean	Justin Somper	(Birmingham KS3 Book Award)
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time	Mark Haddon	(BirminghamKS3 Book Award)
The Howling Tower	Michael Coleman	(Birmingham KS3 Book Award)

### Reading and The Accelerated Reader Programme

Here at Bishop Vesey's Grammar School, we love reading: we love to let our minds run free in the fictional world created by an author; or befriend and learn from a character that we have met in the book we are reading; or even just to find a moment alone with a book to find some relaxation after some exciting, but challenging lessons. We also love celebration and being able to push our reading to new levels. In Key Stage 3 at BVGS we use the Accelerated Reader programme to see how well we are reading, to see what our current reading age is and what we need to read to improve our ability, but also to get certificates, win prizes and to boost the merits for our form and house in the reading competitions. The Accelerated Reader programme records how many books we have read through doing some fun quizzes to see how much we have comprehended too. These scores add up to the AR Competition prizes – it could be an Amazon voucher (to buy a book that you had always wanted, or a fountain pen to show off with in class), or it could be a form time with some goodies thrown in for whole class. You are already at an advantage: if you manage four of Mrs Haywood's recommended reading list challenge, you will have four books to do a quiz on when you get to school!

Reading is part of what we do here at BVGS. Reading is part of our school values: it leads us to our natural spirit of enquiry and curiosity: it is, quite simply, part of who we are. We look forward to seeing you (and reading with you) at our school soon.

Mr Chadwick

Teacher of English and Literacy Champion

## Author Study Project

Please hand in to the library or email it to [w.brown@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk](mailto:w.brown@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk) when you have completed it. It can be handwritten or you can use IT.

The books I have read from the reading list include:

The author I have selected for my project is: .....

What other books has this author written? Put a tick next to any titles you have read too

Who is this author's publisher? .....

Does this author have a website?

If so what is the address? .....

Give a brief biographical account of this author:

What appealed to you about this author's work?

**Additionally create an A3 or A4 display of your favourite book or author from the reading list**