

# Year 8 Great Reads



## Classics

### ***The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams**

It's an ordinary Thursday lunchtime for Arthur Dent until his house gets demolished. The Earth follows shortly afterwards to make way for a new hyperspace express route, and his best friend has just announced that he's an alien.



### ***The Hound of the Baskervilles* by Arthur Conan Doyle**

This is the third of the crime novels written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle featuring the detective Sherlock Holmes.

### ***The Eagle of the Ninth* by Rosemary Sutcliffe**

Marcus has to find out what happened to his father, who led the lost ninth legion. So he sets out on a quest so dangerous that nobody expects him to return.

### ***Animal Farm* by George Orwell**

A classic fable and allegory of a communist revolutionary dictatorship and the tyranny which develops told through the story of the animals of Manor Farm.





## Thrillers

### ***H.I.V.E. Series by Mark Walden***

H.I.V.E. (Higher Institute of Villainous Education) is a top-secret school of applied villainy where children are sent to develop into criminal masterminds!



### ***The Bodyguard Series by Chris Bradford***

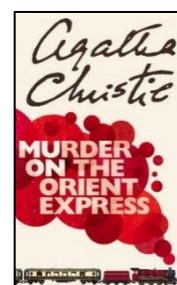
In a dangerous world, everyone needs protection. Adults are no longer the only target for hostage-taking, blackmail and assassination - kids are too ...

### ***Young Sherlock Holmes Series by Andrew Lane***

A series of young adult Thriller novels by British author Andrew Lane featuring Arthur Conan Doyle's detective Sherlock Holmes as a teenager in the 1860s that is faced with numerous crimes and adventures.

### ***Murder on the Orient Express by Agatha Christie***

Just after midnight, a snowdrift stops the luxurious Orient Express in its tracks. An American man lies dead in his compartment, stabbed a dozen times, his door locked from the inside. Isolated and with a killer in the midst, detective Hercule Poirot must identify the murderer, in case he or she decides to strike again.



### ***Boy Soldier Series by Andy McNab***

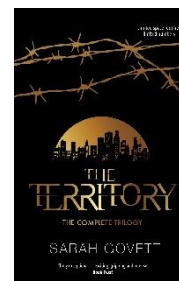
Danny Watts' grandfather, Fergus, was a traitor - an SAS explosives expert who betrayed his country and his regiment for money. At least, that is what 17-year-old Danny is told when his hopes of becoming a soldier are destroyed forever.



## Science Fiction and Dystopia

### ***The Territory by Sarah Govett***

5th June 2059. Noa Blake is just another normal 15 year old with exams looming. Except in The Territory normal isn't normal. The richest children have a node on the the back of their necks and can download information, bypassing the need to study.



### ***Mortal Engines by Philip Reeve***

In a dangerous future, huge motorized cities hunt, attack and fight each other for survival. As London pursues a small town, young apprentice Tom is flung out into the wastelands, where a terrifying cyborg begins to hunt him down.

### ***Noughts and Crosses* by Malorie Blackman**

Sephy is a cross – a member of the dark-skinned ruling class. Callum is a nought – a 'colourless' member of the underclass who were once slaves to the crosses...

### ***The Divergent Series* by Veronica Roth**

The Dystopian society defines its citizens by their social and personality-related affiliation with five different factions, which removes the threat of anyone exercising independent will and threatening the population's safety.

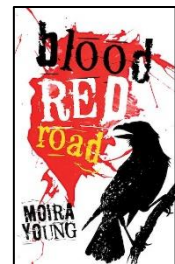


### ***The Time Machine* by H G Wells**

A scientist builds a time machine and travels to the future. He finds that humanity has devolved into two races: the childlike Eloi and the monstrous Morlocks. His machine disappears, so he explores the future world.

### ***Blood Red Road* by Moira Young**

Set in a violent future world, when Saba's twin brother is snatched by mysterious black-robed riders, she sets out on an epic quest to rescue him.



## **Horror and Ghost Stories**

### ***The Wrong Train* by Jeremy de Quidt**

It is late and dark. A boy rushes to catch a train. Suddenly he realises that it is the wrong train. He gets off at the next station. But he's still not scared...Yet.



### ***Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley**

The classic horror story about a scientist who creates his own human being using cadavers dug up from graveyards.

### ***Flesh and Blood* by Simon Cheshire**

The Greenhills are hiding something and Sam's determined to find out what it is. As his investigation unfolds, he realizes the lies reach further than he ever imagined.

### ***Mister Creecher* by Chris Priestley**

A gripping gothic novel. Billy is a street urchin, pickpocket and petty thief. Mister Creecher is a monstrous giant of a man who terrifies all he meets.





# Global and Social Issues

## **Refugee by Alan Gratz**

Josef is a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany. With the threat of concentration camps looming, he and his family board a ship bound for the other side of the world...

Isabel is a Cuban girl in 1994. With riots and unrest plaguing her country, she and her family set out on a raft, hoping to find safety in America...

Mahmoud is a Syrian boy in 2015. With his homeland torn apart by violence and destruction, he and his family begin a long trek towards Europe...

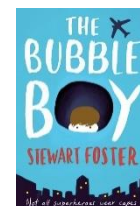


## **I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai**

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley, one girl fought for her right to an education. On 9 October 2012, she was shot in the head at point-blank range.

## **The Bubble Boy by Stewart Foster**

11-year-old Joe cannot remember a life outside of his hospital room, with its beeping machines and view of London's rooftops. His condition means he is not allowed outside, not even for a moment, and his few visitors risk bringing life-threatening germs inside his 'bubble'. But then someone new enters his world and changes it forever.



# Form Time Reading

From Spring Term 2023, during Form Time, Year 8 groups will begin reading a selection of the following novels:

- **The Haunting by Margaret Mahy;**
- **Madame Doubtfire by Anne Fine;**
- **Liclle Bit by Alex Wheatle;**
- **Welcome to Nowhere by Elizabeth Laird;**
- **The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton;**
- **Unbearable by Paul Jennings.**

