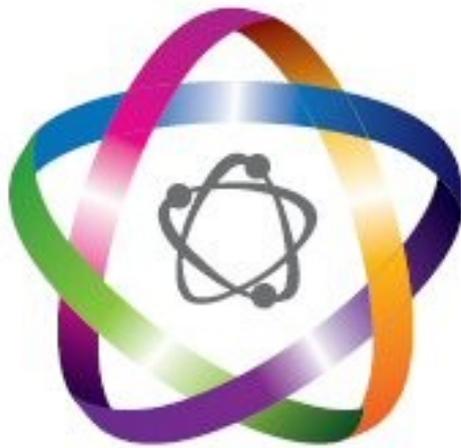


Debenham High School



SUMMER READING LIST 2019

Welcome to Debenham High School's Summer Reading List for 2019. This year we asked a collection of students and teachers across the school to recommend a favourite book they have read recently. The results are varied and sometimes surprising, from comedy to today's hard-hitting issues, there is something for everyone. Many of these titles are available to borrow from the Learning Resources Centre over the summer holidays.

At the back of the booklet we have a selection of newly released titles recommended by the folks at Brightly, a website that encourages young people to read. Other recommendations can also be found on the website www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk

We hope that the varied selection of book recommendations within this reading list will inspire students to pick up a book (or two) this summer. I would love to hear your opinion on those you have read and perhaps make some recommendations of your own.

Happy Summer Reading!

Mrs C Foord-Johnson
Learning Resources Coordinator



Rose Courteen 8C

The book I would recommend is...
You Are Awesome

Author: Matthew Syed

**Genre: Non Fiction/
Motivational**

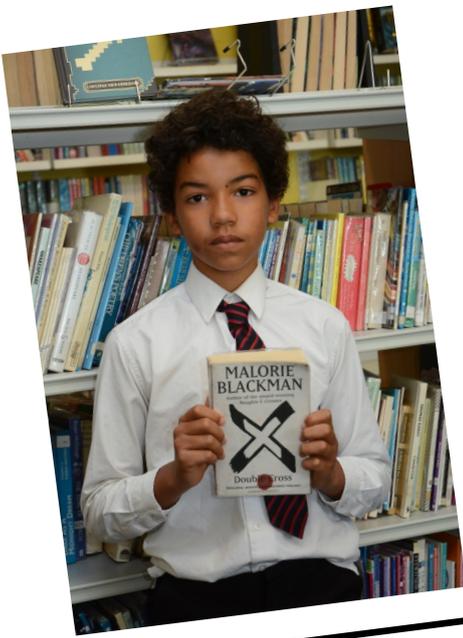
What the book's about... It is not a story book that has a story line and characters, but that doesn't make it a bad book. You are Awesome talks about how, with motivation, practice and resilience you can achieve anything you want. Matthew Syed explains how from just playing table tennis against his brother with a net on an old table in the garage he became a world Number One table tennis champion.

Why I like it... because it makes you motivated to try anything you want. After you have finished reading it you feel so amazing and anything is possible.

Why I would recommend it... The book is created in a fun way that makes it fun to read. It is suitable for anyone, as it really encouraged me, so I want someone else to find that motivation to try anything.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

Fantastic People who Dared to Fail by Luke Reynolds



Peter Hudson 7E

The book I would recommend is...
Noughts and Crosses

Author: Malorie Blackman

Genre: Fictional Dystopian

What the book's about... Noughts and Crosses is set in a dystopian world where the superior black crosses rule over the inferior white noughts. Callum comes from a poor nought family, while Sephy comes from a rich cross family. Their families were friends in childhood but they fell out. Sephy and Callum are friends but racism keeps them apart. The tensions between the different races are rising and Callum and Sephy have to find their place in the world.

Why I like it... I like how the book deals with racism in the world and how it is so believable.

