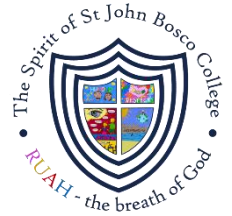




St John
Bosco
College

St John Bosco College Recommended Reading List 2017-2018



SJBC LIBRARIAN TOP PICKS

Anthony Horowitz – Stormbreaker 14 year-old Alex Rider finds his life turned upside down on discovering that his late uncle wasn't a mild-mannered banker, but instead a field agent for MI6. Alex is then dragged into the world of espionage and intrigue himself. Book #1 in an action-packed book which won the New York Times Bestselling young adult novel written by British author Anthony Horowitz.

Interest level age 12+

Dodie Smith – I Capture The Castle Life growing up in a crumbling castle, with her father who suffers from crippling writer's block, her glamorous but ineffectual step-mother and her vain but beloved sister Rose. When two visiting Americans arrive, all of their lives are turned upside down, and Cassandra experiences her first love. Written by the author of '101 Dalmations.'

Interest level age 14+

Alex Wheatle – Little Bit What's worse than hiding a secret? Little Bit's about to find out... Venetia King is the hottest girl at school. Too bad Lemar is the second shortest guy in his year. Written by local, award winning children's author Alex Wheatle, a regular visitor to the school.

Interest level age 14+

F. Cottrell-Boyce - Framed Dylan Hughes's dad leaves home and, overnight, Dylan must become the man of the household and boss of the failing family business. Dylan has never been interested in art before, but a valuable masterpiece might be just what they need.

Interest level age 9 -13

John Boyne - The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas Bruno knows nothing of the Final Solution and the Holocaust, until he meets Shmuel, a boy who lives a strange parallel existence on the other side of the adjoining wire fence and wears a uniform of striped pyjamas.

Interest level age 11+

SF Said - Varjak Paw Guided by the spirit of his legendary Mesopotamian ancestor, Jalal, Varjak Paw, a pure-bred cat, leaves his home and pampered existence and sets out to save his family from the evil Gentleman who took their owner, the Contessa, away.

Interest level age 9 -13

Anne Frank – The Diary of a Young Girl A precocious young girl is obliged by encroaching Nazi regime to live in enforced seclusion with family and friends.

Interest level age 11+

SJBC LIBRARIAN TOP AUTHOR / SERIES PICKS

Roald Dahl British novelist, short story writer, poet, screenwriter, and fighter pilot. His books have sold more than 250 million copies worldwide.

David Walliams British novelist, short story writer, poet, screenwriter, and fighter pilot. His books have sold more than 250 million copies worldwide.

Robert Muchamore English author, most notable for writing the CHERUB and Henderson's Boys novels.

Michael Morpurgo English book author, poet, playwright, and librettist who is known best for children's novels such as War Horse, Private Peaceful, The Butterfly Lion, Kensuke's Kingdom, The Amazing Story of Aldophus Tips.

Dan Freedman Jamie Johnson football series

Malorie Blackman British writer who held the position of Children's Laureate from 2013 to 2015. She primarily writes literature and television drama for children and young adults.

Philip Pullman English novelist. He is the author of several best-selling books, including the fantasy trilogy His Dark Materials

C.S. Lewis British novelist, poet, academic, medievalist, literary critic, essayist, lay theologian, broadcaster, lecturer, and Christian apologist. Author of the 'Narnia' series.

Christopher Paolini American author of the Inheritance Cycle, which consists of the books Eragon, Eldest, Brisingr, and Inheritance.

Michael Grant American author of young adult fiction. He has written over 160 books including the Animorphs and the Everworld book series, as well as the Making Out book series.

Anthony Horowitz English novelist and screenwriter specialising in mystery and suspense. His work for young adult readers includes The Diamond Brothers series, the Alex Rider series, and The Power of Five series.

Rick Riordan American author known for writing the Percy Jackson & the Olympians series, about a twelve-year-old boy who discovers he is a son of Poseidon.

Tom Palmer author of three Puffin football children's series, Football Academy, Foul Play and The Squad.

Louis Sachar American writer of children's books, best known for the Wayside School series, Holes and There's A Boy In The Girls' Bathroom.

ACTION & ADVENTURE

Suzanne Collins - The Hunger Games A series of three adventure set in The Hunger Games universe, and follows young characters Katniss Everdeen and Peeta Mellark. Every year, children from the districts are selected to participate in a compulsory annual televised death match called The Hunger Games. The novels in the trilogy are titled **The Hunger Games** (2008), **Catching Fire** (2009), and **Mockingjay** (2010).

Stephen Cole - The Aztec Code Exciting thriller about a elite team of thieves who steal valuable historical artifacts.

Eoin Colfer - Airman Swash-bucking adventure set in a remote part of Ireland, that in the future, is independent. Brilliant, alternative future tale!

James Dashner – The Maze Runner 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.

Francis Hardinge - Gullstruck Island Absolutely fantastic rip-roaring adventure set on a mysterious and lost island. A completely dazzling adventure.

Jake Highfield - Chaos Unleashed Jake, schoolboy operative, is expelled from the academy who trained him. High speed action, for fans of Robert Muchamore.

Charlie Higson - Silverfin Superb novels about the school life James Bond when he was still (Young Bond Series) at school. Exceptionally entertaining and a deserved hit.

