

What has been happening in...



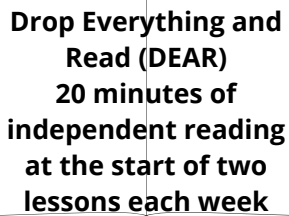
English?



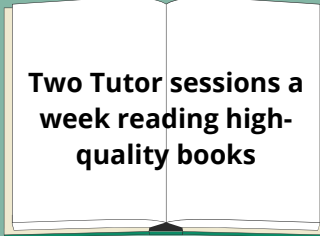
MR HARRIS

A wide range of research shows that students who read regularly for pleasure significantly outperform those who do not, in a range of school-based measures. Reading is also linked to a wide range of other benefits including wellbeing. Crucially, a 'little and often' approach, beginning at around 20 minutes per day, is especially powerful.

We are truly committed to the power of reading, so as part of our BFS Promise, we have carved out opportunities into our Key Stage 3 curriculum for these 20 minutes of daily reading. This year we have introduced:



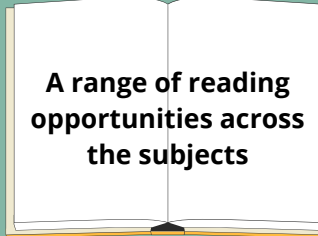
Drop Everything and Read (DEAR)
20 minutes of independent reading at the start of two lessons each week



Two Tutor sessions a week reading high-quality books



Fortnightly Accelerated Reading lessons



A range of reading opportunities across the subjects

Of course, the more students read, the more pronounced these benefits become. Therefore, we truly welcome your support in encouraging students to read at home for 20 minutes every day. The sky is the limit!

READING LADDER

Year
13

Year
12

Year
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Year
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Year
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Year
8

Year
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We are delighted to announce the inaugural **Bristol Free School Reading Ladder**!

The English Department has selected 35 books that we think will change your life. The books have been categorised by year group with a range of styles and genres to capture your interest and expand your reading repertoire.

We are challenging you to pick up a book from our **Reading Ladder**, perhaps from an author you know or something completely new to you and start reading. You may just find your new favourite genre, discover a passion for graphic novels or find a new series of books to lose yourself in!

As you climb the **Reading Ladder**, remember to tell Mr Harris, or another English teacher, so they can record your progress. Certificates will be awarded to students for reading 1, 3 or 5 books from each year group category. Students who read all 35 books will have their name permanently inscribed on the **Reading Ladder Wall of Fame** to inspire future generations of BFS students.

Where will your reading take you? Check out the book lists at the end of the Newsletter.

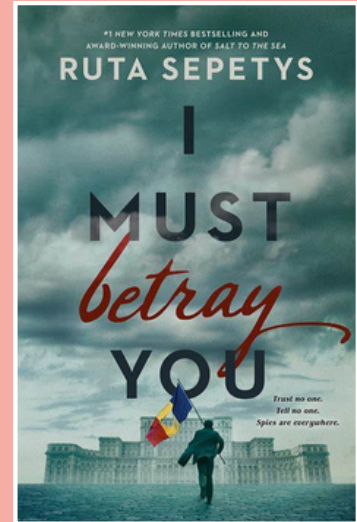
Tutor Reading Programme



The Bad Beginning
Lemony Snicket

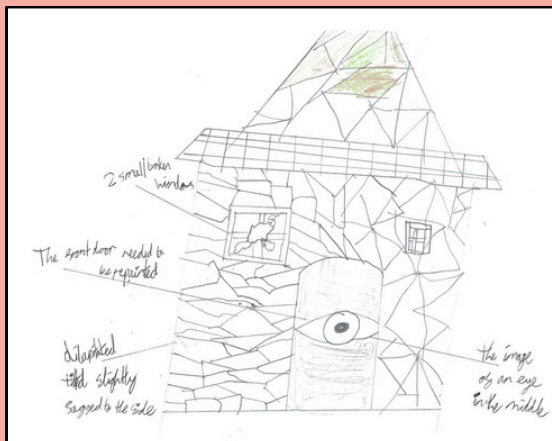
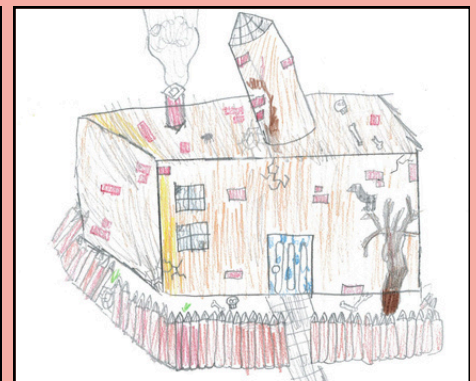