Why I would recommend it... I would recommend it to Year 7 – 10 but not any older or younger than that.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

The Hunger Games series by Suzanne Collins

The Maze Runner series by James Dashner



Maisy Ward-Jackson 10C

The book I would recommend is...

Into The Water

Author: Paula Hawkins

Genre: Mystery/Horror

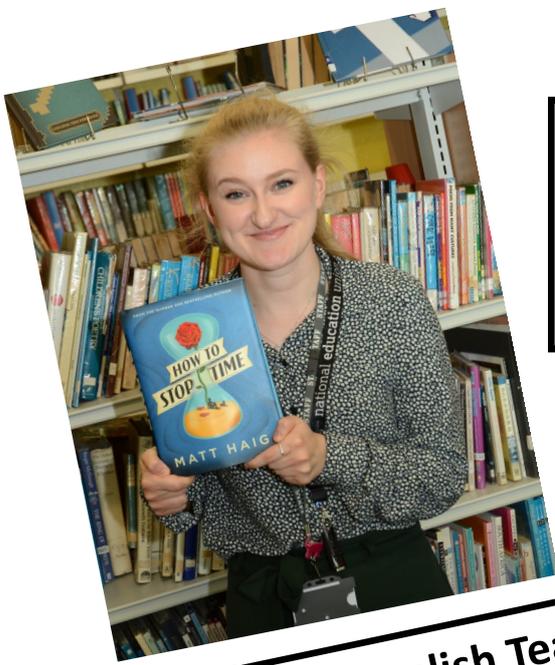
What the book's about... The book is about Nel and her sister Jules. Nel is found dead in the lake by her childhood home, the day after her sister ignored a call from her. The voice mail she left said "I need you to call me back. Its important". After a police investigation, the conclusion is that Nel committed suicide, but Jules knows this simply isn't true.

Why I like it... I love the way Paula Hawkins gives the point of view of so many different characters who all turn out to be key parts in the story of the life of Nel.

Why I would recommend it... Its such a unique book, with a completely different structure to anything else. It's so cleverly written, and you stay thinking about it for ages afterwards. I would only recommend it to the Upper School however because of the content and adult themes.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

You Are Dead by Peter James - It is the story of a girl names Logan who mysteriously disappears and the same afternoon a body is dug up by some workmen, that had lain there for 30 years. Similarly this is written from the viewpoint of multiple characters, including that of the killer.



Miss Goodwin, English Teacher

The book I would recommend is...

How to Stop Time

Author: Matt Haig

Genre: Fantasy/Romance/
Historical

What the book's about... Tom Hazard has a secret. He is a 41 year old history teacher, but he has been alive for centuries. He has seen it all. If he keeps changing his identity he can keep one step ahead of his past and stay alive. The only thing he must not do is fall in love.

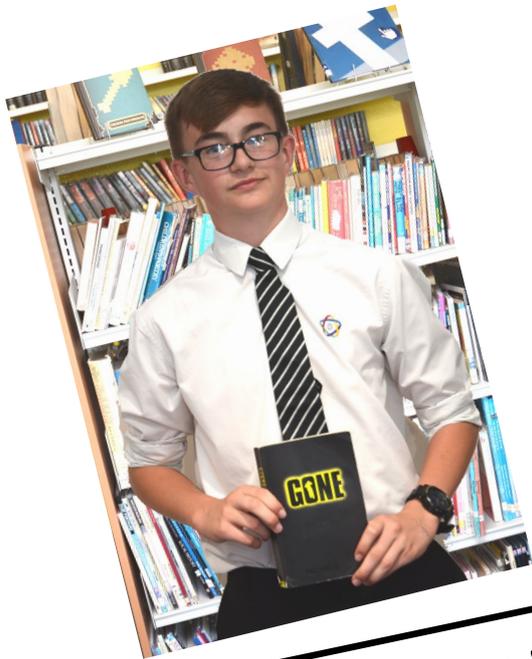
Why I like it... I absolutely loved this book. It was heartwarming and takes you on a beautiful journey through time. It was magical and I couldn't put it down. There was even a reference to Shakespeare, which was terrific!

