



**2023-2024**

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**READING CHALLENGE  
YEAR 7 BOOKLET**

**NAME AND TUTOR GROUP:**

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# HEADTEACHER MESSAGE



**Mrs Henderson**  
Headteacher

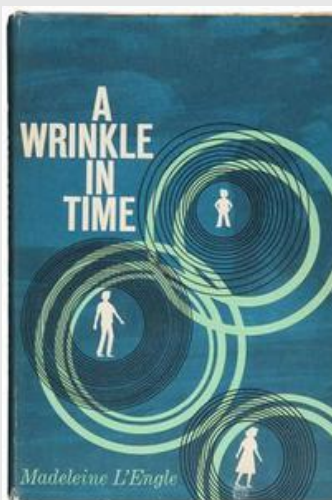
Our challenge to you is to read 100 books before you leave Wyvern St Edmund's. Why? Well, there are many reasons why we think reading is important for our young people; many claims have been made about the power of reading – from an increase in volunteering and charitable giving to an increased tendency to vote. However, there's two key reasons why reading is especially important to us here at Wyvern St Edmund's: our GRACE values of aspiration and empathy.

**Aspiration.** People who read widely, and develop the habit of reading, increase their vocabulary and knowledge of the world which helps to open doors to them – we want as many doors as possible to be open to you in the future so that you can achieve your aspirations and be the best version of yourself.

**Empathy.** Reading is one of the ways you can become more empathetic – something we think is really important. Aristotle said that when we watch a tragedy two emotions predominate: pity (for the character) and fear (for yourself). Without noticing, we imagine what it's like to be the characters that we are reading about and compare their reactions to situations with how we responded in the past, or imagine we might in the future.

You can read the books in any order but it is important that you record the date that you finish each book and ask a parent or carer to sign to confirm that you have read it. For every three books you read, Mrs Lee will stamp your booklet and give you reading reward points on Class Charts. When you complete this booklet, I'd like to invite you to a special celebration breakfast with me and, if you finish all 100 books, then there will be a very special reward for you.

01



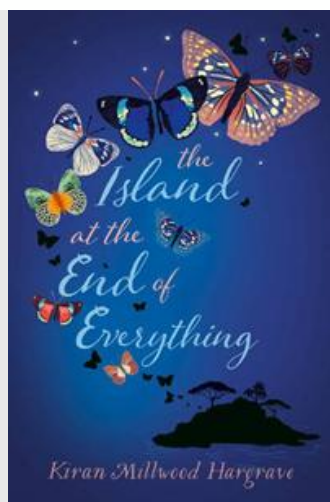
## BOOK 1: A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle

Charles Wallace Murry's father has disappeared and Charles sets out to find a wrinkle in time – a gateway to a parallel universe – to try and save him.

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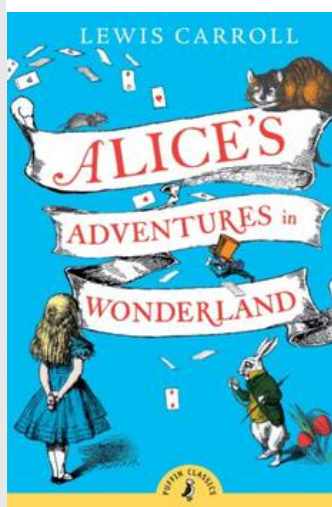
## BOOK 2: The Island at the End of Everything by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

A thought-provoking and atmospheric story about Amihan, who lives on an island affected by a leprosy outbreak. Forced to leave, she finds some unlikely allies in her quest to return home.

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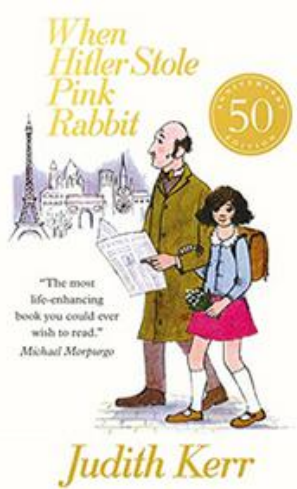
## BOOK 3: Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll

A young girl named Alice sits bored by a riverbank, where she suddenly spots a White Rabbit with a pocket watch and waistcoat lamenting that he is late. The surprised Alice follows him down a rabbit hole...

