Year Six Recommended Reading List

Below is a list of high-quality books from the ‘100 fiction books every child should read before they leave primary school’ list and the love reading website which we recommend as good reading material.

• At Khalsa Primary School we are passionate about reading because lots of research shows that children who read regularly achieve more in school and have better life outcomes (https://ces-schools.net/10-benefits-reading-children-adults-read-often/ https://www.theguardian.com/books/booksblog/2013/sep/16/reading-improves-childrens-brains/).

• Your children will also be reading many wonderful books in school, but it would be great if they could also read some books from this list as we will not be studying these books in class.

• On the Love reading website, which is free to join, you can also find free downloadable extracts of many of these books (http://www.lovereading4schools.co.uk/). The other books can be found on Amazon.

• These books should also be available in local libraries because they are very popular.

• Please be advised that many of the books will be suitable for more than one year group as they can be read with different levels of understanding.

• This is by no means an exhaustive list! There is a lot of high-quality children’s literature in the world and you can find helpful guidance on choosing appropriately from websites such as http://www.booktrust.org.uk/books/ and your local library.

• We hope you and your children enjoy reading together!
The Bubble Boy
By Stewart Foster
11-year-old Joe can’t remember a life outside of his hospital room, with its beeping machines and view of London’s rooftops. His condition means that he is not allowed outside, not even for a moment, and his few visitors risk bringing life-threatening germs inside his ‘bubble’. But then someone new enters his world and it changes forever...

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 - Robert, the clockmaker's son, and Malkin, her mechanical fox - Lily is plunged into a murky and menacing world. Too soon Lily realizes that those she holds dear may be the very ones to break her heart...

The Girl with Ink and Stars
By Kiran Millwood Hargrave
Forbidden to leave her island, Isabella dreams of the faraway lands her cartographer father once mapped. When her friend disappears, she volunteers to guide the search. The world beyond the walls is a monster-filled wasteland - and beneath the dry rivers and smoking mountains, a fire demon is stirring from its sleep. Soon, following her map, her heart and an ancient myth, Isabella discovers the true end of her journey: to save the island itself.
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<td>The Goldfish Boy</td>
<td>Lisa Thompson</td>
<td>A story about finding friendship when you’re lonely - and hope when all you feel is fear. Twelve-year-old Matthew is trapped in his bedroom by crippling OCD, spending most of his time staring out of his window as the inhabitants of Chestnut Close go about their business. Until the day he is the last person to see his next door neighbour’s toddler, Teddy, before he goes missing. Matthew must turn detective and unravel the mystery of Teddy’s disappearance - with the help of a brilliant cast of supporting characters.</td>
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<td>Who Let the Gods Out?</td>
<td>Maz Evans</td>
<td>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?</td>
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<td>The Island at the End of Everything</td>
<td>Karen Hargrave</td>
<td>Amihan lives on Culion Island, where some of the inhabitants - including her mother - have leprosy. Ami loves her home - with its blue seas and lush forests, Culion is all she has ever known. But the arrival of malicious government official Mr Zamora changes her world forever: islanders untouched by sickness are forced to leave. Banished across the sea, she’s desperate to return, and finds a strange and fragile hope in a colony of butterflies. Can they lead her home before it’s too late?</td>
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Face
By Benjamin Zephaniah
In this startling debut novel from Benjamin Zephaniah, the author tackles the moving and compelling story of a young man, Martin, whose life is completely changed when his face is badly scarred in a joyriding accident. Brilliantly written with a real ear for dialogue, this is Benjamin Zephaniah breaking new boundaries.

Kidnapped
By R L Stevenson
Kidnapped is classic of high adventure. A young heir whose greedy uncle connives to do him out of his inherited fortune and plots to have him seized and sold into slavery. But honour, loyalty, and courage are rewarded; the orphan and castaway survives kidnapping and shipwreck, is rescued by a daredevil of a rogue, and makes a thrilling escape to freedom across the wild highlands of Scotland.

Clockwork
By Philip Pullman
Tick, tock, tick, tock! Some stories are like that. Once you've wound them up, nothing will stop them ...A tormented apprentice clock-maker, a deadly mechanical knight in armour - and the sinister Dr Kalmenius, who some say is the devil ...Wind up these characters, fit them into a story on a cold winter's evening, with the snow swirling down, and suddenly life and the story begin to merge in a peculiarly macabre - and unstoppable - way. Almost like clockwork ...
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<td>The Hobbit</td>
<td>J R R Tolkien</td>
<td>The Hobbit is the unforgettable story of Bilbo, a peace-loving hobbit, who embarks on a strange and magical adventure. A timeless classic. Bilbo Baggins enjoys a quiet and contented life, with no desire to travel far from the comforts of home; then one day the wizard Gandalf and a band of dwarves arrive unexpectedly and enlist his services – as a burglar – on a dangerous expedition to raid the treasure-hoard of Smaug the dragon. Bilbo's life is never to be the same again.</td>
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<td>The Midnight Folk</td>
<td>John Masefield</td>
<td>Determined to recover the long-lost family treasure, Kay finds himself in a race against the evil Abner Brown. Abner has his witch friends and his dark magic to help him, but Kay has the very special Midnight Folk. John Masefield's classic children's book is considered to be one of the great works of modern children's fiction. Magical, fantastical and filled with vivid, rich characters.</td>
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<td>The Machine Gunners</td>
<td>Robert Westall</td>
<td>'Some bright kid's got a gun and 2000 rounds of live ammo. And that gun's no peashooter. It'll go through a brick wall at a quarter of a mile.' Chas McGill has the second-best collection of war souvenirs in Garmouth, and he desperately wants it to be the best. When he stumbles across the remains of a German bomber crashed in the woods - its shiny, black machine-gun still intact - he grabs his chance. Soon he's masterminding his own war effort with dangerous and unexpected results...</td>
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<td>The company of Ghosts</td>
<td>Berlie Doherty</td>
<td>It was a seascape, moody with rocks and cliffs and wild showers of spray. Ellie's own reflection was drawn into it, like a ghost image among the lights and shadows. 'That's our island,' Morag said. 'It looks mysterious.' It is. That's where we're going tomorrow.' Ellie is excited to be going with Morag's family to their beautiful island, but when she finds herself abandoned there, things begin to change. Footsteps, shadows, strange lights, a haunting song; more and more she becomes aware that she is not really on her own.</td>
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