Why I would recommend it... I would recommend this book to students in Year 9 and above. Matt Haig's books are superb and focus on aspects of the human condition.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

The Night Circus by Erin Morgenstern

Any novel by Matt Haig including Reasons to Stay Alive, The Humans, Notes on a Nervous Planet



Danny Farrow 10C

The book I would recommend is...

Gone

Author: Michael Grant

Genre: Sci-Fi/Action and Adventure

What the book's about... One day in Perdido Beach, California, everyone over the age of 15 disappears and a dome appears trapping everyone inside. Many of its residents also develop supernatural powers, some of which are deadly, where as some are useless. So begins the fight for survival.

Why I like it... There is never a dull moment in the book and there is more excitement on every new page you read.

Why I would recommend it... I would recommend it to Years 7 to 10 because it is exciting and appeals to kids/teens.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

The rest of the Gone series (including Hunger, Lies, Plague, Fear and Light)

The ZOM-B series by Darren Shan

I am Legend by Richard Matheson



Martha Hitt 9C

The book I would recommend is...

Genuine Fraud

Author: E. Lockhart

Genre: Mystery/Thriller

What the book's about... In this thriller, E. Lockhart explores themes of friendship, ambition, social status, travel and above all, deceit. The reader follows a 17 year old named Jule, whose charm and quiet smarts are her ticket in to the privileged upper class she aspires to enter as an equal. Jule is a fighter, a social chameleon and an athlete and yet she became something else. This impactful novel has you on the edge of your seat, wondering how many times a person can reinvent themselves.

Why I like it... I liked the unique formatting of this book as it's told backwards chronologically, which, while at times was confusing, was a different and interesting way of reading a mystery, seeing bit by bit what leads to each major event and how the tensions build.

Why I would recommend it... I would recommend it because it was an addicting and unsettling read that includes lots of twists and turns necessary to the thriller genre. There are also underlying themes and social commentary that provide something else to think about, aside from how the mystery pans out.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

We Were Liars by E. Lockhart



George Smith 7F

The book I would recommend is...
The Twilight Series

Author: Stephanie Meyer

Genre: Fantasy/Adventure

What the book's about... The series follows the story of Bella Swan, a 17 year old girl from Arizona, who moves to rainy Forks, a small town in the state of Washington. There she meets the Cullens, a family of Vampires who untraditionally drink the blood of animals not humans. She is slowly drawn into their world as she falls in love with Edward Cullen, a 104 year old vampire. But things take a turn for the worst when sadistic vampires from another coven hunt her down.

Why I like it... The series is exciting and has a great ongoing story, with lots of tension. I spent many hours reading the series and have seen the films—good for vampire lovers!

Why I would recommend it... It was a fun, exciting read that I think others would enjoy.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

The Hobbit by J R R Tolkien

Harry Potter Series by J K Rowling



Newton Lord 8F

The book I would recommend is...

Storm Breaker

Author: Anthony Horowitz

Genre: Adventure/Thriller

What the book's about... The book is about a boy called Alex Rider. He is recruited by MI6 to go on a secret mission to save the children of England. Finding himself in the middle of terrorists, Alex must outsmart the people who want him dead. The government has given him the technology, but only he can provide the courage.

Why I like it... I liked it because there are high levels of suspense. I found it hard to stop reading it.

Why I would recommend it... I think it would appeal to Years 7 and up as I found it interesting how Alex Rider takes down his enemies.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

The other books in the Storm Breaker series by Anthony Horowitz as they get better and better as you read them.



Ruby Warren 9F

The book I would recommend is...

Gangsta Granny

Author: David Walliams

Genre: Comedy

What the book's about... An 11 year old boy named Ben visits his grandmothers house every Friday, while his parents go dancing. Ben finds these visits boring as his grandmother has an obsession with cabbage! When Ben finds a large jewellery box, his grandmother confesses the contents were all stolen. She tells him she was known as 'The Black Cat', and what she really wants to do is raid the Tower of London. Ben, who has an obsession with plumbing, decides to join her in her plan.