The Wall
John Lanchester



Must Betray You
Ruta Sepetys

As part of our commitment to reading for pleasure, all of Key Stage 3 spend two Tutor sessions per week enjoying some fantastic books. After key sessions, we discuss some thought-provoking questions, then engage our creative sides. Here are some of the fabulous responses (and prize winners!) so far...but which Tutor Group will win the overall prize for Activity Set 1?





The English Department are thrilled to be running the first House competition of this academic year! Introducing the House Spelling Bee!

Every student in Key Stage 3 (Year 7-9) participated in an in-class heat, where they were challenged with words like 'triumphant' and 'abruptly'. English teachers were so impressed by how all students gave this their all, even if they felt like spelling was not one of their strengths.

Congratulations to the winners of the heats!

Year 7

7XM - Maddie P
7XH - Lily-Mae P
7XT - Nicholas C
7XC - Amy O
7YL - Noah C
7YT - Will S
7YC - Sienna W
7YS - Sophia D

Year 8

8XM - Krystal D
8XS - Nico B
8XL - Bella P
8XC - Harrison F
8YH - Amy B
8YG - Josh W
8YB - Maynee P
8YC - Fleur D

Year 9

9XB - Druvika R
9XC - Rio W
9XG - Emily R
9XH - Hector F
9XL - Emily C
9XM - Mairead S
9XS - Nameera A
9XT - Isaac L

Year 7 Semi-Finals

This week has also seen the first of our semi-finals, with Year 7 up first! A very supportive and enthusiastic audience descended on the Drama Studio on Wednesday lunchtime to watch the 8 winners go head-to-head.



It was a very close competition but ultimately the crown was taken by Maddie P of Blaise. In the final week of term, she will face the winners from Year 8 and 9 for the chance to win the trophy.



Well Done



NOTICES AND EVENTS



KEY DATES

Monday 7 October

Y7 (TG6 & 7) Team Building Day at Clifton College
Bristol Schools U13 Rugby 7s

Tuesday 8 October

Y12 Physics residential to CERN (until Fri 11 Oct)

Wednesday 9 October

Student Photographs (Y9, Y10, 11TG6 and 11TG7)
Y8 House Spelling Bee (11.50am DG01)
Y11 Curriculum Info Evening for Parents (virtual)
Y12/13 BEP Student Partnership Board Meeting

Thursday 10 October

BEP Youth Talks Final
Y11 *An Inspector Calls* Theatre Trip, 6pm
Y13 Subject Evening

Friday 11 October

FoBFS Quiz Night

QUICK LINKS

[Lunch Menu](#)
[Extra-Curricular Clubs](#)
[Term Dates](#)
[Student/Parent Handbook](#)
[Past Newsletters](#)

NUT-FREE SCHOOL

We are a no nut school. Please do not bring any nuts or products containing nuts into school. This includes snacks and lunch items such as pesto.

LATE ARRIVALS

Students are expected to arrive at school at 8.25am, to be in tutor for 8.30am. Those arriving between 8.30am and 9am will be given a late mark and a **detention**.

We are
HIRING

[Teacher of Maths](#)

[Deputy Head of Maths](#)

[Exam Invigilators](#)

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Please book routine medical appointments outside of school hours. For unavoidable medical appointments, please email evidence of the appointment, such as a text reminder or appointment letter to admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk.

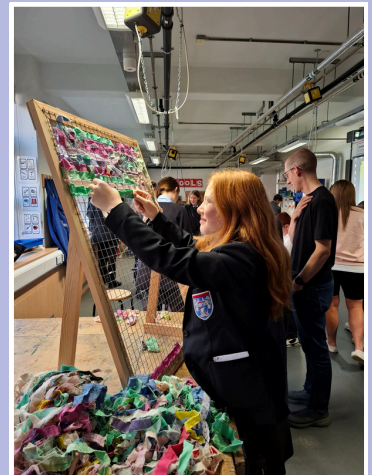
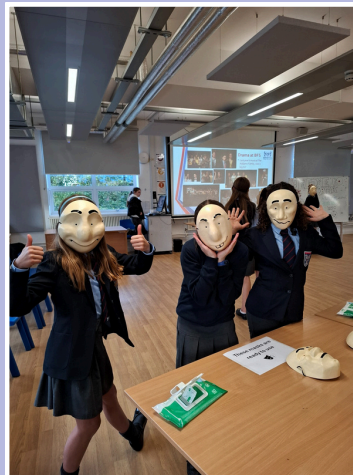
MOMENTS MATTER **ATTENDANCE COUNTS**