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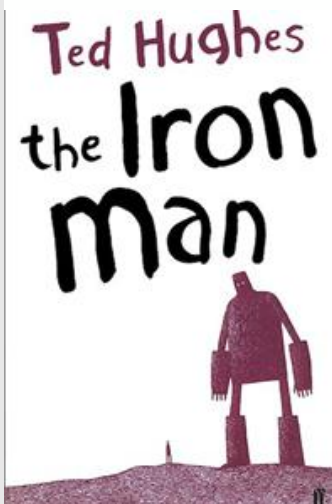
## BOOK 4: When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit by Judith Kerr

Anna is too busy with her schoolwork and tobogganing to listen to the talk of Hitler. But one day she and her brother Max are rushed out of Germany in alarming secrecy, away from everything they know. Their father is wanted by the Nazis. This is the start of a huge adventure, sometimes frightening, very often funny and always exciting.

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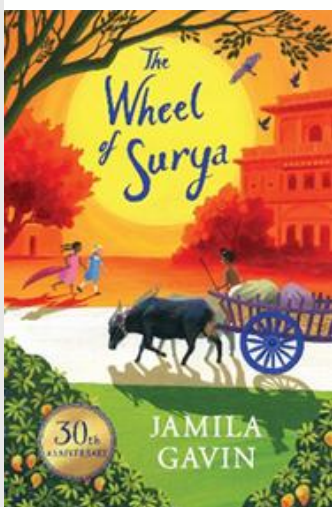
## BOOK 5: The Iron Man by Ted Hughes

The Iron Man tells the story of a gigantic metal robot who appears out of nowhere, crashing onto the beach and shattering into many parts. He is discovered by a young boy called Hogarth, who becomes his friend. The Iron Man proceeds to devour farm machinery, until the farmers rise up against him and threaten to bring in the army. When a terrible monster from outer space threatens to lay waste to the planet, it is the Iron Man who finds a way to save the world.

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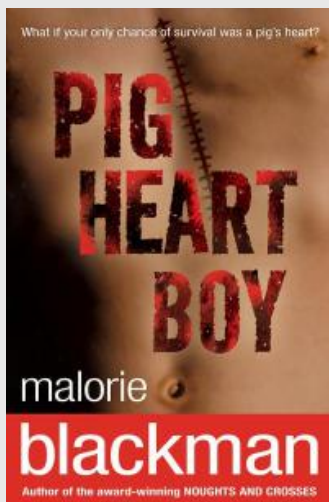
## BOOK 6: The Wheel of Surya by Jamila Gavin

India, August 1947: Fleeing from their burnt-out village as civil war rages in the Punjab, Marvinder and Jaspal are separated from their mother, Jhoti. Marvinder has already saved her brother's life once, but now they both face a daily fight for survival. Together they escape across India and nearly halfway around the world to England, to find a father they hardly know in a new, hostile culture...

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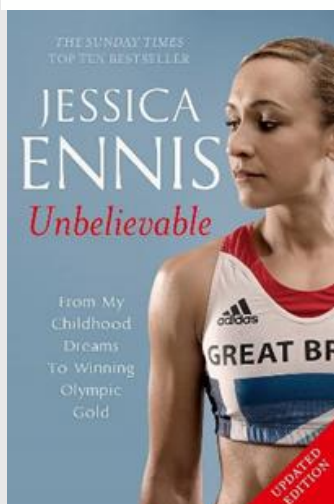
## BOOK 7: Pig Heart Boy by Malorie Blackman

13-year-old Cameron is dying and his only hope is a heart transplant. When there are no human hearts available his father finds a doctor willing to use a pig's heart.

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## BOOK 8: Unbelievable by Jessica Ennis

On 4 August 2012 Jessica Ennis kicked off what some described as the greatest night in British sporting history. For her it was the end of a long, winding, and sometimes harrowing road.

Hers is an inspiring tale of following your dreams no matter what life throws at you.

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## BOOK 9: A Rag, a Bone and a Hank of Hair by Nicholas Fisk

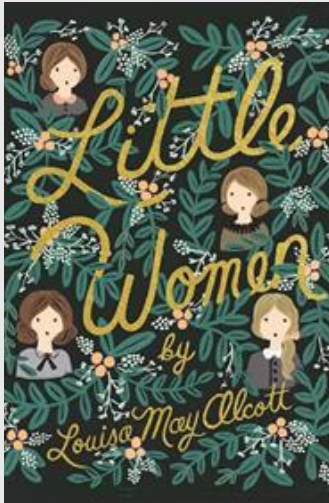
Set in the future when the birth rate has dropped after a nuclear disaster, the human race has started recycling people. 12-year-old Brin observes a family of 'reborn' people who originally lived during WW2.