Why I like it... I liked the comedy element. It was very funny to read. When I first read the book I couldn't put it down.

Why I would recommend it... It is a hilarious book for all the family. While it may spark the imagination of younger children, the older generation will find lots of laughs in it.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

Awful Auntie and Grandpa's Great Escape, both by David Walliams

Diary of a Wimpey Kid by Jeff Kinney



James Foreman 8D

The book I would recommend is...

Miss Peregrines Home for Peculiar Children

Author: Ransom Riggs

Genre: Fantasy Fiction

What the book's about... When Jacob, a 16 year old America boy suffers the tragic death of his grandfather, he journeys to a remote island off the coast of Wales. Here he discovers clues to a mystery that stretches across time, involving evil creatures, decade long secrets and children that were a little more than 'peculiar'. On the island, Jacob finds the decrepit remains of Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children and as he explores its decaying bedrooms and hallways, he find the answers to questions he didn't ever know existed.

Why I like it... I particularly like the way that at the beginning of the book everything is shrouded in mystery. You have to make a lot of assumptions and estimations which means that it hooks you in and you almost can't stop reading it.

Why I would recommend it... I would recommend this book because it incorporates unusual antique photographs in to the narrative. This displays the story in a different way, allowing you to fully grasp the concept of the story.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

The Gone Series by Michael Grant



Lottie Bewley 7G

The book I would recommend is...
The Summer I turned Pretty

Author: Jenny Hann

Genre: Teen Romance

What the book's about... Every year Belly spends the summer in her cousin's house by the beach. It is something she counts down to all year. Belly, her mother and her brother travel there to visit Susannah, Belly's Mum's best friend and her two sons. It's the same every year for Belly - she is the youngest and gets teased by the older boys she looks up to. But then everything changes, Belly is suddenly all grown up and no longer the little kid everyone teases.

Why I like it... I liked the book because it never got boring. It featured flashbacks and the summer everything got real for Belly. This book is also written in the third person, which I liked as these are the types of books I lean towards.

Why I would recommend it... I would recommend this book to all students in Years 7 – 10 because I think its quite a mature book which is easy to pick up on, where you left off.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

Its not Summer Without You by Jenny Hann

We'll Always have Summer by Jenny Hann



Mr Webb, Geography Teacher

The book I would recommend is...

Dark Matter

Author: Michelle Paver

Genre: Thriller/Horror

What the book's about... This is a classic ghost story set in the Arctic Circle. The book follows a group of explorers who, one by one, are negatively affected by their environment, what they can see and what they can't...

Why I like it... It follows a very simple format and uses the cold, lonely environment to build suspense.

Why I would recommend it... It is hard to put down. It also simply masters the art of suspense writing with some familiar and effective tools.

Other books in the same genre ...

Woman in Black by Susan Hill

Thirteen Chairs by Dave Shelton



The book I would recommend is...
This Lie Will Kill You

Author: Chelsea Pitcher

Genre: Murder Mystery

Leah Sharp-Ling 8E

What the book's about... At a party, one year ago, someone died. Until now no one has told the truth about what has happened. The five survivors arrive at an isolated mansion to compete for a scholarship worth \$50,000. They arrive, but they can't all leave! Will their lies lead to destruction?

Why I like it... I liked the air of mystery as it kept you guessing throughout.

Why I would recommend it... It's entertaining and is a good mystery. Once you start the book you can't put it down.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

One of Us is Lying by Karen M McManus

Two can Keep a Secret by Karen M McManus

These Shallow Graves by Jennifer Donnelly



Owen Rees 9D

The book I would recommend is...