Anthony Horowitz – Stormbreaker An action-packed book which won the New York Times Bestselling young adult novel. It is written by British author Anthony Horowitz and the first novel in the Alex Rider series.

Amy Kaufman – Illuminae Told through a fascinating dossier of hacked documents—including emails, schematics, military files, IMs, medical reports, interviews, and more—Illuminae is the first book in a heart-stopping, high-octane trilogy about lives interrupted, the price of truth, and the courage of everyday heroes.

Helen Moss - The Serpent King (Secrets of the Tombs) Perfect for fans of 'Indiana Jones' and 'Percy Jackson', this third exciting installment in the 'Secrets of the Tombs' series follows Ryan and Cleo on another death-defying mission.

Gary Paulsen – Hatchet Series A 13 year old boy named Brian Robeson who goes to visit his father after his parents get divorced. On the way there, the pilot suffers a major heart attack and the plane crashes, but Brian makes it out alive. He has to survive alone by making fire, cooking fish, and hunting meat until a rescue plane finds him.

Mark Walden - HIVE Series In this story all the bright kids are sent to the Higher Institute of Villainous Education. Very good fun and born to be bad!

CLASSICS

Louisa M Alcott - Little Women First in the series of classic novels of 4 sisters growing up in 1860s America written from the point of view of Jo, who would dearly like to become a writer.

Frances H Burnett - The Secret Garden Escapism, innocence and beauty are all features of the secret garden. This book reads like a dream.

Charles Dickens - Oliver Twist Classic story of the orphan boy, life in crime and his quest to escape it all.

Richard Bach - Jonathan Livingston Seagull Uplifting story of a young seagull's bid to live its life as free as possible. A beautifully crafted short read.

Charlotte Bronte - Jane Eyre Jane falls in love with her rich employer, only to find out he has a dark secret....Classic stuff that has thrilled generations.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle - Adventures of Sherlock Holmes This is a great introduction to detective stories. Many of the best Holmes stories are in this collection.

Penelope Farmer - Charlotte Sometimes Dream-like novel where Charlotte, whilst sleeping, somehow slips back in time to 1919 and becomes Clare ... Wonderful.

H Rider Haggard - King Solomon's Mines An exciting yarn about an explorer who was the inspiration for the Indiana Jones films.

Arthur Ransome – Swallows and Amazons The wholesome story of four young children who set out in their boat (the Swallow of the title) to an island of adventure.

Kenneth Grahame – The Wind in the Willows Adventure abounds in this classic story of friendship. Can Mole, Ratty and Badger save Toad from prison, and his home Toad Hall from the wicked Weasels and Stoats?

E. Nesbit – Five Children and It The magical story unfolds with a family moving to a big white house in the countryside; the children are exploring a gravel pit one day when they encounter a Psammead- a sand-fairy who has the ability to grant wishes.

J.M. Barrie – Peter Pan The story of the boy who refuses to grow up follows the Darling children, Wendy, John and Michael, who befriend the magical Peter and are whisked away to Neverland, where the villainous Captain Hook and the brave Lost Boys await.

Dodie Smith – I Capture The Castle Life growing up in a crumbling castle, with her father who suffers from crippling writer's block, her glamorous but ineffectual step-mother and her vain but beloved sister Rose. When two visiting Americans arrive, all of their lives are turned upside down, and Cassandra experiences her first love.

Rudyard Kipling – The Jungle Book Composed of seven tales, each one accompanied by a poem, The Jungle Book is a coming of age fantasy that introduces a lush, colorful world full of adventure and danger.

E.B. White – Charlotte's Web The unforgettable story of a girl called Fern who loves a little pig called Wilbur. It tells how Charlotte A. Cavatica, a beautiful grey spider, saves Wilbur from the usual fate of nice fat pigs, by a wonderfully clever plan.

Harper Lee – To Kill A Mockingbird Scout's story is about justice. When Scout's father, a lawyer, agrees to defend a black man against an accusation by a white girl, he must battle the prejudice of the whole town.

GIRL TALK

Judy Blume - Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret Margaret approaches adolescence with trepidation, but with the help of God and Nature, she makes a successful transition.

Judy Blume – Forever A graphic novel of a teenage love affair based primarily on sexual attraction.

Meg Cabot - Jinx Funny teen-look at a girl struggling to come to terms with her clumsiness.

Cathy Cassidy - Indigo Blue Indigo's mum has a secret... a reason to leave behind their lovely house and friends.

Jennifer Donnelly – A Gathering Light Mattie is torn between her family responsibilities, her desire to be a writer and her first romance. The tensions in her life are mirrored by the facts slowly revealed about the life of a young woman found drowned in a lake whose letters Mattie reads.

Cathy Hopkins - Mates, Dates..(series) Long running series of Lucy and her friends and their funny experiences of growing up.

Eva Ibbotson - Journey to the River Sea An orphaned school girl journeys to South America with her tough-as-old-boots nanny.

Rose Impey - Scary Fairy Funny look at the chaos caused in a family by the odd and eccentric Scary Fairy Godmother. A really popular read with girls.

Laekan Zea Kemp - The Girl In Between Bryn Reyes is a real life sleeping beauty. For Bryn, the past is a place, until one day a boy she's never met before washes up on the illusory beach of her dreams with no memory of who he is.