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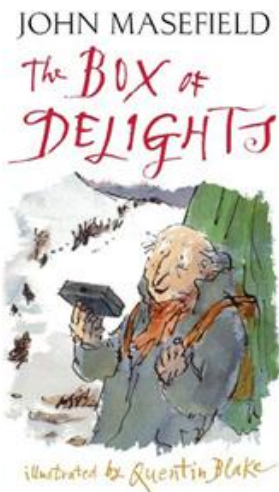
## BOOK 10: Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

Grown-up Meg, tomboyish Jo, timid Beth, and precocious Amy. The four March sisters couldn't be more different. But with their father away at war, and their mother working to support the family, they have to rely on one another. Whether they're putting on a play, forming a secret society, or celebrating Christmas, there's one thing they can't help wondering: Will Father return home safely?

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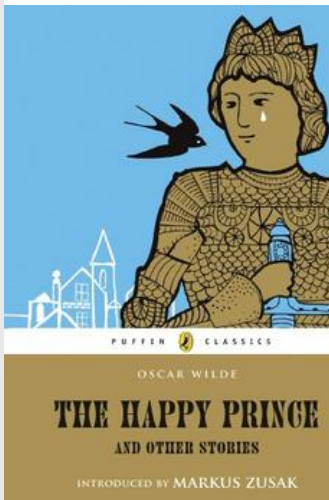
## BOOK 11: The Box of Delights by John Masefield

In this classic fantasy novel, Kay Harker receives a box from an old man called Cole which has magic powers, letting him shrink, fly and travel back in time. But Cole is followed...

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## BOOK 12: The Happy Prince and Other Stories by Oscar Wilde

A haunting, magical collection of fairy tales by Oscar Wilde including The Happy Prince, who was not so happy after all, a selfish giant who learned to love and a star child who did love his parents as he should. Each of these stories shines with poetry and magic.

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## BOOK 13: The Eagle of the Ninth by Rosemary Sutcliff

Thousands of Roman Soldiers marched into the mist and were never seen again. Young Marcus Aquilla sets out to find out what happened to them. An engaging historical saga.

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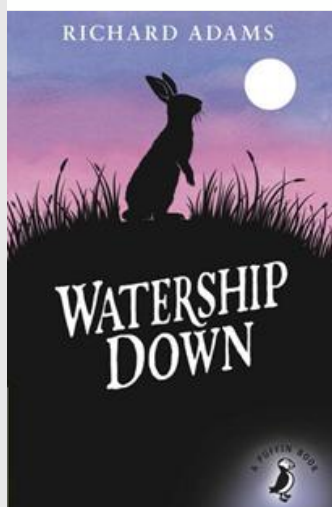
## BOOK 14: The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett

A spellbinding story about Misselthwaite Manor and an unwanted lonely child who discovers a hidden and magical garden.

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## BOOK 15: Watership Down by Richard Adams

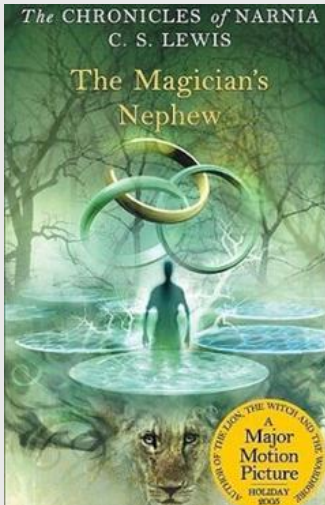
Possibly the best and most well-known animal adventure. Fiver has a sixth sense for danger and he persuades Hazel to lead a group of rabbits to escape an impending disaster and search for a new home.

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## BOOK 16: The Magician's Nephew by C.S. Lewis

On a daring quest to save a life, two friends are hurled into another world, where an evil sorceress seeks to enslave them. But then the lion Aslan's song weaves itself into the fabric of a new land, a land that will be known as Narnia. And in Narnia, all things are possible.