The Lie Tree

Author: Frances Hardinge

Genre: Thriller/Mystery

What the book's about... Faith's father is found dead under mysterious circumstances. She discovers in his journal the existence of a tree of lies that gives you hidden secrets and whispered lies. She does some investigating and discovers that the tree has a certain power. As it seduces lies, the truth falls apart. Faith has to uncover the lies to find the truth about her father's death.

Why I like it... It is very interesting and draws you in. As you get in to the story it really starts to get in to the action as Faith uncovers the lies.

Why I would recommend it... Most children enjoy action and mystery, so I think it would interest 12 - 15 year olds.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins (Upper School Only)

Gone Girl by Irma Joubert (Upper School Only)

Into the Water by Paula Hawkins (Upper School Only)



Phoebe Clark 8F

The book I would recommend is...
The Lorien Legacies Series

Author: Pittacus Lore

Genre: Dystopian/Sci-Fi

What the book's about... This book series is about 9 kids who came off a planet called Lorien. Their planet was attacked by a group of people called Mogadorians. Now the nine kids are on Earth, developing the Legacies (powers) that can help them survive. But the Mogadorians follow them to Earth hoping to kill the Lorians and take over Earth. But one thing, the kids can only be killed in order. If they are harmed before their time, the person who hurts them gets hurt themselves.

Why I like it... I really like the fact that it has strong female characters in it and that the things they do and say are sometimes things you can relate to. I also like it because the title of the books only make sense once you have read the book—I am Number Four; The Power of Six; The Fall of Five and many more.

Why I would recommend it... Once you start reading the series you are hooked. You want to keep reading until the series is over.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

Mortal Instruments and Lady Midnight Series by Cassandra Clare

Red Queen Series by Victoria Aveyard

Percy Jackson Series by Rick Riordan



The book I would recommend is...

Horowitz Horror

Author: Anthony Horowitz

Genre: Horror

Charlie Spofforth 7F

What the book's about... There are many short stories in this one book containing many horrible stories:

People getting struck by lightning in Hyde Park

A bus ride home ... turns into your worst nightmare.

A quaint country cottage ... has a grisly secret.

A man returns from holiday ... with bubbling skin and bloodshot eyes.

Why I like it... It is action packed—full of horror and scary things.

Why I would recommend it... If you like horror, you would like the book, but don't read it if you don't!

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

Scared to Death by Anthony Horowitz



Susie Halliday 10F

The book I would recommend is...

Eleanor and Park

Author: Rainbow Rowell

Genre: Romance

What the book's about... Eleanor has recently moved house and is in a new town. She has quite a chaotic family and shares a bedroom with her four younger siblings. However when she gets on the school bus she starts to become friends with Park, an anti social boy who sits at the back of the bus. Slowly Eleanor and Park fall for each other but their love is complicated.

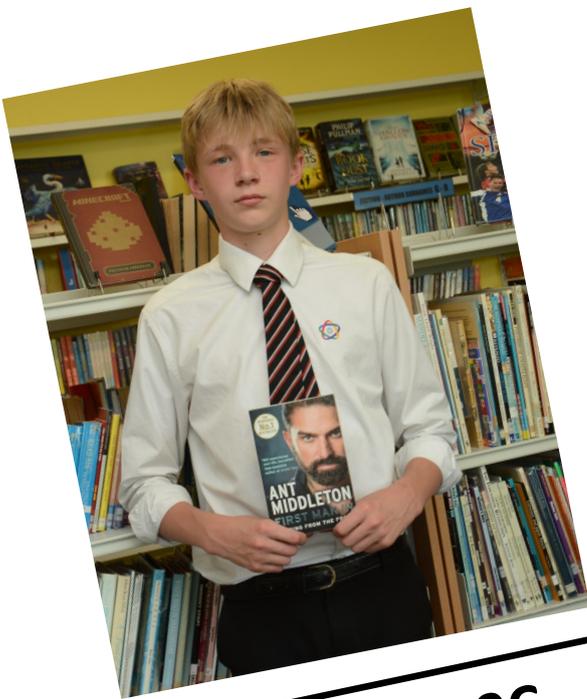
Why I like it... I liked the structure of the chapters. They alternate between Eleanor's narrative and Park's narrative. I also like how the book ends, although not all my questions are answered, it creates a sense of mystery.

