

KS3 Wider Reading Lists

Wider reading is a fundamental part of a child's all-round education, and we try to encourage this at school as part of the key stage 3 English curriculum. In short, reading opens so many doors for students both in school and beyond. Amongst other things, it improves literacy and vocabulary, knowledge of the world, and empathy. The following lists have been produced by English faculty and ILC staff in order to complement the reading that takes place in lessons. The themes under which the books are listed correspond to the titles of the current key stage 3 schemes of learning in English. We hope that students and parents will enjoy selecting and reading some of these suggestions. We appreciate any support that parents can give in encouraging wider reading at home.

Year 7

Heroes and Villains

Stormbreaker (and others in Alex Rider series)
– Anthony Horowitz

CHERUB: The Recruit – Robert Muchamore

Harry Potter series – JK Rowling

Percy Jackson series – Rick Riordan

Heroes of Olympus series – Rick Riordan

More of a challenge

Frankenstein – Mary Shelley

The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde –
Robert Louis Stevenson

Year 8

Journeys

The Knife of Never Letting Go – Patrick Ness

Shadow of the Minotaur – Alan Gibbons

Beowulf – Michael Morpurgo

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight - Michael
Morpurgo

Greyhound of a Girl – Roddy Doyle

The Midnight Zoo – Sonya Hartnett

Watership Down – Richard Adams

Percy Jackson – Rick Riordan

Harry Potter – JK Rowling

Midwinterblood – Marcus Sedgwick

The Night Circus – Erin Morgenstern

Stardust – Neil Gaiman

Neverwhere – Neil Gaiman

More of a challenge

Northern Lights – Phillip Pullman

The Subtle Knife – Phillip Pullman

The Hobbit – JRR Tolkien

Lord of the Rings – JRR Tolkien

Year 9

New Worlds

The Hunger Games, Suzanne Collins

Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress – Dai
Sijie

The Day of the Triffids – John Wyndham

The Chrysalids – John Wyndham

Brave New World – Aldous Huxley

The Wall – William Sutcliffe

Midwinter Blood – Marcus Sedgwick

Divergent – Veronica Roth

Uglies – Scott Westerfeld

How I Live Now – Meg Rosoff

Bloodtide – Melvin Burgess

Rail Head – Philip Reeve

More of a challenge

1984, George Orwell

Animal Farm, George Orwell

Lord of the Flies – William Golding

Neuromancer – William Gibson