



RECOMMENDED READS FOR 1ST YEARS:

Author	Title	Publisher	Comment
Almond, David	The Savage	Walker Books	Beautiful mix of words and pictures
Blade, Adam	Beast Quest	Orchard Books	Very popular.
Boyne, John	The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas	Transworld	Poignant and dark. Great story
Donbavand, Tommy	Uniform	Barrington Stoke	Spooky mystery with an open ending
Grisham, John	Theodore Boone (series)	Hodder & Stoughton	Thriller.
Hurn, Roger	Mystery Mob Series	Rising Stars	Short, simple stories that revolve around a group of friends
Jefferies, Cindy	Fame School	Usborne	School drama. Easily accessible
Kiernan, Celine	Into the Grey	O'Brien Press	Challenging read for more able students
Kinney, Jeff	Diary of a Wimpy Kid Series	Amulet	Language is deceptively difficult. Main character is hapless and cynical. Endlessly popular.
McKenzie, Sophie	Girl, Missing	Simon & Schuster	Very popular series
Morpurgo, Michael	Warhorse	Egmont	Modern classic
Ness, Patrick	A Monster Calls	Walker	Tissues needed for the ending!
Pichon, Liz	Tom Gates is Absolutely Fantastic	Scholastic	Comic look at school life. Very funny book.
Shan, Darren	Cirque du Freak	Collins	Best series ever according to some students!
Walliams, David	Various titles	Harper Collins	Can't go wrong with Walliams - always funny!



RECOMMENDED READS FOR 2nd YEARS:

Author	Title	Publisher	Comment
Almond, David	A Life in Stories	Walker Books	Almond is an enchanting writer
Blackman, Malorie	Noughts and Crosses	Corgi Children's	The original dystopian thriller – with racial considerations which give it added depth. Captures the imagination of students
Engstrom, Mikael	Thin Ice	Little Island	Lovely book about a boy finding his place in the world
Gibbons, Alan	Hate	Indigo	Drama based on a true story
Gleitzman, Morris	Once	Puffin	First in series. Always popular
Grant, Michael	Gone Series	Egmont	Compulsive, fast-paced mystery
Hooper, Mary	Megan	Bloomsbury	Popular.
Johnson, Pete	The Best Holiday Ever	Barrington Stoke	Popular easy read
Landy, Derek	Skulduggary Pleasant series	Harper Collins	Very popular.
Magorian, Michelle	Goodnight Mr. Tom	Puffin Classics	Moving story of WW2 evacuee
Muchamore, Robert	Cherub and Henderson Boys Series	Hodder	Great action books
Ness, Patrick	A Monster Calls	Walker Books	A young boy deals with the terminal illness of his mother – with a little help.
Palacio, R.J.	Wonder	Corgi Children's	Original and unsentimental story about disability
Shan, Darren	Zom-B	Simon & Schuster	Gory and exciting zombie story for teens
Walliams, David	The Boy in the Dress	Harper Collins	A sensitive and funny book about being different



ST. MARY'S SECONDARY SCHOOL -

RECOMMENDED READS FOR 3rd YEARS

Author	Title	Publisher	Comment
Bradford, Chris	Young Samurai	Puffin	Very popular.
Condie, Ally	Matched	Razorbill	Dystopian thriller romance
Dashner, James	Maze Runner	Chicken House	A wonderful adventure. Perfect for fans of the Hunger Games
Delaney, Joseph	Spook's Apprentice	Red Fox	Very popular.
Dowd, Siobhain	Solace of the Road	David Fickling Books	Girl runs away from foster parents in search of her mother
Forman, Gayle	If I Stay	Random House	Very popular.
Green, John	Looking for Alaska	Penguin	Good book about growing up
Green, John	The Fault in Our Stars	Penguin	Great romantic film tie-in book.
Hinton, S.E.	The Outsiders	Penguin	Very popular.
Kropp, Paul	Juvie	Robinswood	Author was only 17 when this was written. About gangs
Lee, Harper	To Kill a Mockingbird	Arrow	Action packed story. Easy to read
McKenzie, Sophie	Falling Fast Series	Simon & Schuster	Deals with important issues
Muchamore, Robert	The Recruit	Hodder	Teenage romance
Mulligan, Andy	Trash	David Fickling Books	First book in CHERUB series about crime fighting kids
Lockhart, Emily	We Were Liars	Hot Key Books	Exciting thriller
Parkinson, Siobhain	Bruised	Hodder	Americal WASPs Island mystery. Realistic and powerful story
Roscoff, Meg	How I Live Now	Penguin	An exciting, futuristic story that deals with real-life issues for teens
Tolkien, J.R.R.	The Hobbit	Harper Collins	Always popular. Quite a difficult read. Currently popular due to films
Various	Cutting Edge	Ransom	'Edgy' content. Easy reads.