Hayley Long - Lottie Biggs Series Really funny (2 books so far) about a 15 year old growing up in Cardiff. A real laugh, touching, and covers real life issues.

Karen McCombie - Ally's World Series Funny 12 book series looking at Ally, her life, friends and mishaps.

Hilary McKay - Saffy's Angel One of the best books of recent years. Saffy, when realising she is adopted, travels from America to Italy to trace her family.

Jennifer Niven - All the Bright Places A compelling and beautiful story about a girl who learns to live from a boy who wants to die.

Louise Rennison - Georgina Nicholson Recently concluded series, hilarious and written in diary form as the accident prone Georgina grows up. 10 books to read!

Louise Rennison - Withering Tights Comedy set over a long summer holiday in a drama school.

Liz Rettig - Jumping to Confusions Funny look at romantic confusion, following the adventures of two twin sisters, one more glamorous than the other.

Jerry Spinelli - Stargirl Brilliant and brave novel about a teenager daring to be different in an American high school. Highly recommended.

Sarah Webb - Amy Green Teen Amy helps a relative who has taken over an aunt page in a teenage magazine with funny consequences.

Rachel Wright - You're Got Blackmail Comedy thriller that has the whole of the school in a tizz.

GROWING UP: HEADING INTO YOUR TEENS

Julia Bell - Massive Thought provoking look at teenage anorexia.

S.E. Hinton – The Outsiders "The Outsiders transformed young-adult fiction from a genre mostly about prom queens, football players and high school crushes to one that portrayed a darker, truer world." A classic coming-of-age book.

Gregory Hughes - Unhooking the Moon Great coming of age novel as 2 children travel from Canada to New York looking for a long-lost relative. Brave, funny and original.

Ally Kennen - Beast Stephen is a boy with many secrets, and the Beast is the biggest. Vicious look at exclusion and isolation.

Guus Kuijer - Book of Everything Thomas sees things and struggles living with his strict and harsh father. The "Witch" next door begins to open his eyes in this dreamy and beautiful book.

Katie McGarry - Pushing the Limits "They said therapy was supposed to help. They didn't expect Noah. Noah is the dangerous boy my parents warned me about. But the only one who'll listen. The only one who'll help me find the truth. I know every kiss, every promise, every touch is forbidden. But what if finding your destiny means breaking all the rules?" A brave and powerful novel about loss, change and growing up, but most of all love.

Rodman Philbeck - Freak the Mighty Funny and touching about two misfit boys, who when they become friends, unite as Freak the Mighty!

Caroline Plaised - No Way Am I Living With Her Well written and touching story of two step-sisters forced to live together when their parents marry.

Meg Rosoff - Just in Case Quirky and funny follow up to How I Live Now in which 15 year old David is obsessed Fate is out to get him.

Louis Sacher - There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom Another highly entertaining (and funny) tale from the writer of Holes. Has much to identify with.

Holly Smale – Geek Girl Series The humorous fiction follows the life of Harriet Manners, a nerdy 15-year-old girl who tries out modelling to "reinvent herself".

Zoe Sugg – Girl Online The debut novel by English author and internet celebrity Zoe Sugg. The romance and drama novel is aimed at a young adult audience and focuses on a fifteen-year-old anonymous blogger and what happens when her blog goes viral.

Benjamin Zephaniah - Face Realistic story of how a boy is disfigured in a car accident and has to start living a new life with his disfigurement.

Alex Wheatle – Liddle Bit What's worse than hiding a secret? Liddle Bit's about to find out... Venetia King is the hottest girl at school. Too bad Lemar is the second shortest guy in his year.

Alex Wheatle – Crongton Knights Living on the South Crongton council estate has its worries - and life for McKay has been even tougher since his mum died. And now, having strayed off his turf on a 'heroic' mission to help out a girl, McKay finds himself facing a friend's crazy ex-boyfriend, some power-tripping hood-rats and a notoriously violent gangster with a vendetta which hits too close to home.

HAVING A LAUGH: FUNNY BOOKS

Douglas Adams - The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy The Earth is due to be demolished to make way for a new hyperspace bypass and Arthur Dent and his best friend are hurtling through space with nothing but their towels and an innocuous-looking book inscribed with the big, friendly words: DON'T PANIC.

F. Cottrell-Boyce - Framed South Wales and art theft don't normally go together, except in this funny book!

Vanessa Curtis Zelah - Green, Queen of Clean Funky comedy featuring "cleanaholic" Zelah and her friends

Roald Dahl – The Twits Mr Twit is a foul and smelly man with bits of cornflake and sardine in his beard. Mrs Twit is a horrible old hag with a glass eye. Together they make the nastiest couple you could ever hope not to meet.

Jimmy Docherty - Ice Cream Con Fast and funny story of a boy who cons a group of bullies into believing a new gang are in town!

Sophie Kinsella – Finding Audrey From the bestselling author of the Shopaholic series comes a story of humour, heart and heartache.

Andy Griffiths - The 13-Storey Treehouse Andy and Terry live in the WORLD'S BEST treehouse! It's got a giant catapult, a secret underground laboratory, a tank of man-eating sharks and a marshmallow machine that follows you around and shoots marshmallows into your mouth whenever you're hungry!