Students are expected to attend school before and after medical appointments. Students should be collected from and returned to the car park gate and need to sign in and out at Main Reception. Legal registers are taken at 8.30am and 1.20pm, so please have students in school at these times to minimise the impact of the appointment on their attendance record.

OPEN EVENING 2024



BFS shone brightly last night as we welcomed over 1020 prospective students and their families to our Open Evening.



Thank you to our Head Students from Year 13, Alex, Hodan, Phoebe, James, Lyla and Elen, who gave a warm welcome at the Headteacher Talks and shared their highlights of BFS. Also, thank you to the 190+ student volunteers who acted as tour guides and subject ambassadors. You all represented the School with confidence and enthusiasm. A big thank you to the wonderful staff at BFS who all pulled together to showcase the departments and wider life of the school.



It would be fair to say our guests, and everyone involved, left with big smiles on their faces!

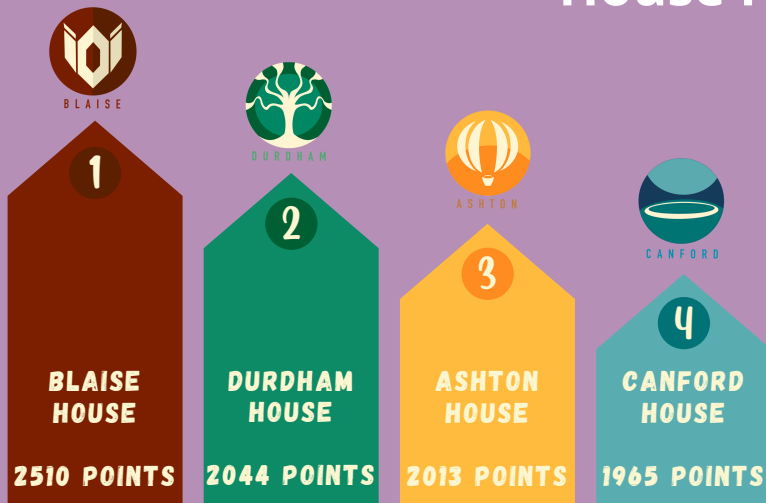
THANK YOU!



HOUSE NEWS



House Points



Blaise have managed to keep the top spot for the second week, earning 2510 House points. Well done Blaise!

Why not enter the House Biology competition or write a book review to earn more House points?

#BFSCommunity

Top House Point Earners

Congratulations to our top House point earners this week!

	Ashton	Blaise	Canford	Durdham
Year 7	Willoughby	Madeleine	Sienna	Noah
Year 8	Sam S & Nico	Krystal	Joshua	Seb, Kushi, Hendrix
Year 9	Mairead	Emily R	Carla	Rio
Year 10	Penelope	Rosie A	Noam	Elle, Harry J, Bella, Lulah
Year 11	Jessica L	Mylo & Chloe W	Joshua C	Sofie
Year 12	Miles	Alyssa, Louis, George P	Megan	Matthew F & Cody
Year 13	Evie-Jean	Ellie	Isabelle	Annabelle

National Biology Week House Competition

The Royal Society of Biology are holding a BioCraft Competition to celebrate National Biology Week, from 7 - 11 October. To enter, create a biology-inspired 3D artwork from recycled, or other, materials. Submit a photo of your entry by clicking on this [link](#) by 4 November. Once entered, bring your artwork to CF19 on Friday 11 October to enter the internal BFS House competition! Entries must have your name, tutor group and House on. Every entry will receive House points and there will be spot prizes!

[More information and inspiration can be found on the RSB website.](#)



Year 7 Design Technology House Competition

Recycle, Rethink, Reuse

What: Use recycled resources that you have at home to design and make something interesting

Who: This project is open to all Year 7s

When: Submit your project by Friday 8 November

Where: At home and in the DT workshops. There will be 2 open workshop sessions on Friday 11 and 18 October, 3.05 - 4.05pm.

