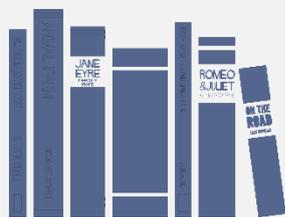


KS3 Recommended Reads



SMITHILLS SCHOOL LIBRARY
READ • LEARN • EXPLORE

His Dark Materials	Philip Pullman FANTASY	One of the most brilliant children's trilogies of the last 20 years. Has more surprises, scares and twists that you can cope with!
Coraline	Neil Gaiman HORROR	Stunning novel about a warped alternative universe hidden behind a door. Very weird and altogether creepy.
Mortal Engines	Philip Reeves FANTASY	Superb fantasy novel where moving cities trawl the globe. Tom and Hester are thrown from their beloved "London" and try to get back on board. A highly original read.
Millions	Frank Cottrell-Boyce COMEDY/HUMOUR	Imagine the scenario: Britain is about to join the Euro, you find 250K and have 10 days to spend it before it becomes obsolete.
Horace	Chris D'Lacey THRILLER	Funny thriller in which a teenage finds a valuable teddy-bear in a skip. Suddenly, when rich, life becomes much more complicated.
Ruby in the Smoke	Philip Pullman MYSTERY	Exceptional mystery yarn, about a girl trying to find out why her father was murdered. Has two sequels with the same characters, which are also excellent.
Floodland	Marcus Sedgwick FANTASY	Gripping story of global warming and the pockets of survivors who live in the "High Lands" near Norwich.
The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas	John Boyne HISTORICAL	One of the saddest books I've ever read. Set around the time of the Holocaust. Saying anything else will give it away. Read it!
War Horse	Michael Morpurgo WAR	Thought provoking novel of the life of a horse and his thoughts during his numerous battles under different masters.
The Diary of Anne Frank	Anne Frank AUTOBIOGRAPHY	A deeply moving and unforgettable portrait of an ordinary and yet an extraordinary teenage girl. First published over sixty years ago, Anne Frank's Diary of a Young Girl has reached millions of young people throughout the world.
The Girl of Ink & Stars	Kiran Millwood Hargrave FAIRYTALE	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.
R.J PALACIO	Wonder REAL LIFE/SCHOOL	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.
Uncle Montague's Tales of Terror	Chris Priestley HORROR	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.
Smart	Kim Slater MYSTERY/CRIME	There's been a murder, but the police don't care. It was only a homeless old man after all. Kieran cares. He's made a promise, and when you say something out loud, that means you're going to do it, for real. He's going to find out what really happened.
David Solomons	My Brother is a Superhero HUMOUR/ADVENTURE	Luke is a comic-mad eleven-year old who shares a treehouse with his geeky older brother, Zack. Luke's only mistake is to go for a wee right at the wrong time. While he's gone, an alien gives his undeserving, never-read-a-comic-in-his-life brother superpowers and then tells him to save the universe.
J.K.Rowling	The Harry Potter Series FANTASY/ADVENTURE	The first book is now over 20 years old! I KNOW!! Start with Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone.
Lisa Thompson	The Goldfish Boy MYSTERY	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.

J.R.R Tolkien	The Hobbit FANTASY/ADVENTURE	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.
Astrid Lindgren	Karlson On The Roof ADVENTURE	Imagine Smidge's delight when, one day, a little man with a propeller on his back appears hovering at the window! It's Karlson and he lives in a house on the roof.
Sophie Anderson	The Girl Who Speaks Bear FAIRYTALE	Found abandoned in a bear cave as a baby, Yanka has always wondered about where she is from. She tries to ignore the strange whispers and looks from the villagers, wishing she was as strong on the inside as she is on the outside.
Onjali Q. Rauf	The Boy at the Back Of The Class REALISTIC FICTION	Told with humor and heart, The Boy at the Back of the Class offers a child's perspective on the refugee crisis, highlighting the importance of friendship and kindness in a world that doesn't always make sense.
THE BOLTON CHILDRENS FICTION AWARDS 2020 Thomas Taylor	Malamander FANTASY/MYSTERY	Herbert Lemon, Lost-and-Founder at the Grand Nautilus Hotel, knows that returning lost things to their rightful owners is not easy - especially when the lost thing is not a thing at all, but a girl.
THE BOLTON CHILDRENS FICTION AWARDS 2020 Alan Durant	CLOWNFISH FAMILY	From award-winning author Alan Durant comes a surreal, poignant story about family bonds and loss. Dak's dad has been dead for seven days when suddenly he reappears. He's the same in almost every way, with one startling exception: Dad has turned into a clownfish, and now lives in a tank at their local aquarium
THE BOLTON CHILDRENS FICTION AWARDS 2020	The Skylarks' War	WW1 - Clarry and her older brother Peter live for their summers in Cornwall, staying with their grandparents and

Hilary McKay	HISTORICAL FICTION/WAR	running free with their charismatic cousin, Rupert. But normal life resumes each September – boarding school for Peter and Rupert, and a boring life for Clary at home with her absent father, as the shadow of a terrible war looms ever closer.
THE BOLTON CHILDRENS FICTION AWARDS 2020 Piers Torday	The Lost Magician MYSTERY/ADVENTURE	1945. They have survived the Blitz, but when Simon, Patricia, Evelyn and Larry step through a mysterious library door, it is the beginning of their most dangerous adventure yet.
THE BOLTON CHILDRENS FICTION AWARDS 2020 Vashti Hardy	Wildspark FANTASY	A year after the death of her older brother, Prue Haywood's family is still shattered by grief. But everything changes when a stranger arrives at the farm.
THE BOLTON CHILDRENS FICTION AWARDS 2020 Victoria Williamson	The Fox Girl and the White Gazelle SOCIAL ISSUES	Reema runs to remember the life she left behind in Syria. Caylin runs to find what she's lost. Under the grey Glasgow skies, twelve-year-old refugee Reema is struggling to find her place in a new country, with a new language and without her brother. But she isn't the only one feeling lost.