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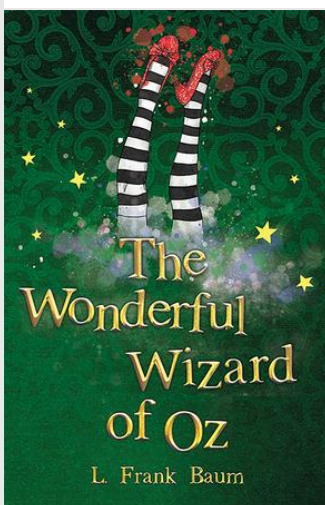
## BOOK 17: The Borrowers by Mary Norton

The Borrowers live in the secret places of quiet old houses. They own nothing, borrow everything and think that human beings were invented just to do the dirty work. Arrietty's father, Pod, was an expert Borrower – he could scale curtains using a hatpin and bring a doll's teacup without breaking it. Girls were not supposed to go borrowing, but as Arrietty was an only child, her father broke the rule and then something happened which changed their lives. She made friends with the human boy living in the house.

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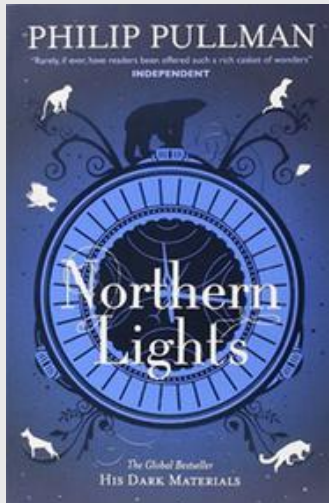
## BOOK 18: The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum

"He is more powerful than all the rest of us together. He lives in the City of Emeralds." Blown far way from her home to the magical land of Oz, little Dorothy must follow the yellow-brick road to the Emerald City and ask the Great and Powerful Wizard of Oz for help. With the Scarecrow, the Tin Woodman and the Cowardly Lion by her side, Dorothy must first defeat the Wicked Witch of the West – but will the Wizard's magic be enough to get her home?

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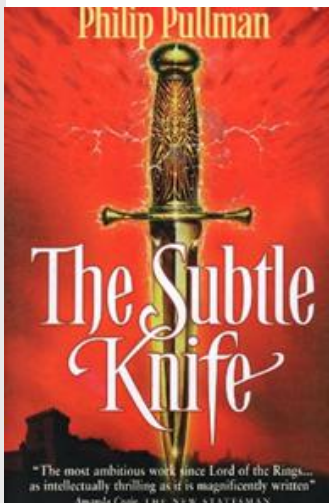
## BOOK 19: Northern Lights by Philip Pullman

When Lyra finds out there's an expedition to find other worlds very different to her own, a chain of events catapults Lyra into several perilous journeys and a search for the truth.

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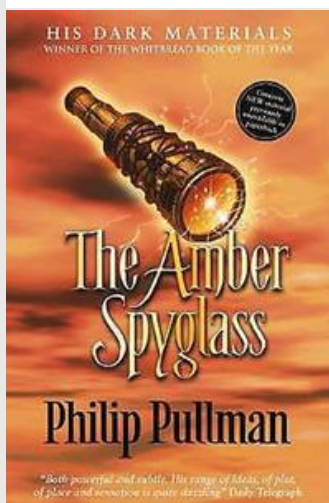
## BOOK 20: The Subtle Knife by Philip Pullman

Will has killed a man and is on the run in a parallel world. When he meets Lyra – with her cunning and his determination, they set out to find Will's long-lost father.

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## BOOK 21: The Amber Spyglass by Philip Pullman

Will and Lyra have become separated but must find each other to prevent dark forces from taking over their worlds, and every other world. A stunning conclusion to the trilogy.

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# READING TRACKER

Cross the books off as you read them. For every three that you cross off, find Mrs Lee to stamp your booklet (on the next page) and put your reward points onto Class Charts.

Books 1-7	Books 8-14	Books 15-21
A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle	Unbelievable by Jessica Ennis	Watership Down by Richard Adams
The Island at the End of Everything by Kiran Millwood Hargrave	A Rag, a Bone and a Hank of Hair by Nicholas Fisk	The Magician's Nephew by C.S. Lewis
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll	Little Women by Louisa May Alcott	The Borrowers by Mary Norton
When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit by Judith Kerr	The Box of Delights by John Masefield	The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum
The Iron Man by Ted Hughes	The Happy Prince and Other Stories by Oscar Wilde	Northern Light by Philip Pullman
The Wheel of Suyra by Jamila Gavin	The Eagle of the Ninth by Rosemary Sutcliff	The Subtle Knife by Philip Pullman
Pig Heart Boy by Malorie Blackman	The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett	The Amber Spyglass by Philip Pullman

