

Year 9 Great Reads



Classics

***Lord of the Flies* by William Golding**

When a plane crashes on a remote island, a small group of schoolboys are the sole survivors. From the prophetic Simon and virtuous Ralph to the lovable Piggy and brutish Jack, each of the boys attempts to establish control as the reality - and brutal savagery - of their situation sets in.



***The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain**

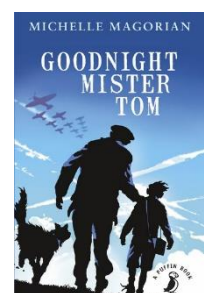
A sombre undercurrent flows through the high humour and unabashed nostalgia of the novel, however, from beneath the innocence of childhood lie the inequities of adult reality — emotions and superstitions, murder and revenge, starvation and slavery.

***Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury**

Guy Montag is a fireman. In his world, where television rules and literature is on the brink of extinction, firemen start fires rather than put them out. His job is to destroy the most illegal of commodities: the printed book, along with the houses in which they are hidden.

***Goodnight Mr Tom* by Michelle Magorian**

Set during World War II, this compelling tale features a boy abused at home in London who is evacuated to the country at the outbreak of the war. In the care of Mister Tom, an elderly recluse, he experiences a new life of love and care.



Thrillers

***The Everest Files* by Matt Dickinson**

A story of an Everest expedition unlike any other. An expedition that ended with mysterious disappearances ... and death. A shocking tale of lies, betrayal and obsession all played out on the lethal slopes of the highest mountain in the world.



***After the First Death* by Robert Cormier**

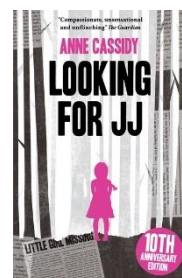
A bus-load of young children is being held hostage by ruthless hijackers. Miro is the terrorist with no past and no emotions. Kate is the bus driver, caught up in the nightmare, and Ben is the General's son who must act as a go-between. A tense drama with death being the only escape.

***When I was Joe* by Keren David**

When Ty witnesses a stabbing, his own life is in danger from the criminals he has named, and he and his mum have to go into police protection. Ty has a new name, a new look and a cool new image - life as Joe is good, especially when he gets talent spotted as a potential athletics star.

***Looking for JJ* by Anne Cassidy**

This is a gripping story straight from the newspapers. A child is murdered by one of her friends and 6 years later, the murderer, now a teenager, is released with a new identity. The circumstances of the case are slowly revealed throughout the book as we learn if, in an age of huge media interest, a killer can maintain a new identity.



***Catch 22* by Joseph Heller**

At the end of WW2, Yossarian thinks his life is in danger – not from the enemy, but from his own side. He tries to find any excuse to avoid an increasing number of dangerous missions.

Science Fiction and Dystopia

***The Loop* by Ben Oliver**

Luka Kane has been inside hi-tech prison 'The Loop' for over two years. A death sentence is hanging over his head but his day-to-day routine is mind-numbingly repetitive, broken only by the books brought to him by the sympathetic warden, Wren. Then everything starts to change: rumours of war are whispered in the courtyard and the government-issued rain stops falling. On Luka's last, desperate day, Wren issues him a terrifying warning: breaking out of 'The Loop' might be Luka's only chance to save himself - and the world.



***The Gone Series* by Michael Grant**

In the blink of an eye, everyone disappears. Gone. Except for the young. There are teens, but not one single adult. Just as suddenly, there are no phones, no internet and no television. No way to get help. And no way to figure out what's happened.

***Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline**

In the year 2044, reality is an ugly place. The only time teenage Wade Watts really feels alive is when he's jacked into the virtual utopia known as the OASIS. When Wade stumbles upon the first clue, he finds himself beset by players willing to kill to take this ultimate prize.



***Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card**

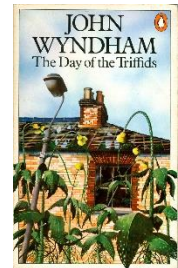
Andrew "Ender" Wiggin thinks he is playing computer simulated war games; he is, in fact, engaged in something far more desperate. The result of genetic experimentation.

***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.

***The Day of the Triffids* by John Wyndham**

After most people in the world are blinded by an apparent meteor shower, an aggressive species of plant starts killing people.



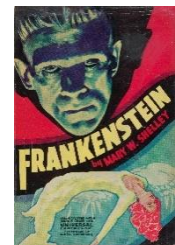
Horror and Ghost Stories

***Dracula* by Bram Stoker**

Little does Jonathan know that this is a land where babies are snatched for their blood and wolves howl menacingly from the forest; where reality is far more frightening than superstition. What's more, it's going to be up to him to stop the world's most bloodthirsty predator.

***Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley**

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



***Bad Bones* by Graham Marks**

A shallow grave. Gabe doesn't think twice about taking the gold bracelet he finds buried there. Even from the clutches of skeletal hands. But he has no idea what he's awakening.

The Ghost Files by Apryl Baker

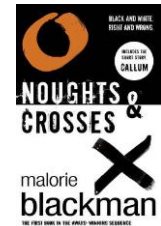
Everyone thinks Sally's just another runaway, but Mattie knows the truth — she's dead. Murdered. Mattie feels like she has to help Sally, but she can't do it alone. Against her better judgment, she teams up with a young policeman.



Global and Social Issues

Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman

Two young people are forced to make a stand in this thought-provoking look at racism and prejudice in an alternate society.



The Fastest Boy in the World by Elizabeth Laird

Solomon loves to run and dreams of being a gold medal winner. When his Grandfather collapses after a long journey, Solomon knows he is the only person who can run for help. It's a twenty mile run from the city to home. Can the barefooted runner with the big heart do it?

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

Amir, a young Sunni Muslim from Afghanistan, struggles to find his place in the world because of the aftereffects and fallout from a series of traumatic childhood events.



Pigeon English by Stephen Kelman

Inspired by the true story of Damilola Taylor's murder that rocked the United Kingdom in 2000, this story follows Harrison "Harri" Opoku, an eleven-year-old Ghanaian immigrant who tries to solve the brutal murder of a London boy.



Form Time Reading

From Spring Term 2023, during Form Time, Year 9 groups will be reading a selection of the following novels:

- **The Secrets Act by Alison Weatherby;**
- **The Midwich Cuckoos John Wyndham;**
- **Maladapted by Richard Kurti;**
- **Hatchet by Gary Paulsen;**
- **The Call by Peadar O'Guilin;**
- **Noah Can't Even by Simon James Green.**