Sue Limb - Zoe & Chloe Series Funny series of books about the adventures of 2 teenage girls.

Anthony McGowan - Hell Bent Hilarious tale of a teenager sent to hell for a misdemeanor.

Chris O'Dowd - Moone Boy: The Blunder Years Martin Moone is eleven and completely fed up with being the only boy in a family of girls. He's desperate for a decent wingman to help him navigate his idiotic life.

Terry Pratchett - Johnny Maxwell Trilogy A brilliant trilogy. Johnny has special powers which help him see the world in a slightly different way from other boys.

Terry Pratchett - The Witch's Vacuum Cleaner: And Other Stories Fourteen fantastically funny stories from master storyteller Sir Terry Pratchett, full of food fights, pirates, wizards and crooks!

Emlyn Rees & Josie Lloyd - The Teenager Who Came to Tea When the doorbell rings, Sophie and her Dad are half-expecting a visit from a tiger, but what slouches in through their doorway is even more curious than that... a teenager.

E F Smith - When Mum Threw Out the Telly! Telly-addict Jeff's life is turned upside down when his mum throws out the TV. But his new life is only just beginning.

Ross Welford - Time Travelling with a Hamster On Al Chaudhury's twelfth birthday his beloved Grandpa Byron gives him a letter from Al's late father. In it Al receives a mission: travel back to 1984 in a secret time machine and save his father's life.

David Walliams – Billionaire Boy / Gangsta Granny / The Boy In The Dress / Grandpa's Great Escape Walliams' books have achieved unprecedented critical acclaim and countless broadsheet reviewers have compared him to his all-time hero, Roald Dahl.

HISTORICAL FICTION

Lynn Cullen - I Am Rembrandt's Daughter Haunting look at the fictional life of the daughter of the great Dutch painter, set after most of Cornelia's family has died of plague.

Terry Deary - The Actor, the Rebel, and the Wrinkled Queen A young actor at the Globe Theatre must defend his master when Queen Elizabeth suspects that Shakespeare tried to help the Earl of Essex overthrow her.

Sharon Dogar – Annexed This fictional account of life with Anne Frank is from Peter's point-of-view. As he becomes closer to Anne, he begins to question his own religion and is forced to suppress his own desires to join the fight.

Mary Finn - Anila's Journey In late eighteenth-century Calcutta, half-Indian half-Irish Anila Tandy finds herself alone with nothing but her artistic talent to rely on, searching for her father who is presumed dead.

Michael Ford - Spartan Warrior Series Swords swing wildly in this fantasy adventure romp based on real Spartan myths

Gregory Funaro - Alistair Grim's Odditorium In Victorian England, orphan Grubb escapes his life as a chimney sweep's apprentice and finds himself in a strange house filled with magical objects and creatures, but he soon learns that dark forces are seeking his new master.

Brian Gallagher - Stormclouds: New Friends. Old Differences Set in Belfast in the late 1960's, twins Emma and Dylan make friends with Maeve and Sammy, a nationalist girl and a loyalist boy. When tensions in Northern Ireland erupt into violence, it is not only their friendship but their lives that are threatened.

Mary Hooper - By Royal Command Lucy is a teenage spy for Elizabeth I. One of several novels about this period by Mary Hooper.

Khaled Hosseini - And the Mountains Echoed This story begins in 1952 Afghanistan with two motherless siblings and moves through complex relationships and generations to the United States, Paris, and Greece, weaving a story of commitment, love, honour and sacrifice.

Eva Ibbotson - The Secret Countess A young countess is worked into a secret life as a housemaid In this romantic tale, set against the backdrop of the Russian Revolution.

ML Jensen - Between Two Seas Lovely Victorian set novel about a young girl who leaves Grimsby to find her father in Denmark, after the death of her mother.

Elizabeth Laird - Crusade Exciting novel about the cross of Faiths in the Holy Land during the Crusades.

Tanya Landman - Apache Prize winning revenge novel – as Siki vows to become an Apache warrior and revenge the deaths of her dead family.

Caroline Lawrence - Roman Mysteries Series Multi book series about four amateur child detectives in Ancient Rome. Engaging and historically accurate.

Carolyn Meyer - Beware, Princess Elizabeth The story of Elizabeth Tudor who was imprisoned by her jealous sister, Queen Mary, and betrayed by the man she loved.

Philip Reeve - My Name Is Arthur Both fascinating and exciting retelling of the King Arthur legend, with a strong female twist!

LIVING IN A WARZONE

Nina Bawden – Carrie's War It is the Second World War and Carrie and Nick are evacuated from London to a small town in Wales, where they are placed with strict Mr Evans and his timid mouse of a sister. Carrie and Nick are happy to visit their friend Albert there, until one day Carrie does a terrible thing - the worst thing she ever did in her life ...

John Boyne - The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas Bruno knows nothing of the Final Solution and the Holocaust, until he meets Shmuel, a boy who lives a strange parallel existence on the other side of the adjoining wire fence and wears a uniform of striped pyjamas.

John Boyne - The Boy at the Top of the Mountain A powerful account of how one boy was seduced by Hitler and Nazism and paid the price.

Anne Frank - The Diary of Anne Frank Stunning story of bravery during the Second World War. Essential reading.