Finished projects will be displayed in DT and then judged by the DT teaching team and KS4/5 DT leaders.

Design Specification: The project must be safe. The project must be no bigger than a shoe box (approximately 30cm long x 20cm wide x 12cm high). The project can use new materials but must include at least 1 recycled element. It is a solo project.



MR GOWEN

ENGLISH

National Poetry Day

To celebrate National Poetry Day this week, we are delighted to share with you this poem written by Year 13 student, Thomas S.

A Stranger to the Light

After John F Deane

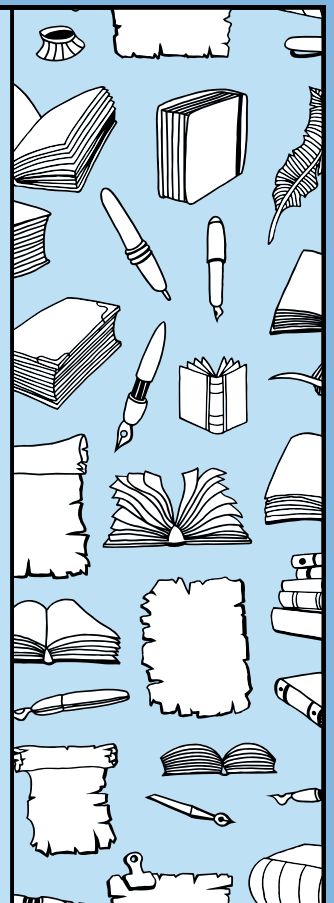
I too, have gone into the darkness,
searching for the light, like my father
and his father have done before me.

I too, have gone into the darkness, seeking.

For what? A fading flickering flame, a corpuscle of light
in an everlasting darkness, an ounce of blood
from an immovable stone? The darkness engulfs you,
suffocates you, consumes you. There's no beacon
of light to guide you safely home.

And when you emerge, shaken but alive,
your mind the only thing changed from your journey,
what then? Everything goes back to normal,
except for one small big thing: the darkness
that now follows you everywhere like a lost dog.

I too, have gone into the darkness,
searching for the light, like my father
and his father have done before me.
I too, have gone into the darkness, seeking.





MISS MCMURDO

ENGLISH

Book Review Challenge

We are asking students from all year groups to complete a book review to be featured in the newsletter.

What? A book review of a recent book you enjoyed.

How long? 200 - 250 words.

How to submit? Email or hand it in to Miss McMurdo, DG08.

Why? Miss McMurdo is choosing submissions to go in the newsletter, and you will get 5 house points for handing it in (10 house points if it is chosen to be in the newsletter). It is also a great way to share book recommendations!



Tip 1

Use an interesting hook!

Start your review with something that will immediately capture your reader's attention. This could be a compelling question or an exciting incident from the book. Example: 'what would you do if you found out your best friend was a wizard?'

Tip 2

Tell us about the characters and plot - but no spoilers!

Tip 3

Include your honest opinion: What did you like/dislike? Why could you not put the book down? Why was it so interesting? Include the reasons for your thoughts. Example: I loved the way the author described the fantasyland, it was so vivid and I felt transported there, but the ending was unconvincing because...

We look forward to reading your reviews!

Review

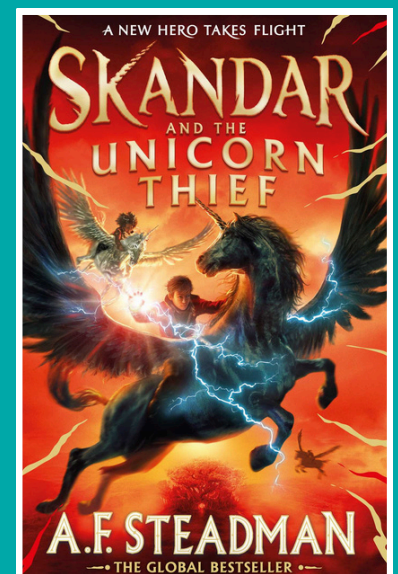
10 House Points!

Skandar and the Unicorn Thief by A.F Steadman
Review by Charlie, Year 7

Immersed in a world full of bloodthirsty unicorns and wild chaos cups, this has to be one of the best books I've ever read, with horrifying twists and wonderful turns, it all starts with one boy and an illegal element.

