



15th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Personal Reading Books

At Holcombe we recognise the extensive positive impacts of wider reading and reading for pleasure. Good reading habits support access to the entire curriculum and positive reading experiences impact on increased literacy and other intellectual outcomes.

To promote literacy across all aspects of learning it is a requirement at Holcombe that each student has a reading book with them each day. Time is provided during registration time each week for personal silent reading. Further to this, 30 minutes of lesson time is given over each week in English lessons to support personal reading and track progress.

It is imperative that students have an appropriate reading book that interests them and is the correct level of challenge.

We recognise that students sometimes need support in making the right reading choices. In light of this we have provided a recommended reading list that might help to inform students when selecting suitable reading books.

A new recommended list will be generated each term and published on the school website. The lists will complement the unit of study in English for that term. **This term, the unit of study for Year 7 is The Writer's Toolkit.** Therefore, the recommended list is fairly broad as we encourage students to read fiction that helps them appreciate the craft of the author.

By promoting reading for pleasure and requesting that students are active in their selection of reading material, we hope to achieve the following outcomes.

- Increased awareness of reading preferences and how to choose what to read.
- Confidence about reading
- Identifying as a reader
- Improved reading behaviour (frequency, quantity, breadth and depth)
- Sharing enjoyment of reading
- Understanding how to find relevant reading materials

If you would like to discuss any strategies to help support wider reading for your child or would like any further help on choosing appropriate titles, please contact me and I would be happy to support in any way I can.

Yours sincerely

John Still



Literacy Co-ordinator

Year 7 – Term 1 Recommended Reading List

“The Wolves of Willoughby Chase” by Joan Aiken
“Skellig” by David Almond
“Heaven Eyes” by David Almond
“Pig Heart Boy” by Malorie Blackman
“Artemis Fowl” by Eoin Colfer
“Half Moon Investigations” by Eoin Colfer
“Illegal” by Eoin Colfer & Andrew Donkin
“Over Sea, Under Stone” by Susan Cooper
“Framed” by Frank Cottrell Boyce
“Wolf” by Gillian Cross
“The Seeing Stone” by Kevin Crossley-Holland
“Aberrations” by Joseph Delaney
“Twelve Minutes to Midnight” by Christopher Edge
“Tug of War” by Catherine Forde
“The Wordsmith” by Patricia Forde
“The Graveyard Book” by Neil Gaiman
“The Ocean at the End of the Lane” by Neil Gaiman
“Coram Boy” by Jamila Gavin
“Bone Talk” by Candy Gourlay
“Raven’s Gate” by Anthony Horowitz
“Stormbreaker” by Anthony Horowitz
“The Garbage King” by Elizabeth Laird
“A Wrinkle In Time” by Madeleine L’Engle
“Sky Dancer” by Gill Lewis
“Across the Barricades” by Joan Lingard
“My Box Shaped Heart” by Rachael Lucas
“The Island at the End of Everything” by Kiran Millwood Hargrave
“Private Peaceful” by Michael Morpurgo
“A Monster Calls” by Patrick Ness
“Ways To Live Forever” by Sally Nichols
“No Fixed Address” by Susin Nielsen
“Mister Monday” by Garth Nix
“Wonder” by R J Palacio
“Alanna” by Tamora Pierce
“Northern Lights” by Philip Pullman
“Stay A Little Longer” by Bali Rai

ASPIRE & ACHIEVE TOGETHER

www.holcombegrammar.org.uk

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"Here Lies Arthur" by Philip Reeve
"The Indian in the Cupboard" by Lynne Reid Banks
"Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief" by Rick Riordan
"Just In Case" by Meg Rosoff
"Holes" by Louis Sachar
"Boy X" by Dan Smith
"The Ethan I was Before" by Ali Standish
"The Goldfish Boy" by Lisa Thompson
"Sheets" by Brenna Thummler
"Cue for Treason" by Geoffret Trease
"The 1,000 Year Old Boy" by Ross Welford
"Firebird" by Elizabeth Wein
"The Book Thief" by Marcus Zusak
"Watership Down" by Richard Adams