# REWARD STAMPS

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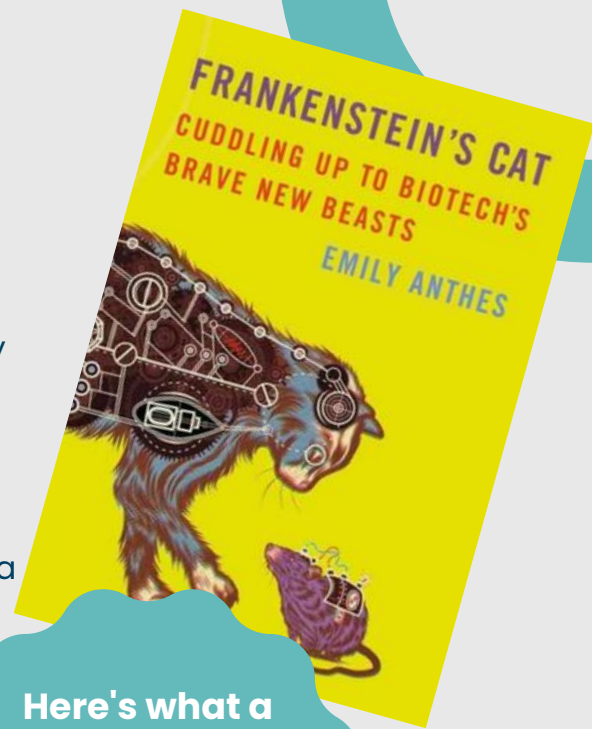
**Mrs Lee**  
Assistant Headteacher



# YOUR REVIEWS

Book recommendations are one of the best ways people know what to read next. Who better to get a book review from than you? When you've finished a book that you really enjoy, we'd love you to write a review.

We would like to feature some of the best reviews on our new display board, feature them on our website and publish them in our family bulletin. When you have written a review, submit it Mrs Lee via email ([rlee@wyvernsted.org](mailto:rlee@wyvernsted.org)). We are particularly interested in reviews that explore how the books link to our GRACE values.



Here's what a great review looks like from a 12 year old boy called Zander.

## **Frankenstein's Cat by Emily Anthes**

I appreciated Frankenstein's Cat for its fascinating explanation about the often baffling subject of bioengineering and its sister sciences. Emily Anthes explains the many sides of today's modern technology, such as gene modification, cloning, pharmaceutical products (from the farm), prosthesis, animal tag and tracking and gene cryogenics. This book provides a well-rounded summary of these complicated sciences without being boring or simply factual. Her real world examples take us on a journey from the farm, to the pet store and then from the pharmacy to the frozen arc.

Have you ever wondered if the neighbourhood cat is spying on you? Read about Operation Acoustic Kitty and find out if this is feline fantasy fiction or fact. Do you think bugs are creepy? What about a zombified cyborg beetle? Is Fido so special that you want two of him? Money can buy you an almost exact copy of your pooch BUT don't expect the same personality. Emily Anthes makes you crave more information. She makes you want to know the future of Earth's flora and fauna, as well as humanity itself.

I would highly recommend this book to anyone who desires a guide to the future of biological science and technology. Frankenstein's Cat is best read by the light of a glow-in-the-dark fish, whilst cuddling your favourite dog and drinking a glass of genetically modified milk.



**“ Books are a uniquely portable magic. ”**  
—Stephen King

**“ It is not enough to simply teach children to read; we have to give them something worth reading. Something that will stretch their imaginations—something that will help them make sense of their own lives and encourage them to reach out toward people whose lives are quite different from their own. ”**  
—Katherine Patterson

**“ Today a reader, tomorrow a leader. ”**  
—Margaret Fuller

**“ Any book that helps a child to form a habit of reading, to make reading one of his needs, is good for him. ”**  
—Maya Angelou

**“ A book is made from a tree. It is an assemblage of flat, flexible parts (still called “leaves”) imprinted with dark pigmented squiggles. One glance at it and you hear the voice of another person, perhaps someone dead for thousands of years. Across the millennia, the author is speaking, clearly and silently, inside your head, directly to you. Writing is perhaps the greatest of human inventions, binding together people, citizens of distant epochs, who never knew one another. Books break the shackles of time—proof that humans can work magic. ”**  
—Carl Sagan

**“ All the reading she had done had given her a view of life they had never seen. ”**  
— Roald Dahl

**“ Great books help you understand, and they help you feel understood. ”**  
— John Green