My favourite part of the book's layout is how it beautifully describes Skandar's emotions throughout the story, laying out an amazing path of immersion and wonder from the moment of Scoundrels Luck's birth throughout the series.

This is book 1 of the unfinished series of 5. His sister Kenna, although wonderfully intelligent, was declined a try at the hatchery door, all because of the death element that she wielded... (Read to find out more!)



SEND

Supporting SEND Learners (ADHD and Autism)

Sirona oversee the autism assessment service for children and young people. Currently there are significant waits for Autism and ADHD assessments. Sirona have highlighted a variety of resources and organisations that can offer support whilst waiting for one. Click on the buttons below to take you to the online resources.



Sirona
care & health



SAY



SEND AND YOU
SENDIAS



Bristol Autism Support



Bristol Parent
Carer Forum
Shaping the Future Together



Bristol's SEND
Local Offer



Friends
of BFS



FoBFS Quiz Night

ONLY A FEW TICKETS REMAINING



**DON'T
FORGET!**

Please come and join us at the FoBFS Quiz, Friday 11 October at BFS. Tickets are selling FAST. Enjoy drinks, snacks, a raffle, and our amazing Quiz master, all in support of BFS.

It is the ideal way to spend your Friday night!

[Buy your tickets here!](#)

Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 24 October 4.30pm - 7.30pm

To sign up for this event and for further information please visit
www.bristolreeschool.org.uk



We look forward to welcoming you

BFS SPORT



MISS SLATER

Year 7 Touch Rugby Festival



Our Year 7 girls attended Broadmead RGC on Wednesday 2 October to attend a touch rugby festival. They played various schools around Bristol in 8 minute games and won every single game!

The team ended up in a playoff with Redland Green School but both teams were so good, time was called and a draw was given. Both schools walked away as winners!

We are super keen to have more fixtures for Year 7 and 8 girls. Touch and contact! So, girls, come to club on Monday after school with Miss Slater.

Congratulations!

UPCOMING FIXTURES

Monday 7 October	Y7-11 Netball vs Ashton Park School	Ashton Park School
Monday 7 October	U13 Rugby 7s	QEH Failand
Tuesday 8 October	Y8 Rugby	BFS
Wednesday 9 October	Y8 & Y10 Netball vs St Bernadette Catholic Secondary School and Montpelier High School	St Bernadette Catholic Secondary School
Thursday 10 October	Y9 Netball (Sisters n Sport) vs Sir Bernard Lovell Academy	Sir Bernard Lovell Academy

Sports Clubs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cross Country Club Basketball Club Years 7-8 Rugby Club Year 10 Girls Rugby Club		Year 7 Netball Club Hockey Club Years 9-10 Rugby Club	Dance Club Years 8-11 Netball Club	

COMMUNITY AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

skillclub.

ELITE POSITIONAL SKILL DEVELOPMENT

& BRISTOL SCHOOLS RUGBY

COLLABORATING TO PROVIDE ELITE LEVEL COACHING TO U14 TO U16 RUGBY PLAYERS IN BRISTOL.



"I'm excited to share my experience of the pro game with young players passionate about rugby"

MITCH EADIE



"I want to help young players, give them advice and guidance to help them achieve their goals on and off the pitch"

ELLIS GENGE

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST:
MITCHEADIE@HOTMAIL.COM

skillclub.

ELITE POSITIONAL SKILL DEVELOPMENT

& BRISTOL SCHOOLS RUGBY

U14 - U16 PLAYERS

EVERY MONDAY FROM 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024

5PM TO 6PM AT LOCKLEAZE SPORTS CENTRE

PROFESSIONAL PLAYER GUEST COACHES

FIXTURES PLANNED THROUGHOUT THE SEASON

£45 PER MONTH

CREATED BY ELLIS GENGE, MITCH EADIE & ANDREW BELL



BRISTOL BEARS
& ENGLAND



FORMER PROFESSIONAL
BRISTOL BEARS,
NORTHAMPTON &
EDINBURGH



LEVEL 3 & PGDIP
PERFORMANCE COACH
FORMER BRISTOL BEARS U18
SKILLS COACH



NETBALL TRAINING CAMP

Open To Netballers Year 7 - 11 Who
Want To Improve Their Fitness

Friday 1st November 10:00 - 13:00
Bradley Stoke Community School (BS32)

£15 Per Child

Book your place at MyShine.co.uk



GIRLS FOOTBALL TRAINING CAMP

Open To Footballers Year 7 - 10 Who
Want To Improve Their Skills

Thursday 31st October 10:00 - 13:00
Bradley Stoke Community School (BS32)

£15 Per Child

Book your place at MyShine.co.uk

PARENT & CARER SUPPORT SESSIONS

Autumn at Greenway Centre

WEDNESDAY 25th SEPTEMBER 9:30 - 11:30 AM

U10s Routines & Rewards

Join us and our partners **Kids Matter** for support and ideas for routines about screen time and bedtime for primary school age children. It is a relaxed session with cuppas and homemade cake!