Why I would recommend it... The book symbolises the idea that everything gets better. I think it boosts confidence to those who feel as if they don't fit in with society, as Eleanor herself is described as not being able to 'stick out more'.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

An Abundance of Katherines by John Green

Who's that Girl? by Mhairi McFarlane



Max Cooper 9C

The book I would recommend is...
First Man In
Leading From The Front

Author: Ant Middleton

**Genre: Factual/War/
Biography?**

What the book's about... Television presenter, Ant Middleton, from the series SAS—Who Dares Wins, describes his former life in the army. He talks about going through the worlds hardest military training and his experiences during war and conflict.

Why we like it... I found it a very inspiring and exciting book to read.

Why we would recommend it... I would recommend it to students in Upper School as some of the scenes are quite graphic and disturbing.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

Battle Scars by Jason Fox

Break Point by Ollie Ollerton



Mr Cobbold, RE Teacher

The book I would recommend is...

The Alchemist

Author: Paulo Coelho

Genre: Philosophy,
Theology, Morals

What the book's about... The story is about Santiago, a Spanish shepherd boy who has a huge desire to travel in search of a worldly treasure as extravagant as any ever found. The story of the treasures Santiago finds along the way teaches us, as only a few stories can, about the essential wisdom of always being willing to learn, listening to our hearts, learning from others, the impact we have on people, taking opportunities, paying attention to the signs that life gives us and, above all, following our dreams.

Why I like it... I love a book if it makes me think and this certainly did! I could spend a long time discussing this book as there are so many little stories and events in it, even though it is only around 150 pages long. The ending is brilliantly poignant.

Why I would recommend it... There are so many valuable life lessons in the narrative that we can learn from. It covers a range of areas such as religion, beliefs, decision-making, what we value and why, history and cultural differences. And, at the heart of it all, I think there is a little bit of Santiago in all of us, we just need to have the courage to unlock it. Come and have a chat with me about how it made you think!

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

I actually think it's in quite a unique genre, but other books that have made me think (and these are very varied styles of writing!) about complex issues include, 'The Underground Railroad' by Colson Whitehead, 'Braving the Wilderness' by Brene Brown, 'Sophie's World' by Jostein Gaarder and 'A Human History of God' by Reza Aslan.

The book I would recommend is...

**Percy Jackson and the
Last Olympian**

Author: Rick Riordan

Genre: Myth and Legend



Edith Smith 7D

What the book's about... The lead Titan, Kronos, is rising and Percy Jackson, Annabeth Chase, Grover Underwood, Tyson and the other half bloods and Greek gods must do everything that they can to prevent Kronos and his Titans from rising and starting the new Golden Age. Typhon, the gods worst enemy is also rising and the Olympian Greek gods and goddesses must do everything that they can to stop Typhon, while Percy and his friends fight Kronos in the final battle.

Why I like it... I love the tension towards the end, the humour and the amount of trust that Percy, Annabeth, Grover and Tyson have in each other, as well as the daring and the adventure.

Why I would recommend it... It is really enjoyable and although aimed at lower school students , it will appeal to everyone.

