

Year 7 Recommended Reading List

Check out this fantastic list of modern books! The books have been specially selected for Year 7 students and the English department are particularly excited about the diverse range of voices and stories that are collected here.

We think there's something for everyone...

For more suggestions visit: LoveReading4Schools on <https://www.lovereadingschools.co.uk>

Fantasy and Ghost Stories

Seven Ghosts – Chris Priestley*

Jake and the other finalists in a writing competition have been invited to a stately house for a tour like no other. As their guide leads them through grand rooms, hidden nooks and magnificent grounds, they hear the stories of seven ghosts who haunt the halls. But strange shapes and shadows follow Jake as he journeys through the house and with each tale that Jake hears, he begins to feel more uneasy. All is not as it seems and soon Jake will discover that something is very, very wrong ...



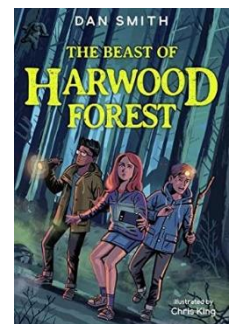
Freeze – Chris Priestley*

When Maya and her classmates are asked to write a creepy story with a winter theme, they come up with some brilliant ideas. Rising floodwaters uncover long-buried bodies and ghostly children take to the ice on a frozen canal. But as each of the stories is read out in class, Maya grows more and more uncomfortable. She features in each of her friends' creepy tales and they start to feel a little too real. Finally, when a mysterious new girl stands up to read the last story of the day, the light outside dims and it starts to snow. The classroom starts to freeze but everyone is trapped. Can Maya stop the story before the nightmare comes true?

Mystery/Detective

The Beast of Harwood Forest – Dan Smith*

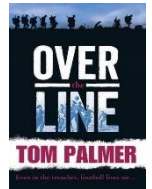
When Pete, Nancy and Krish arrive at Heathland Camp for a school trip, they're in for an adventure – just not the kind they were expecting. Nearby sits the abandoned Harwood Institute. The crumbling buildings are out of bounds but strange screams come from the surrounding forest at night. Mystery shrouds the events that took place at the institute during the war, so Pete and his friends make it their mission to find out the truth. But the forest is hiding a sinister secret, and the trio could be in real danger ... Are some mysteries best left undisturbed?



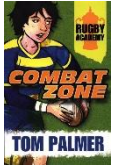
Sport

Over the Line – Tom Palmer*

Based on a true story of a sporting hero's experience in the trenches. Jack is to make his debut as a professional footballer, but it's 1914 and the world is at war. Talk of sportsmen's cowardice leads to the formation of a Footballers' Battalion and Jack has little choice but to join up. Jack and his team-mates will have to survive a waking nightmare if they are ever to play again.



Combat Zone – Tom Palmer*

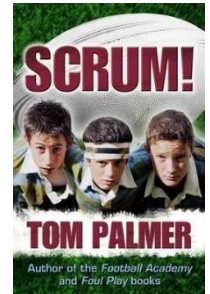


The last place football-mad Woody wants to be is Borderlands School.

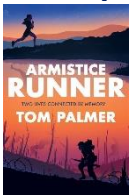
A British boarding school full of the children of armed service personnel, Borderlands is rugby-obsessed and football is a dirty word.

Scrum – Tom Palmer*

One boy, two codes – how will he decide? When Steven's mother remarries and moves down south, Steven is torn between loyalty to his dad and a relationship with his mum's new husband. Maybe even worse, he might have to leave his beloved Rugby League behind for a new Rugby Union team



History and Conflict



Armistice Runner – Tom Palmer*

Lily has lots of worries. She's struggling to compete in her junior fell-running races and, worse, she's losing her gran to Alzheimer's. But then she discovers her great-great-grandfather's diaries from the First World War. Could his incredible story of bravery help her reconnect with her gran and even give her the inspiration she needs to push through and win?

Tudor Rose – Anne Perry*

Rosie hates her life, but everything changes when she is given a mysterious old watch and wakes up at Elizabeth I's court with the Spanish Armada approaching. when Rosie uncovers a spy she knows she must act and warn the Queen. Can she make it to the port before it is too late?



