

Year 6 transition reading list

Reading is extremely important. Time and time again research shows that young people between the ages of 10-16 who read for pleasure are likely to do significantly better at school than their peers who rarely read.

We would like you to choose at least 1 book from this list, read it and be prepared to talk about in your English lessons in September.

All the books on this list should be available from your local library.

Brahmachari, Sita

Artichoke Hearts

A thoughtful, real life story which is set locally. Mira is in her first year at secondary school. She is growing up and her future is full of possibilities. At the same time her beloved grandmother is dying.

Campbell-Johnston, Rachel

The Child's Elephant

An adventure story set on the East African Savannah about a boy who cares for an orphaned baby elephant. When it is time for the elephant to return to the wild, he finds himself in conflict with elephant poachers and child kidnappers.

Dhami, Narinder

Thirteen Hours

A nail-biting thriller with an unexpected ending. Anni's home is under siege. She had the chance to escape, but her agoraphobic mother refused to leave the house. So they must stay and hope they survive

Edge, Christopher

Twelve Minutes to Midnight

A mixture of history and fantasy. It is 1899 in London and something strange is happening in Bedlam, the notorious mental hospital. Penny Treadwell is a teenage writer who is determined to solve the mystery. This is the first book in a series.

Fine, Anne

The Devil Walks

A gothic horror story. Daniel has spent his entire life imprisoned in his home by his mother who claims he is an invalid. When a doctor finds nothing wrong with him, he goes to live with his uncle and his life becomes even more unbearable.

Fountain, Ele

Boy 87

An adventure story. A survival story. And possibly a true story about a lone refugee on a perilous journey. Shif is an ordinary boy living in a faraway country. He is poor. He is very clever. He has a loving family and a best friend. Then one day soldiers arrive at his house and he is sent away.

Hartnett, Sonya

The Children of the King

An historical story within an historical story suited to good readers. The main story is set during World War 2 and is about three children who are evacuated to their uncle's country house. Here they meet 2 very strange boys who seem to belong to another era entirely.

Laird, Elizabeth

The Fastest Boy in the World

An adventure story which is easy to read. The country of Ethiopia is renowned for long-distance running. Solomon is an excellent runner who dreams of becoming an Olympic athlete.

McKay, Hilary

Binny for Short

First in a series of about the Cornwallis family that will appeal to fans of Jacqueline Wilson. In this book it is the summer before Binny starts secondary school and her family move to a dilapidated house in a Cornish seaside village.

Norriss, Andrew

Jessica's Ghost

Jessica is dead but she lives on as a ghost, a kind ghost, for this is not a scary story. Francis, Andi and Quentin are children who are experiencing difficulties in their lives. They are the only ones who can communicate with Jessica. But why?

Palacio, R J

Wonder

Despite numerous operations, August is severely disfigured. Now 10 years old, he is about to go to school for the first time. Lessons will not be a problem. He is a very intelligent boy. But how will his new classmates react to his face?

Pitcher, Annabel

My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece

Following the death of his sister in a terrorist attack, Jamie's family falls apart and he has to move from London to start a new life in the Lake District.

Priestley, Chris

Uncle Montague's Tales of Terror

Short horror stories. One in a series of similar books. Easy to read, but extremely unsettling. Definitely **not** bedtime reading!

Rundell, Katherine

The Explorer

When their small plane crashes in the Amazon Rainforest, four children find themselves alone and with little chance of rescue. A long, absorbing adventure story, which also is full of information about Amazon animals and plants.

Saunders, Kate

Five Children on the Western Front

This “sequel” to Edith Nesbit’s *Five children and it* can be enjoyed without having read the original. It is a family story with a bit of fantasy which takes place during World War One.

Selznick, Brian

The Marvels

An intriguing, brick of a book about family connections over 300 years. The book is in two parts. The first consists entirely of pencil drawings.

Stead, Rebecca

Liar and Spy

Set in an apartment building in New York, this unusual book is partly a family story and partly a mystery. It is also funny. The ending is will surprise you..

Torday, Piers

The Last Wild (and sequels)

In a fantasy dystopian world where there are supposedly no animals left and all food is flavoured pink gloop, Kester embarks on a great adventure.

Townsend, Jessica

Nevermoor (amd sequels)

A magical fantasy that will appeal to fans of Harry Potter. Morrigan is doomed to die on her 11th birthday. Then, unexpectedly she is given the opportunity to train for the Wundrous Society in the secret city of Nevermoor.

Welford, Ross

Time Travelling with a Hamster

If you could go time travelling and alter one small event in history, something that just affected a member of your family, would you do so? Getting back to the 1980s is easy for Al. His dad was a scientist and left instructions for him to do so. It is only when he gets there, that his problems begin.