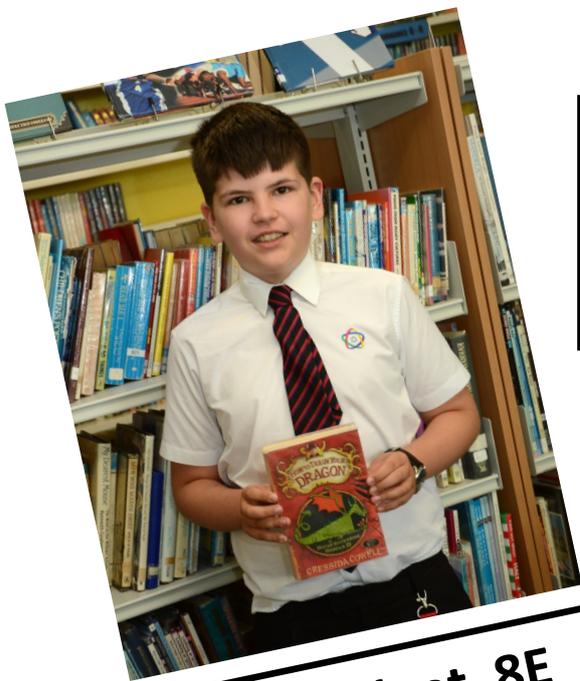
Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

The Pegasus Series by Kate O'Hearn

Heroes of Olympus by Rick Riordan

Magnus Chase by Rick Rioradan

The Apollo Trials by Rick Riordan



Aidan Fleet 8E

The book I would recommend is...

How to Train Your Dragon

Author: Cressida Cowell

Genre: Comedy/Fantasy

What the book's about... It is about a boy called Hiccup. He and eleven other boys are part of a training program and the first challenge is to go in a dragon infested cave and pick a sleeping dragon. After this they need to train it to become Vikings. But Hiccup's dragon, Toothless, is extremely disobedient. Will they be able to join their ancestors or will they be exiled?

Why I like it... It is set in the past, which adds a sense of realism as dragons 'could' have been alive but have become extinct or are hiding away.

Why I would recommend it... Mainly aimed at lower school students, it is packed with adventure and jokes, which students would enjoy.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

There are a lot of books in the How to Train Your Dragon series, including:

How to be a Pirate

How to speak Dragonese

How to Cheat a Dragons Curse

A Heroes Guide to Deadly Dragons



Todd Dyer 7F

The book I would recommend is...

Diary of a Wimpy Kid - The Meltdown

Author: Jeff Kinney

Genre: Comedy

What the book's about... This book is all about wintry war in the Christmas holidays. When snow shuts down Greg's school, his neighborhood transforms into a wintry battlefield. Rival groups fight over territory, build massive snow forts, and stage epic snowball fights. It's a fight for survival as Greg and Rowley navigate alliances, betrayals, and warring gangs in a neighborhood meltdown. When the snow clears, will Greg and Rowley emerge as heroes?

Why I like it... The war is very exciting and you can almost feel like you with them.

Why I would recommend it... It is very exciting and there are no boring parts!

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

Other Diary of the Wimpy Kid books including:

Roderick Rules

The Ugly Truth

Hard Luck

The Last Straw

Cabin Fever

Old School

Dog Days

The Third Wheel

The Get Away



Anna Cook 8D

The book I would recommend is...

The Red Queen

Author: Victoria Aveyard

Genre: Fantasy/Dystopian

What the book's about... There are two types of blood: Red and Silver. Silvers are the ruling class and have abilities and powers that help them hold on to their positions as the poverty stricken Reds languish below them. Mare Barrow is a Red girl from the poverty stricken Stilts and when she is offered a chance to escape conscription by becoming a servant at the Kings palace, she cannot refuse. But Mare's new electrifying secret could have devastating consequences to the ruling Silvers. In fear of this the King hides Mare in plain sight, as a Silver princess. But Mare has entered a deadly game of power and lies. How can she control her situation along with her new power and her own heart? And how can she best help the flourishing uprising, the Scarlet Guard, without getting herself killed.

