

## YEAR 7 SUGGESTED READING LIST 2022/23

### SEPTEMBER 2022

#### **Watership Down** by Richard Adams

Set in the beautiful English countryside of the Berkshire Downs, a once idyllic rural landscape, this stirring tale of adventure, courage, and survival follows a band of very special rabbits fleeing the destruction of their home by a developer. Led by a stout-hearted pair of brothers, they leave the safety of their home in search of a safe haven and a mysterious promised land, skirting danger at every turn.

#### **October, October** by Katya Balens (Winner of the 2022 Yoto Carnegie Medal)

October and her dad live in the woods. They know the trees and the rocks and the lake and stars like best friends. They live in the woods and they are wild. And that's the way it is. Until the year October turns eleven. That's the year October rescues a baby owl. It's the year Dad falls out of the biggest tree in their woods. The year the woman who calls herself October's mother comes back. The year everything changes.

#### **Cogheart** by Peter Bunzl

Lily's life is in mortal peril. Her father is missing and now silver-eyed men stalk her through the shadows. What could they want from her? With her friends, and her mechanical fox, Lily is plunged into a murky and menacing world. She soon realises that those she holds dear may be the very ones to break her heart...

#### **When the sky falls, or, A is for Adonis** by Phil Earle

It's 1941, and Joseph has been packed off to stay with Mrs F, a gruff woman with no great fondness for children. To Joseph's amazement, she owns the rundown city zoo where Joseph meets Adonis, a huge silverback gorilla. Adonis is ferociously strong and dangerous, but Joseph finds he has an affinity with the lonely beast. But when the bombs begin to fall, it is up to Joseph to guard Adonis's cage should it be damaged by a blast. Will Joseph be ready to pull the trigger if it comes to it?

#### **Who let the gods out?** by Maz Evans

Elliot's mum is ill and his home is under threat, but a shooting star crashes to earth and changes his life forever. The star is Virgo - a young Zodiac goddess on a mission. But the pair accidentally release Thanatos, a wicked death daemon imprisoned beneath Stonehenge, and must then turn to the old Olympian gods for help. After centuries of cushy retirement on earth, are Zeus and his crew up to the task of saving the world - and solving Elliot's problems too?

#### **Shadow jumper** by J. M. Foster

Jack's allergy to sunshine confines him to the shadows, leaving him at risk of burns every time he steps into the light. Shadow jumping on the rooftops at dusk makes him feel alive. But suddenly his condition worsens and only his missing scientist dad can save him. As Jack and his friend, Beth, begin their search and delve into his dad's past they have no idea what they are about to uncover. Jack is brave on the roofs. But can he find the courage to face the truth?

#### **High-rise mystery** by Sharna Jackson

The detective duo everyone is dying to meet! Summer in London is hot, the hottest on record, and there's been a murder in THE TRI: the high-rise home to resident know-it-alls, Nik and Norva. Who better to solve the case? Armed with curiosity, home-turf knowledge and unlimited time - until the end of the summer holidays anyway.

#### **Running girl** by Simon Mason

Garvie Smith is charming, brilliant, and has the highest ever IQ reported at his school. He is also bone idle and has the lowest grades. But when his ex-girlfriend's body is pulled out of a local pond, something has finally grabbed his attention. Meanwhile, ambitious young policeman DI Singh has just been given his first ever murder case, and he's determined to prove himself. What he definitely doesn't need is any help from a cocky teenage boy - or does he?

**The boy who made the world disappear** by Ben Miller

Harrison tries his best to be good. He doesn't steal, he always shares with his sister and he never cheats at board games, but he also has a big flaw...he can't control his temper! So, when he's given a black hole instead of a balloon at a party, Harrison jumps at the chance to get rid of everything that makes him cross. But when it's not just things he hates that are disappearing into the black hole but things he loves, too, Harrison starts to realise that sometimes you should be careful what you wish for...

**Orphans of the tide** by Stuart Murray

The City is the only home that Ellie has ever known. She's always been told that there is nothing to see beyond the shores of her small, salty island. That is, until a mysterious boy washes in with the tide, trapped inside the belly of a whale. The citizens of the City believe he's ruled by the Enemy--the legendary god who drowned the whole world--come again to cause untold chaos. Only Ellie believes that the boy is innocent. To save him, Ellie must prove that he's not who they think he is--even if that means revealing her own dangerous secret.

**Five children and IT** by E. Nesbit

I dare say you have often thought about what you would do if you were granted three wishes. The five children - Cyril, Anthea, Robert, Jane and their baby brother - had often talked about it but when they are faced with the grumpy sand-fairy they find it difficult to make up their minds. And that is just the beginning of their dilemmas. As they discover, there is nothing quite like a wish for getting you into terrible trouble.

**A darkness of dragons** by S. A. Patrick

After playing a forbidden spell-song to save a village from rats, 12-year-old piper Patch Brightwater is thrown in jail. But there he meets Wren - a noble girl under a rat-shaped curse - and together they befriend Barver, a fearsome dracogriff, and set off on a grand adventure filled with sorcerers, dragons, bandits...and one very deadly enemy.

**Eragon** by Christopher Paolini

The stone that Eragon thought was a valuable gem was a dragon egg. Overnight his simple life is shattered and he is plunged into a perilous new world of destiny, magic and power. Will Eragon become a Dragon Rider? The fate of the empire may rest in his hands and the dragon's too.

**Gods and warriors** by Michelle Paver

From a time of myths and ancient magic will come the legend of the lost city of Atlantis, tales of gods and warriors - and the rise of a hero. His sister is missing. His dog has been killed. High in the Greek mountains, Hylas is running for his life. The mysterious black warriors want Hylas dead. So begins his quest across land and sea with only a girl and a dolphin by his side. But the warriors are relentless. Why are they hunting Hylas - and how will he survive?

**Ghost boys** by Jewell Parker Rhodes

ALIVE - Twelve-year-old Jerome doesn't get into trouble. He goes to school. He does his homework. He takes care of his little sister. Then Jerome is shot by a police officer who mistakes his toy gun for a real threat.

DEAD - As a ghost, watching his family trying to cope with his death, he begins to notice other ghost boys. Each boy has a story and they all have something in common. Bit by bit, Jerome begins to understand what really happened - not just to him, but to all of the ghost boys.

**Smart** by Kim Slater

There's been a murder, but the police don't care. It was only a homeless old man after all. Kieran cares. He's made a promise, and when you say something out loud, that means you're going to do it, for real. He's going to find out what really happened. To Colin. And to his grandma, who just stopped coming round one day. It's a good job Kieran's a master of observation, and knows all the detective tricks of the trade. But being a detective is difficult when you're Kieran Woods. When you're amazing at drawing but terrible at fitting in. And when there are dangerous secrets everywhere, not just outside, but under your own roof.

**The extinction trials** by S.M. Wilson

Stormchaser wants to escape her starved, grey life. Lincoln wants to save his dying sister. Their only chance is to join an expedition to a deadly country to steal the eggs of vicious dinosaurs. If they succeed, their reward is a new life filled with riches. But in a land full of monsters - both human and reptilian - only the ruthless will survive.