

Year 6 Recommended Reading List

Action and Adventure

Louis Sachar - Holes

Very popular novel about a miscarriage of justice that sends Stanley into a juvenile prison and an assignment to "dig" holes.

Gary Kilworth - Attika

The deeper they went into the attic, the more the darkness seemed to close around them...

Malorie Blackman - Hacker

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

Zizou Corder - Lionboy

A boy is able to speak the language of cats when he is scratched by a lion as a baby. Years later his scientist parents are kidnapped....

Ali Sparkes - Shapeshifter - Finding the Fox

First in an edge-of-the-seat series featuring Dax Jones. A mix of special powers, a seemingly innocent boarding school and government agents.

Susan Price - Feasting the Wolf

A sweeping dramatic story of courage and honour, set in the merciless and cut-throat Viking world.

Eoin Colfer - Airman

A fast moving action packed read. A dashing young hero, a dastardly villain, a princess and lots of explosions thrown in.

Emily Diamond - Reaver's Ransom

One kidnapped child... One talking jewel.... A wild adventure begins.

David Miller - Shark Island

Hannah, Ned and their parents are on the holiday of a lifetime on the paradise island of Kaitan. But the idyll is shattered when pirates come in the night, burning their house and kidnapping their parents.

Eva Ibbotson - The Dragonfly Pool

Tally Hamilton is furious to hear she is being sent to a stuffy boarding school in the countryside. But Delderton Hall is far more interesting than she could ever imagine.

Lauren St John - The White Giraffe

Top-drawer adventure story with an added helping of fantasy.

Michelle Paver - Wolf Brother

First of a series. Carries you back thousands of years to the ancient darkness of the Forest - a world steeped in natural magic and in which trusting a friend means risking your life. Astounding, award winning adventure.

Relationships and Conflicts

Tim Lott - Fearless

A ruthless boss, and a young girl who really lives up to her name, Fearless. A futuristic, captivating tale of courage.

Frank Cottrell Boyce - Millions

The world of young Daniel Cunningham is turned upside down when a sports bag full of money comes crashing down into his self-made playhouse.

Eva Ibbotson - Journey to Riversea

An orphaned school girl's journey to South America with her tough-as-old-boots nanny.

Noel Streatfeild - Ballet Shoes

A classic story of three children on the stage.

Jamia Gavin - Out of India

A family torn between two cultures.

Roald Dahl - Boy

The remarkable story of Roald Dahl's early years at school and with his family.

Fantasy

Jeanette Winterson - Tanglewreck

An orphan, a cruel aunt and time gone crazy. Silver must begin a journey through time and space in search of the Timekeeper - a journey filled with many dangers.

Terry Deary - Fire Thief Series

A rollicking add-on to the story of Prometheus... a cracking time-travelling story.

William Nicholson - The Wind Singer

A story of three children who escape the city where they live to search for the mystical Wind Singer which they are told will heal the city of its evil and ambition.

Diana Wynne Jones - Dogsboddy

Kathleen gets more than she bargained for when she adopts an abandoned dog.

Rick Riordan - Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief

I didn't want to be a half-blood. I never asked to be the son of a Greek God. I was just a normal kid until I accidentally vaporised my maths teacher....

Dugald A. Steer - The Dragon's Eye

Mystery, tension and lashings of fantasy make this an unmissable adventure.

Philip Pullman - Northern Lights

Lyra Belacqua and her animal daemon set off to the frozen lands of the Arctic in this 'alternative world' adventure story.

Ghosts and Horror

Bram Stoker - Dracula

A journey to Count Dracula's castle in Transylvania in the 1800's. Howling wolves, dark shadows, bats. Prepare to lose your soul....

Neil Gaiman - Coraline

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

Cliff McNish - Breathe: a Ghost Story

A true ghost story. The kind that grips its cold fingers on you and doesn't let go until the last pages are turned. Wonderfully spine chilling.

Justin Somper - Vampirates

Series of blood thirsty, horror novels set on the high seas.

Mary Shelly - Frankenstein

Victor Frankenstein creates life. Horrified at himself, he shuns the monstrous being, but the creature never forgets his master...

Sandra Glover - Demon's Rock

What Bug and Mona discover about Demon's Rock is more terrifying than anyone could imagine....

Robert Louis Stevenson - Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde

Everyone has a dark side. Dr. Jekyll has discovered the ultimate drug. A chemical that can change him into something else...something fiendish...

Humour

Cressida Cowell - How to Train your Dragon

These books are great fun with a bizarre sense of humour that appeals to children and adults alike.

Louis Sachar - There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom

Highly entertaining tale from the author of Holes.

Paul Shipton - The Pig Who Saved the World

After saving the Cosmos already, Gryllis is a bit tired of being a hero and a pig! He wants to return to human form and live a quiet life.... No chance!