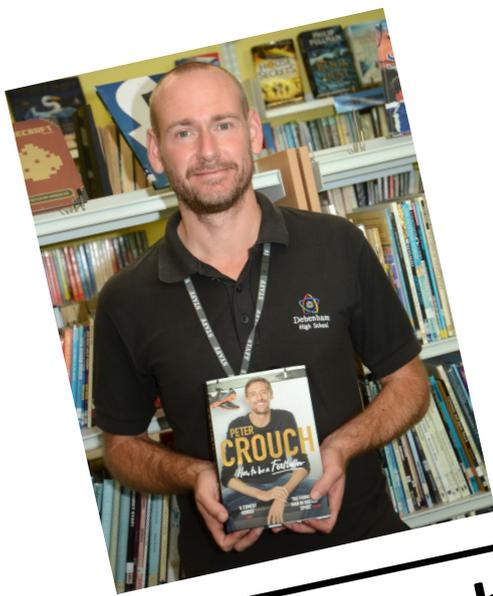
Why I like it... I particularly like the fast paced plot of this story as well as the different characters. Mare does display a striking resemblance to Katniss Everdeen and Tris Prior but the plot and love triangle make up for this.

Why I would recommend it... I would recommend this book series 12+ years old, as it does contain some violence, cursing and a couple of kisses, but the author doesn't go into much detail over these!

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

Maze Runner by James Dashner

Nowhere series by Jon Robinston



The book I would recommend is...

How to Be a Footballer

Author: Peter Crouch

Genre: Football Biography

Mr Cook, PE Teacher

What the book's about... Peter Crouch has been a professional footballer for 20 years and is known for his height and robot goal celebration. This book covers that 20 year period and gives a very down-to-earth view about what it is like to be a professional footballer. He relives some of his own experience, while also giving some interesting information about fellow professionals and how they behave on and off the pitch.

Why I like it... The book is a very easy read and gives a light-hearted view on being a professional footballer. It is honest yet amusing and gives some insight on what players spend their wages on and how they behave away from the pitch.

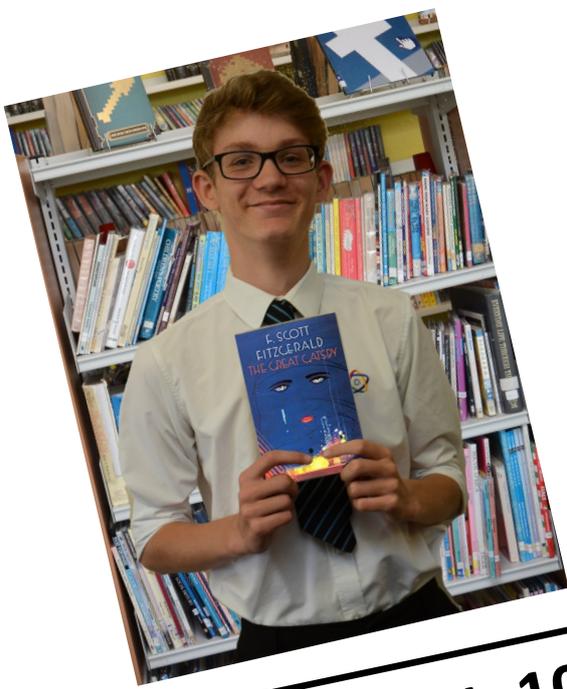
Why I would recommend it... A great read for those students interested in the sporting world. I think is definitely more suited to upper school students though due to the content.

Other books in the same genre ...

The Secret Player—The Hidden World of Professional Football

Alex Ferguson—My Autobiography

Please note both of these books are suitable for Upper School only



Alfred Scott 10F

The book I would recommend is

The Great Gatsby

Author: F Scott Fitzgerald

Genre: Fictional Modernism

What the book's about... A rich entrepreneur has dedicated his life to becoming a man of statue in an attempt to gain recognition from his life-long love who is now a wedded women. Set in the cultural revolution of the 1920's, the hope, based on the green light of the American dream is shown to end in heart-ache and tragedy.

Why I like it... I really liked the plot twists within the book and the character development, particularly that of the narrator.

Why I would recommend it... It is quite a challenging read but it is quite refreshing when you finish the book. You get a real sense of accomplishment.

Other books in the same genre that I have enjoyed...

1984 by George Orwell

Paper Towns by John Green