WEDNESDAY 16th OCTOBER 9:30/45 - 10:45 AM

Handling Teen Emotions

With our partners **North Star** this session is aimed at helping you to help your teenagers regulate their emotions. Importantly it will include relaxation tips to help both you and your teen wind down. This is a relaxed session with cuppas and cake.

WEDNESDAY 27th NOVEMBER 9:30 - 10:30 AM

Hiding Emotions at School

Join us with our partners **Bristol Parent Carer Forum** for support with young people who mask their emotions at school and become dysregulated at home. A relaxed session with cuppas and cake.

Please tell us you're coming!

FREE



SCAN ME



Contact Kate for more details,
email: katemartey@southmead.org,
tel: 0117 950 3335
Greenway Centre, Doncaster Road,
BS10 5PY. www.southmead.org



FREE

MEET-UPS FOR YEAR 7s

Tuesdays, 4:15 PM - 5:15 PM
at Greenway Centre, BS10

We are running weekly sessions especially for Year 7s to chat about how you are finding secondary school so far.

From now until 1st October **Resilience Lab** is the place to come for an after school snack, fun activities, and to chat about what it is like to be in Year 7.

If you are experiencing challenges and worries we are here to support you. It is a session just for your age group, and not for adults, but your parent or carer needs to sign you up using the QR code below to give their permission for you to attend.



SCAN ME



Parents, carers, or year 7s - contact Kate for more details,
email: katemartey@southmead.org, tel: 0117 950 3335
Greenway Centre, Doncaster Road, BS10 5PY. www.southmead.org



BRAZILIAN JIU JITSU FOR BRISTOL FREE SCHOOL

DISCOUNTED RATES WITH THIS FLYER

ROGER GRACIE NORTH BRISTOL ARE OFFERING MEMBERSHIPS TO BFS STUDENTS, FAMILIES AND STAFF!

CLASSES FOR ALL AGES IN

- ✓ BRAZILIAN JIU JITSU
- ✓ BOXING
- ✓ KICKBOXING



☎ 07796 790866 - GET IN TOUCH VIA WHATSAPP

🌐 ROGERGRACIENORTHBRISTOL.COM

📍 THE YOUTH CENTRE, SOUTHMEAD, BRISTOL, BS10 6AS

SOUTHMEAD PLAYERS PRESENTS AN INSPECTOR CALLS

19TH OCTOBER 2024

DOORS 11:30 FOR 12PM START

APPROX RUNNING TIME 1HR 45 (THERE WILL BE AN INTERVAL)

GET YOUR TICKETS FOR FREE AT

[HTTPS://FIXR.CO/ANINSPECTORCALLS](https://fixr.co/aninspectorcalls)

Directed by
Kristian Baxter

GREENWAY CENTRE

DONCASTER ROAD
SOUTHMEAD
BRISTOL
BS10 5PY



Southmead
Players



SOUTHMEAD DEVELOPMENT TRUST

READING LADDER

Year
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Year
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BFS Recommends for Year 7...



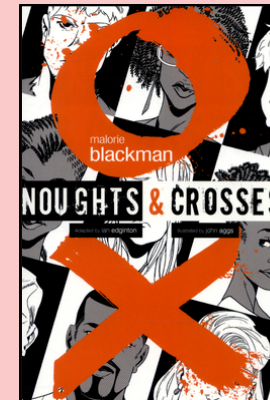
The Three Musketeers
Alexandre Dumas



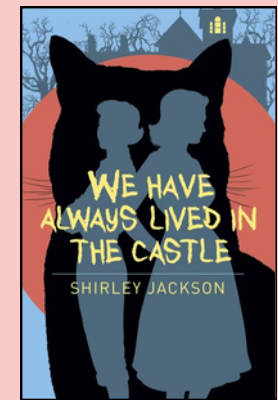
Stormbreaker
Anthony Horowitz



The Ruby in the Smoke
Philip Pullman



Noughts & Crosses
Malorie Blackman



We Have Always Lived in the Castle
Shirley Jackson

Where will your journey begin?