Gillian Cross - The Demon Headmaster

Something is wrong at Dinah's new school. All the pupils act in exactly the same way. Wonderful blend of horror and suspense. Has exciting sequels.

Sport

Mal Peet - Keeper

A story about the world's greatest goal keeper. This extraordinary, gripping tale pulses with the rhythms of football and the rainforest.

Dan Freedman - The Kick Off

Vibrantly captures the realistic world of a 13 year old would be footballer.

Mystery and Thrillers

Chris Priestley - Death and the Arrow

An intelligent gripping thriller...a sense of time and place so vivid you can virtually see, hear and taste 18th century London.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle - Sherlock Holmes

Classic Victorian crime stories. Full of creepy, cunning villains.

Paul Stewart - The Curse of Magoria

A breathtaking tale of dark magic, adventure and revenge.

Gillian Cross - The Dark Ground

A flight back from holiday. An explosion on the plane. Robert wakes up, alone in the jungle....or is he? An incredible adventure full of surprise and suspense.

Alex Gordon Smith - The Inventors

Nate and Cat uncover a horrific plot and if they want to remain alive they must out-wit, out-run and out-invent a cunning adversary.

Caroline Lawrence - Roman Mysteries

Multi-book series about four amateur child detectives in ancient Rome. Exciting plots and historically accurate.

Classics/ Historical

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.

Robert Louis Stevenson - Treasure Island

A tale of pirates and villains, maps, treasure and shipwreck. Plus mutiny, murder and mayhem and all long before Johnny Depp!

Jack London - Call of the Wild

This tale of a dog's fight and survival in the harsh and frozen North is one of the greatest animal stories ever written.

Anna Sewell - Black Beauty

From his simple beginnings under the shady trees in a meadow, to a cab horse on the streets of busy London, Black Beauty keeps his sweet temper and fine spirit.

Charles Dickens - A Tale of Two Cities

A thrilling tale of the French Revolution. Beautiful heroines, dashing heroes... and the guillotine!

Daniel Defoe - Robinson Crusoe

One man thrown up on a deserted island. Alone. Until he discovers footprints in the sand.... Friend or foe?

Date Hubbard - Rubies in the Snow

A fictionalised diary of Anastasia, the Russian duchess, murdered in the revolution. Heart-breakingly good.

Michael Morpurgo - Twist of Gold

The epic journey of Sean and Annie as they travel across the prairies of America in search of their father.

Michael Morpurgo - The Last Wolf

When Robbie McLeod finds an orphaned wolf cub and vows to take care of him, it is the beginning of an adventure that sweeps boy and beast from the Highlands of Scotland to the high seas and beyond.

E. White - Voyage on the Great Titanic

The tragic story of the sinking of the Titanic through the eyes of a young orphaned girl accompanying a wealthy American woman travelling home. Superb writing - makes you feel you are on board the doomed vessel.

War

Lois Lowry - Number the Stars

A powerful story set in Nazi occupied Denmark in 1943. Ten year old Ann Marie is called upon for a selfless act of bravery to help save her best friend Ellen - a Jew.

Michael Morpurgo - War Horse

Thought provoking novel of the life of a horse and his thoughts during his numerous battles under different masters.

John Boyne - The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

One of the saddest books. Set during the time of the Holocaust. Saying anything else will ruin it. Read it!

Elizabeth Laird - Oranges in No Man's Land

Since her mother died, ten year old Ayesha has been living in the bomb-ravaged city of Beirut. When her Gran falls desperately ill she sets off on a terrifying journey to reach a doctor.

Anne Frank - Diary of Anne Frank

Stunning story of bravery during World War Two. Essential reading.

Terry Pratchett - Johnny and the Bomb

Time travel with a difference. Considered the best in the 'Johnny Maxwell series'. Can be read as a stand-alone novel.

Judith Kerr - When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit

A modern classic. Anna only knows she's Jewish because her father says so. The story of how a family flees Berlin in 1933 due to the rise of the Nazis. One of the best books written about the war.

Ann Jungman - Resistance

Set in Holland during World War 2, Elli and Jan's parents are collaborators and the two children are given a hard time at school. Secretly they begin to help the Resistance.

Roald Dahl - Going Solo

Tells of Roald Dahl's time working in Africa and his fascinating wartime exploits.

Science Fiction and Unexplained

Malorie Blackman - Pig Heart Boy

Cameron has only a few months to live. With no suitable human heart donor available he has to make a tough decision.

Gordon Williams - Tunnels series

When his father suddenly disappears down an unknown tunnel, Will decides to investigate with his friend Chester. Soon they unearth a dark and terrifying secret. Dark and menacing adventure.

Matt Skelton - Endymion Spring

A biting book... Myths, legends, suspense and dark secrets.