Jackie French - Hitler's Daughter Anna's story was not a fairy tale or an adventure story. Her story was about a young girl who lived during World War II. Her name was Heidi, and she was Hitler's daughter.

Jackie French – Pennies For Hitler When a university graduation ceremony turns into a pro-Nazi demonstration, Georg is smuggled out of Germany to war-torn London and then across enemy seas to Australia where he must forget his past and who he is in order to survive.

Maurice Gleitzman - Once Trilogy Captivating, and moving story, of two child friends growing up in Nazi occupied Poland.

Andy McNab - Boy Soldier McNab draws on his own vast SAS experience to write this exciting, partbiographical, account of his younger days in the SAS.

Michael Morpurgo - War Horse Thought provoking novel of the life of a horse and his thoughts during his numerous battles under different masters.

Michael Morpurgo – Private Peaceful Told in the voice of Private Tommo Peaceful, the story follows twenty-four hours at the front, and captures his memories of his family and his village life. Full of vivid detail and engrossing atmosphere, leading to a dramatic and moving conclusion, Private Peaceful is both a compelling love story and a deeply moving account of the First World War.

Michael Morpurgo - The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips A heart-warming tale of courage and warmth, set against the backdrop of the second world war, about an abandoned village, a lifelong friendship and one very adventurous cat!

James Riordan - The Sniper Realistic WW 2 adventure tale about young Russian snipers.

Chris Ryan – War Dog Told through the eyes of Jamie, an amputee veteran, 'War Dog' is the story of Lance Corporal Sam Maguire, part of a bomb disposal squad in Afghanistan, and the springer spaniel sniffer dog Charlie who becomes his best friend.

Kate Saunders – Five Children On The Western Front An incredible, heart-wrenching sequel to E. Nesbit's Five Children and It, set on the eve of the First World War. The five children have grown up - war will change their lives for ever.

Barry Turner - One Small Suitcase Factual look at the evacuation of 1000s of Jewish children before the outbreak of WW2.

MONSTERS, DEMONS & VAMPIRES

Stephanie Cole – Twilight Series Bella Swan moves from Phoenix, Arizona to live with her father in Forks, Washington to allow her mother to travel with her new husband. After moving to Forks, Bella finds herself involuntarily drawn to a mysterious, handsome boy, Edward Cullen.

Stephen Cole - Wereling Trilogy Really enjoyable horror series about a family of werewolves and the teenage daughters fight against her changeover.

Alan Gibbons - Scared to Death Series Be prepared to be scared to death, in this clever and wellplotted tension builder. The very scary book 2 is now out.

Simon Holt - Devouring Holt could be the next Darren Shan – entertaining novel in which demons feed off children's fears.

EE Richardson - Devil's Footsteps Wonderful horror novel from the new Queen of fear. Scary, atmospheric, well plotted and believable....

EE Richardson - The Intruders More suspense and fear from Richardson in this terrifying haunted house novel.

Seb Rook - Vampire Plague Series Juicy series of vampire novels set across the centuries as the vampires battle to take over the world.

Robin Stevens - The Case of the Deepdean Vampire "I do not believe in vampires - I am the Honourable Daisy Wells, after all. But when I heard the rumour that Camilla was seen climbing head-first down a wall, I knew it was time to investigate..."

GHOST & CREEPY TALES THAT GO BUMP IN THE NIGHT

Malorie Blackman - Stuff of Nightmares Frightening and scary novel which centers on the small, irrational fears that affect us all.

Neil Gainman - Coraline Stunning novel about a warped alternative universe hidden behind a door. Very weird and altogether creepy.

Neil Gaiman - Graveyard Book Horror/fantasy take on the Jungle book – a toddler whose family is murdered is raised by the dead in a graveyard.

McNish, Cliff - Breathe: A Ghost Story When he and his mother move into an old farmhouse in the English countryside, asthmatic twelve-year-old Jack discovers that he can communicate with the ghosts inhabiting the house.

Catherine McPhail - Underworld Utterly chilling novel set in the underground fear of a collapsed tunnel. This book is really, really scary!

Lazlo Strangelov - Feather & Bone Really creepy (and quirky) horror novel with the strangest set of characters you've ever seen!

Darren Shan - The Demonata Series Brilliant 10 book horror series.

Darren Shan - The Thin Executioner The King of Fear returns with a new tale of horror and fear.

Jonathan Stroud - Lockwood & Co: The Creeping Shadow Ghouls and spectres beware! London's smallest (but best) psychic detection agency Lockwood & Co. is back with a fourth deliciously terrifying tale!

Spook's: The Dark Army (The Starblade Chronicles) Spook's books are based on real places in Lancashire. And the inspiration behind the stories often comes from local ghost stories and legends.

MULTI-VOLUME FANTASY SERIES

Cassandra Clare - Magisterium: The Bronze Key (The Magisterium) This tightly plotted story shines with imaginative twists and settings, sparks of humor, and a rich portrayal of friendship in the face of doubt.

Eoin Colfer - Artemis Fowl Find out what happens when a 12 year old criminal mastermind kidnaps a fairy. This long running series has enthralled children for almost 10 years now.

Charlie Fletcher - Stone Heart Trilogy The great statues of London spring to life in this epic fantasy romp!