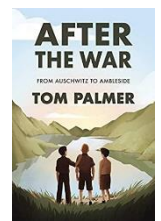
The Ghost Garden – Emma Carroll*



SUMMER 1914. When Fran unearths a bone in the garden of Longbarrow House on the same afternoon that Leo breaks his leg, it must surely be just a coincidence. But Fran can't shake the uneasy feeling that the events are somehow connected, and there is a shift in the atmosphere that leaves her troubled and anxious. Roped into keeping wheelchair-bound Leo company, Fran is forced to listen to his foolish theories about the looming threat of war in Europe. But as the pair start to uncover more secrets buried beneath the garden, they dredge up threatening shadows of the future, and Fran begins to fear that Leo's dire predictions might be coming true ... Queen of Historical Fiction, Emma Carroll, makes her Barrington Stoke debut with a powerful, evocative, and spine-tingling story of childhood on the brink of war.

After the War – Tom Palmer*

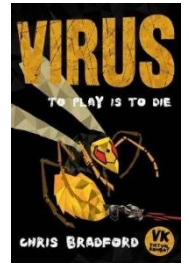
Summer 1945. The Second World War is finally over and Yossi, Leo and Mordecai are among three hundred children who arrive in the English Lake District. Having survived the horrors of the Nazi concentration camps, they've finally reached a place of safety and peace, where they can hopefully begin to recover.



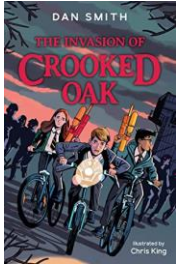
Dystopian/Sci-fi

Virus – Chris Bradford*

Set in a future world in which kids risk their lives for real playing an online fantasy game, **Virus** is a nerve-tingling combination of science-fiction and martial arts extravaganza. Scott knows that playing Virtual Kombat will put his life in danger, but the only way to destroy the game is from the inside, and he really wants to avenge the death of his friend. In this he's helped by a group of techno-hackers, but when it comes to the crunch, his tae kwon do skills mean he's on his own against powerful opponents. Chris Bradford is an expert at keeping the tension high and this is page-turning, super-readable adventure.



The Invasion of Crooked Oak – Dan Smith*



Stranger Things meets Invasion of the Body Snatchers in this thrilling sci-fi adventure from bestselling author Dan Smith.

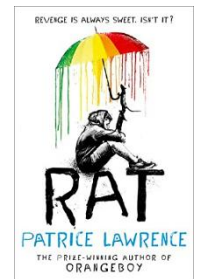
Nancy's parents are acting weird. Their eyes are blank, they won't eat - it's like they're no longer themselves. Pete and Krish are obsessed with unexplained phenomena and when they offer to help Nancy investigate, they're sure they can crack the case. But the deeper the trio dig, the darker the mystery gets ...Crooked Oak is under attack from a dangerous foe, and they're the only ones who can stop it.

Relationships and Growing up

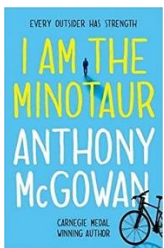
Rat by Patrice Lawrence*

Revenge is always sweet. Isn't it?

When his mum is sent back to prison, Al knows exactly who's to blame. Mr Brayker from downstairs has been making trouble for Al's mum ever since they moved in. Al is determined to get his revenge with a plan that involves the only two creatures he can rely on: his pet rats, Venom and Vulture. But things don't turn out exactly as he'd imagined ...



I am the Minotaur – Anthony McGowan*



Matthew is 14 and is struggling to fit in - something that's extra hard when you're taking care of your mum, being bullied at school, and have earned the nickname Stinky Mog because of your poor personal hygiene. On top of all that, he wants to catch the attention of one of the coolest girls in school, Ari. Ari doesn't walk: she floats, like mist on the water. And she's as sporty as she is cool. When Ari's brand new bike is stolen, Matthew spots his chance to make a good impression by getting it back for her... But will he just end up in even more trouble or is Matthew about to learn that friendship and heroes can be found in unlikely places? This is a gritty yet touching story of one teenager's struggles with bullying and isolation, written by Carnegie Medal Winning author Anthony McGowan, and is perfect for less-confident readers

Non-Fiction

Race to the Frozen North - Catherine Johnson*

Matthew Henson was simply an ordinary man. That was, until Commander Robert E. Peary entered his life, and offered him a chance at true adventure.

Henson would become navigator, craftsman, translator, and right-hand man on a treacherous journey to the North Pole. Defying the odds and the many prejudices that faced him to become a true pioneer.

This is his incredible and often untold story.