RECOMMENDED READS FOR SENIORS:

Author	Title	Publisher	Comment
Arakawa, Hiromu	Fullmetal Alchemist	Viz Media	27 book series. Very popular
Berry, Julie	All the Truth That's in Me	Templar	A romantic mystery
Collins, Suzanne	Hunger Games	Scholastic	Great first book of a trilogy.
Conan Doyle, Sir Arthur	Complete Sherlock Holmes Stories	Wordsworth	Simply well-crafted mysteries. Still accessible and compelling
David, Keren	When I Was Joe	Frances Lincoln	Very popular
Fitzgerald, F. Scott	The Great Gatsby	Penguin	Tale of excess set in the jazz age
Horowitz, Anthony	Stormbreaker	Walker Books	Very popular
Kavanagh, Joyce	Click Click	Hachette	Non-fiction. Story of abuse.
McCarthy, Cormac	The Road	Picador	Post-apocalyptic story by an Irish author
Meyer, Stephenie	Twilight	Atom	Vampire story that girls love
Ness, Patrick	More Than This	Walker Books	Provocative and moving.
Picoult, Jodi	My Sister's Keeper	Hodder & Stoughton	Popular with girls
Portis, Charles	True Grit	Bloomsbury	Rediscovered after the recent movie. This is a classic
Reeve, Philip	Mortal Engines	Scholastic	Fantastic and unusual setting
Roscoff, Meg	How I Live Now	Penguin	Children struggle alone after war breaks out in England
Roth, Veronica	Divergent Series	Harper Collins	Epic suspense trilogy. Current films making books popular
Rowell, Rainbow	Eleanor & Park	Orion	Romance set in the 80s
Rowling, J.K.	Harry Potter Series	Scholastic	Different enough from the films to still be interesting
Staid, Rebecca	When You Reach Me	Andersen Press	Complex but wonderfully told story
Zephaniah, Benjamin	Gangsta Rap	Bloomsbury	Great story. Very true to life



ST. MARY'S SECONDARY SCHOOL -

RECOMMENDED READS FOR RELUCTANT READERS:

Author	Title	Publisher	Comment
Apps, Roy	Dream to Win Series	Franklin Watts	Bios of sporting heroes
Arrigan, Mary	Chocolate Moon	Barrington Stoke	Very appealing.
Atkins, Jill	Cry, Baby	Evans	Gripping story
Brooks, Kevin	Johnny Delgado	Barrington Stoke	A murder mystery.
Brown, Eric	Twocking	Barrington Stoke	Highly recommended
Catchpole, Barbara	Pig Series	Ransom	Similar to 'Diary of a Wimpy Kid' – but shorter
Combes, Alan	Fire Escape	Barrington Stoke	Very short read, but gripping
Croft, Andy	Steven Gerrard (etc.)	Barrington Stoke	Sporting bios
Francis, Pauline	Fast Track Classic – Black Beauty	Evans	Lovely book about man's kindness and cruelty – seen through the eyes of a horse
Hinton, Nigel	Partners in Crime	Barrington Stoke	Fast-paced, page-turning thriller
Kenrick, Joanna	Baby Father (The Play)	Barrington Stoke	A heart-warming teen pregnancy story that students can read aloud
Kendrick, Joanna	Take Two/Three's a Crowd	Barrington Stoke	Very popular
Lancett, Peter	Dark Man series	Ransom	Excellent series for very weak readers (with workbooks)
McGann, Oisin	Goblin of Tara	Barrington Stoke	Excellent for struggling readers and as a read aloud to a class
Peirce, Lincoln	Big Nate	Harper Collins	Ideal for Wimpy Kid fans
Phillips, Dee	Fight	Evans	Very popular
Powling, Chris	Blade	Barrington Stoke	Great starter book
Sheridan, Fiachra	The Runners	New Island Books	Gritty read by Irish author
Trinity Comp Writers	In Pieces	JCSP/PDST	Fantastic quick read. Set in Dublin. Available to purchase from www.becpublishing.com