Derek Landy - Skulduggery Pleasant Series Fantastic fantasy horror novel, wild, and full of imagination and excitement. Now 5 books. Very, very popular at Emanuel.

CS Lewis - Narnia Series Perhaps the ultimate battle between Good and Evil? Classic tale of children trying to awaken an animal world from eternal winter.

Cliff McNish - Doomspell Trilogy Powerful fantasy series about children snatched from our world to satisfy the evil of a witch from a different dimension.

Taran Matharu - The Novice (Summoner) Enter an immersive fantasy world where one boy's power to summon demons will change the fate of an empire ... Book 1 in the epic SUMMONER trilogy from Wattpad sensation Taran Matharu.

William Nicholson - Wind on Fire Trilogy Breathtaking trilogy about a society governed by exams. But what happens when you rebel? Read to find out.

James Patterson - Maximum Ride Series Stunning 5 book sequence about a group of teenagers generically engineered to be 1% bird. It's cool to be able to fly!

Michelle Paver – Gods and Warriors Series Tells the story of Hylas, a 12-year-old goatherd, whose adventures take him to Ancient Crete and Ancient Egypt, and Pirra, the daughter of a high priestess with a crescent shaped scar on her cheek.

Michelle Paver - Chronicles of Ancient Darkness Series Chronicle the adventures of Torak, an adolescent boy from the Wolf Clan, and his friends Renn and Wolf. The main story arc revolves around Torak and his quest to defeat the Soul Eaters, a group of evil clan mages who seek out to destroy all life in the forest.

Philip Pullman - His Dark Materials Trilogy Staggering dark fantasy trilogy in which Lyra fights for survival in a Godless world. Quite brilliant fantasy series.

Philip Reeve - Mortal Engines Blinding fantasy novel where moving cities trawl the globe. Tom and Hester are thrown from "London" and try to get back on board.

Rick Riordan - Percy Jackson Series Entertaining fantasy series in which a teenage boy living in modern day America finds out he is the son of a God.

Rick Riordan – The Trials of Apollo How do you punish an immortal? By making him human. After angering his father Zeus, the god Apollo is cast down from Olympus. Weak and disoriented, he lands in New York City as a regular teenage boy.

JK Rowling – Harry Potter Series A series of fantasy novels written by British author J. K. Rowling. The novels chronicle the life of a young wizard, Harry Potter, and his friends Hermione Granger and Ron Weasley, all of whom are students at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

SCHOOL STORIES

Judy Blume - Blubber Tale of mob cruelty as ring-leader Wendy and the kids in her class make life miserable for hapless Linda.

Katy Birchall – The It Girl Anna's life gets turned upside down when her father gets engaged to a Hollywood star.

Meg Cabot - The Princess Diaries (Princess Diaries Series #1) Mia Thermopolis didn't think life could get more complicated when your mom dates your algebra teacher until she found out she was princess of Genovia.

Wendy Cooling- Ten of the Best School Stories Excellent collection of 10 school stories including new stories from Malorie Blackman and Paul Jennings.

Siobhan Curham – Dear Dylan When Georgie starts writing to her soap star actor hero, she finds a friend she hadn't bargained for. Will their emails help Georgie through the tough times ahead?

Simone Elkeles – Perfect Chemistry When Brittany Ellis walks into chemistry class on the first day of senior year, she has no clue that her carefully created 'perfect' life is about to unravel before her eyes.

Alan Gibbons - Chicken Tough school story, focusing on bullying.

John Green – Looking For Alaska Miles “Pudge” Halter is done with his safe life at home. His whole life has been one big non-event, and his obsession with famous last words has only made him crave “the Great Perhaps” even more. He heads off to the sometimes crazy and anything-but-boring world of Culver Creek Boarding School, and his life becomes the opposite of safe. Because down the hall is Alaska Young.

Pete Johnson - Runaway Teacher What happens when your teacher becomes a friend and not a teacher? Read this short novel to find out.

R J Palacio – Wonder Born with a terrible facial abnormality, Auggie has been home-schooled by his parents his whole life. Now, for the first time, he's being sent to a real school - and he's dreading it. All he wants is to be accepted - but can he convince his new classmates that he's just like them, underneath it all?

Louise Rennison - Angus, Thongs and Full-Frontal Snogging (Confessions of Georgia Nicolson Series #1) Brilliantly funny, teenage angst author Louise Rennison's first book about the confessions of crazy but lovable Georgia Nicolson.

Rachel Renee Russell – Dork Diaries Series The personal diary of 14-year-old Nikki Maxwell. They feature drawings, doodles and comic strips that chronicle the daily drama of her life in (and outside of) middle school.

Sara Shepard – Pretty Little Liars After one of their group mysteriously disappears, four high school girls find their friendship strained when they begin receiving taunting messages from someone who seems to know their secrets. The plot contains profanity and sexual situations.

Robin Talley – Lies We Tell Ourselves In 1959 Virginia, two girls on the opposite sides of the battle for civil rights are forced to work together on a school project and find their lives forever changed. The plot contains pervasive profanity, sexual situations and racial slurs.

SCIENCE FICTION & THE UNEXPLAINED

Malorie Blackman – Pig-Heart Boy Your heart transplant is with a pig! Find out what difference it makes in this gripping read.