READING LADDER

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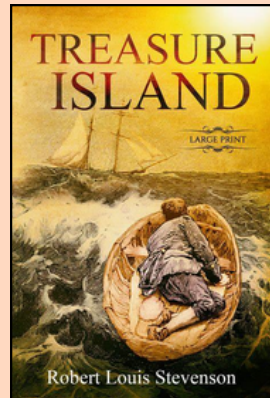
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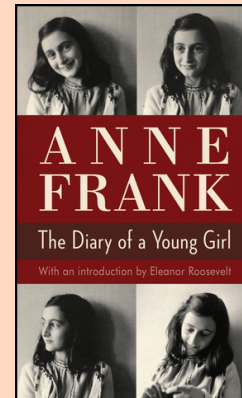
BFS Recommends for Year 8...



Treasure Island
Robert Louis
Stevenson



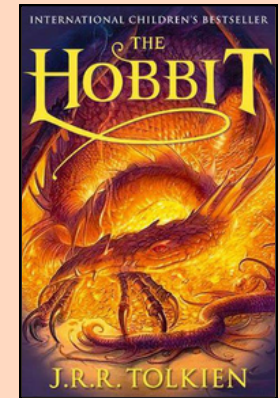
The Book Thief
Markus Zusak



*The Diary of a
Young Girl*
Anne Frank



*The Reason
I Jump*
Naoki Higashida



The Hobbit
J.R.R. Tolkien

Where will your journey begin?

READING LADDER

Year
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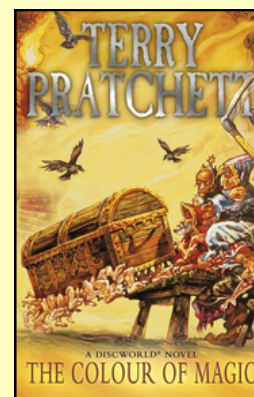
BFS Recommends for Year 9...



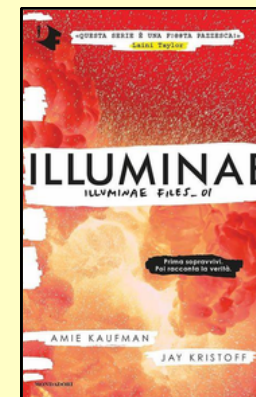
Tracks
Robyn Davidson



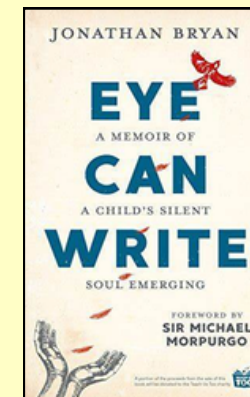
**My Sister, The
Serial Killer**
Oyinkan
Braithwaite



**The Colour of
Magic**
Terry Pratchett



Illuminae
Amie Kaufman



Eye Can Write
Jonathan Bryan

Where will your journey begin?

READING LADDER

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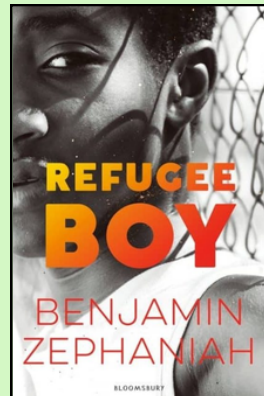
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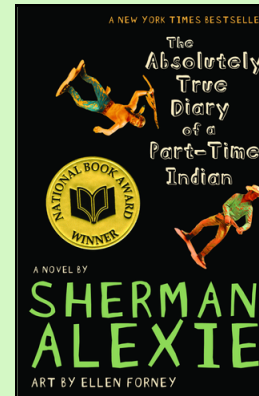
BFS Recommends for Year 10...



Refugee Boy
Benjamin Zephaniah



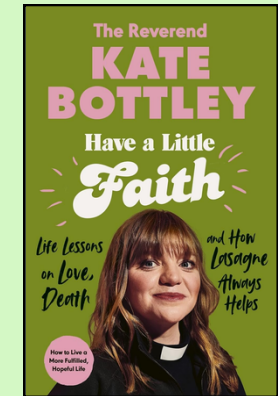
Animal Farm
George Orwell



The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian
Sherman Alexie



Pride and Prejudice
Jane Austen



Have a Little Faith
Kate Bottley

Where will your journey begin?