Jason Bradbury - Dot.Robot Really entertaining adventure which rattles along with many twists and turns using gadgets, cyber-crime and geeks galore.

John Christopher - Tripods Series Classic series in which giant robots takeover the Earth.

Michael Grant - Gone Trilogy Super fast paced and exciting novel set in an area of America where adults disappear into thin area. Anarchy follows!

Ann Halam - Taylor 5 Fascinating novel about human cloning.

Ben Horton - Monster Republic Science fiction retelling of Frankenstein. A group of children are made into soldier monsters.

Joan Lennon - The Seventh Tide Soul sucking demons threatened to take over the world in this multi-dimensional romp.

Rhiannon Lassiter - Hex Trilogy Totally believable SF set in the far future about mutant genes that can be passed through computers into people.

James Patterson - Dangerous Days of Daniel X Series Daniel is an Alien Hunter – bent for revenge on those behind murdering his parents. Now a trilogy.

A G Smith - Furnace Series Vicious fantasy adventure with a boy trapped in a deep underground prison guarded by monsters and demons.

Robert Swindells Time Snatch Superb time travel novel by Swindells. Very exciting.

David Thorpe - Hybrids Hybrids are human victims of a technology virus which infects the nation in this entertaining thriller.

Scott Westerfeld - Leviathan Amazing, alternative history, novel set in 1914. Impossible to describe, new type of science-fiction called “steam punk.”

Rick Yancy – The 5th Wave A gripping SF trilogy about an Earth decimated by an alien invasion... the question of what it means to be human is at the forefront.

SPORT STORIES

Martin Smith – The Football Boy Wonder (The Charlie Fry Series) Fantastic journey of friendship and sporting achievements. Well written and easy to understand Charlie's journey and how CF impacts his life.

Theresa Breslin - Divided City Tough Scottish novel which tackles the religious divide in Glasgow through a look at football.

Ben Bo - Scullcrack High energy novel about skateboarding.

Chris D’Lacey - Falling 4 Mandy Cheating, diving, football, and a beautiful striker called Mandy are all elements in this funny football novel.

Dan Freedman - Kick Off Trilogy Funny look at a school football team, with Jamie desperate to be the star, by book 3 he’s a teen prodigy!

Peter Hayden - And Smith Must Score Funny modern take on the football story, with many great characters and enjoyable action sequences.

Kelvin MacGregor - Here We Go! Football and romance! A great combination!

Robert Rigby - Goal! Live the perfect football dream as Santiago makes his name at Newcastle before moving to Real Madrid in the sequel.

SINGLE VOLUME FANTASY NOVELS

Catherine Banner - Eyes of a King Leo embarks upon a fantastic journey after finding a book with no words in it, which then begins to guide & help him.

N M Browne - The Spell Grinder's Apprentice Dark magic abound as children with special powers are slaves to the powerful Spell Grinder in this gripping tale.

N M Browne - Web of Shadows Brilliant even by Browne's standards! 2 girls with the same names & dates of birth, swap places and world's in this great read.

Paul Bryers - Kobal Gripping fantasy in which science and superstition intertwine to create a fantasy world equal of JK Rowling or Philip Pullman.

Frances Hardinge - Verdigris Deep Nasty things begin to happen to a group of children who steal coins from a, supposedly, magic well.

Ingrid Law - Savvy Highly enjoyable, quirky, coming of age story where everyone in Mibs' family receives a supernatural power when they turn 13. Charming, and original, fantasy for girls.

China Mieville - UnLondun Compelling look at a London lost in an alternative reality of broken toys, gadgets and ghosts.

Sally Nicholls - Season of Secrets Moving tale which entwines the Green Man myth and a lonely child sent to live with her grand-parents in the North of England.

Garth Nix - Shade's Children Dark science fiction fantasy where children are killed off before they reach adulthood. Those who escape hide under the banner of the mysterious Shade. Nix is one of the best fantasy writers around.

Edith Pattau - North Child This is a beguiling epic of magic, love, loss and betrayal based on the traditional fairytale.

Terry Pratchett - Nation Wild comedy fantasy about the survivors of a tidal wave creating a new world for themselves. Startlingly original Pratchett comedy.

Joanne Owen - Puppet Master A really creepy fantasy tale of marionettes and mind control.

Rick Riordan - The Red Pyramid One curse, two heroes and an evil that wont stay buried. New fantasy romp from the creator of Percy Jackson.

Pat Walsh - The Crowfield Curse Historical fantasy with a magical twist, in which a girl finds the grave with the body of an angel. Combines fantasy & mystery.

David Whitley - The Midnight Charter Dark fantasy where children are bought and sold, and feelings such as hate and fear are traded as commodities. Highly original.

Chris Wooding - Malice Everyone's heard of it... a secret comic about a strange and awful world full of traps and tricks, But if rumours are to be believed, the children and monsters in this comic are real...

Chris Wooding - Storm Thief One of the best action fantasies. Fast paced, exciting and in a fantasy world so well crafted

Carlos R Zafon - The Prince of Mist A haunting story of magic, mystery, adventure and revenge as an ancient forces finds a way to enter our World.

THRILLERS

Patricia Carmen - Skeleton Creek excellent horror-mystery about 2 children investigating mysterious goings on in their small town.

Anne Cassidy - Innocent Great junior novel from Cassidy, as Charlie tries to prove the innocence of her older brother Brad.

Anne Cassidy - Talking to Strangers Gripping thriller centering around the disappearance of a 10 year old in a small English town.

Malorie Blackman - Hacker One of Blackman's most popular books. Two computer whiz-kids try to prove their father is innocent of bank theft.

Eion Colfer - Half Moon Investigations After completing a dodgy online course 10 year old Fletch reckons he's a fully fledged detective! Chaos follows in this great thriller.

Joseph Craig - Jimmy Coates Series 11 year old Jimmy realises he has super-powers, which his parents have hidden from him, and this leads to an exciting mystery of intrigue and suspense.

Narinder Dhami - Bang Bang You're Dead When a mysterious gunman takes a class hostage Mia suspects her brother might be involved in this tense thriller.

Michael Grant – Hunger It's been three months since all the adults disappeared. Gone. Food ran out weeks ago and starvation is imminent. Meanwhile, the normal teens have grown resentful of the kids with powers. And when an unthinkable tragedy occurs, chaos descends upon the town. There is no longer right and wrong. Each kid is out for himself and even the good ones turn murderous.

Michael Grant – Lies It's been seven months since all the adults disappeared. Gone. It happens in one night: a girl who died now walks among the living; Zil and the Human Crew set fire to Perdido Beach; and amid the flames and smoke, Sam sees the figure of the boy he fears the most: Drake. But Drake is dead—or so they thought.

JA Henderson - Colony Scary military conspiracy novel linking events of 30 years ago involving a secret army research facility

Gabrielle Lord - Conspiracy 365 Series 12 book series, set over a year, about a teenager on the run from both the police and a secret government organisation.

Robert Muchamore – CHERUB Series A series of young adult spy novels, written by the English author Robert Muchamore, focusing around a division of the British Security Service called CHERUB, which employs children, predominantly orphans, under the age of 17, as intelligence agents.

Will Peterson - Triskellion Enticing mystery fantasy novel in which two American children move to the rural village of Triskellion, which is both dark and secretive. Soon sinister things begin to happen...

Alex Rider – Stormbreaker They told him his uncle died in a car accident. But fourteen-year-old Alex knows that's a lie, and the bullet holes in his uncle's windshield confirm his suspicions. But nothing could prepare him for the news that the uncle he always thought he knew was really a spy for MI6-Britain's top secret intelligence agency.

Marcus Sedgwick - Floodland Gripping story of global warming and the pockets of survivors who live in the "High Lands" near Norwich. A fast brilliant read.

Alex Shearer - The Stolen A nail-biting and supernatural tale of old people taking over the bodies of young people. A gripping mystery.

TRUE STORIES

Roald Dahl – Boy: Tales of Childhood Roald Dahl writing about his own childhood is a treat for any Dahl fan - young or old. These stories are warm, touching, funny and show the development of one of our most treasured children's writers.

Barack Obama: The Making of a President - Punctuated with his own words, this biography traces the people, places and experiences that made Barack Obama the powerful man he is today. His story takes us from Kenya to Hawaii and Indonesia to Chicago, embracing many cultures.

Jacqueline Wilson – Jacky Daydream Jacky Daydream was a childhood nickname given to the mega-bestselling former Children's Laureate Jacqueline Wilson, as she often quietly drifted away into her own imagination as a child, making up stories from a very early age.

Verna Allette Wilkins - The Life of Stephen Lawrence Stephen Lawrence was a bright, athletic, young man with high hopes for the future. He lived in south-east London with his parents, younger brother and younger sister. On 22 April 1993, he was brutally murdered while he was waiting for the bus. He was eighteen years old.

Irene Gut Opdyke – In My Hands An utterly amazing, true, first-person account of one girl's experience in wartime. Irene Gut Opdyke was a Catholic Polish nursing student when WWII broke out. She soon became mired in the horrors of central Europe as, at various times, a partisan, a refugee, a housekeeper to the Nazis and, over all, as a heroine. She singlehandedly saved the lives of at least 16 Jewish people from the Holocaust.

Andy McNab – Payback The second book in the Boy Soldier sequence is another explosive, fast-moving and thrilling adventure, packed with authentic detail from Andy McNab's SAS expertise.

Verna Wilkins - Benjamin Zephaniah Biography Growing up poor and on the move, Benjamin Zephaniah didn't tap into his true potential until he had sunk into the depths of despair. His way with words, his mother's love and his strong sense of community helped him to overcome the obstacles in his path.

Verna Wilkins - Malorie Blackman Biography This book tells Malorie's story, from her school years and business studies at university to her career in computing and her family life. It includes an interview and the journey to becoming a successful writer.

Miriam Moss – Girl On A Plane After a summer spent with her family, fifteen-year-old Anna is travelling back to her English boarding school alone. But her plane never makes it home. Anna's flight is hijacked by guerillas. They land the plane in the Jordanian desert, switch off the engines and issue their demands. If these are not met within three days, they will blow up the plane, killing all the hostages. The heat on board becomes unbearable; food and water supplies dwindle. Anna begins to face the possibility she may never see her family again.

Gary Paulsen - How Angel Peterson Got His Name A completely absorbing collection of memories about the exploits of a thirteen year-old Gary Paulsen and his friends, detailing their quest for fun and excitement.