READING LADDER

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Year
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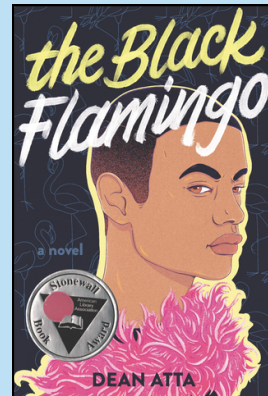
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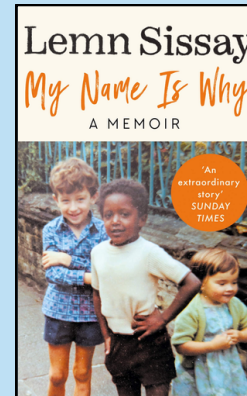
BFS Recommends for Year 11...



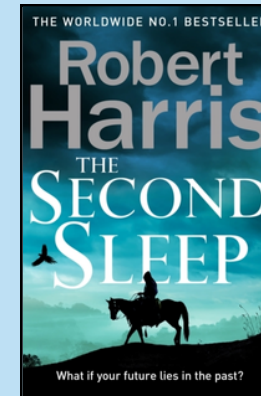
The Black Flamingo
Dean Atta



Furia
Yamile Saied Méndez



My Name Is Why
Lemn Sissay



The Second Sleep
Robert Harris



The Fire People
Collection of Contemporary Black British Poets

Where will your journey begin?

READING LADDER

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BFS Recommends for Year 12...



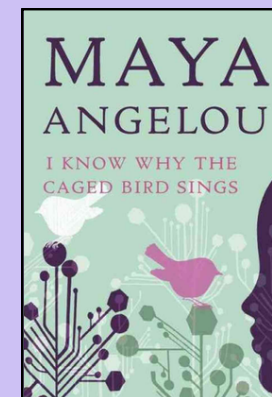
**Things Fall
Apart**
Chinua Achebe



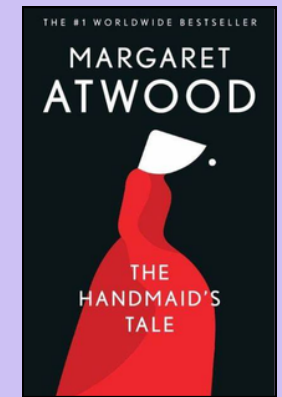
**The White
Tiger**
Aravind Adiga



**The Kiss
Quotient**
Helen Hoang



**I Know Why the
Caged Bird
Sings**
Maya Angelou



**The
Handmaid's
Tale**
Margaret Atwood

Where will your journey begin?

READING LADDER

Year
13

Year
12

Year
11

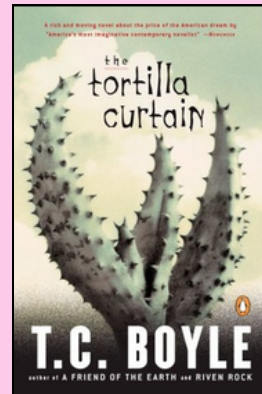
Year
10

Year
9

Year
8

Year
7

BFS Recommends for Year 13...



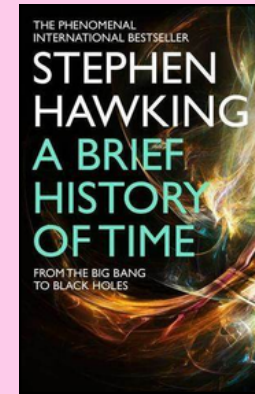
*The Tortilla
Curtain*
T.C. Boyne



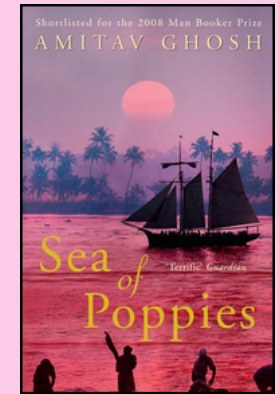
*The Complete
Maus*
Art Spiegelman



*A Year of
Marvellous
Ways*
Sarah Winman



*A Brief History
of Time*
Stephen Hawkin



Sea of Poppies
Amitav Ghosh

Where will your journey begin?