

## READING LIST 6/7/8

This year's reading list is more an author list, intended to give the boys an author to read around (or a couple for that matter). Authors to consider are:

Carl Hiaasen – American author of 'Hoot' and an environmental campaigner that informs many of his books. Latest offering is 'Scat', in which the formidable Mrs. Starch disappears on a biology field trip to Black Vine Swamp....

Marcus Sedgwick – goes from strength to strength, his latest being 'Revolver', a taut, utterly captivating story set in an isolated shack in the polar north. A mysterious stranger arrives to terrorise a young boy and his remaining family as his father lies dead on the kitchen table!

Patrick Ness – Two parts of the 'Chaos Walking' trilogy have been published to great critical acclaim and the Carnegie shadows have also given them a big thumbs up. 'Monsters of Men', the third instalment is imminent (publication date was meant to be May 2010, so chances are it will be in all good bookshops this summer!).

Tim Bowler – not a lot of action this year but still so much to choose from.

Geraldine McChaugrean – 'The Death Defying Pepper Roux' was a book I really enjoyed, good old fashioned swashbuckling storytelling – a Y6 /7 book. The thing about GM's books is that they are quirky and quite gentle which can leave some boys 'wanting more action'.

Michael Morpurgo – an obvious choice for obvious reasons.

Philip Womack – I read my Y6 class his second book 'The Liberators', which seemed to go down well. Quite gothic and some bloody scenes but a rattling good plot. His first novel is 'The Other Book' – of a similar genre from what I have read.

Michael Grant – A recommendation (always welcomed boys) from Oscar Perry. Last three books, 'Hunger', 'Lies' and 'Gone' are all popular but for older readers (Y7/8).

Philip Reeve – The 'Mortal Engines' author had 'Fever Crumb' shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal this year. It is a prequel to 'Mortal Engines' and a tale in its own right. 'Here Lies Arthur' won him the same prestigious award in 2008 and is strongly endorsed by some of my Y7 boys. Suitable for all ages.

Neil Gaiman – Talk of Carnegie Medal brings me to this year’s winner. The shadowing group unanimously voted ‘The Graveyard Book’ a worthy winner. ‘Coraline’ is Gaiman’s best known work and is heartily recommended too – quirky stuff!

And finally some books to try that I have read about this year but not had time to read (mainly from the US). If you find these great/indifferent, let me know.

Sarah Brennan. Demon's Lexicon.

Paul Griffin. The Orange Houses.

M.H. Herlong. The Great Wide Sea.

Catherine Jinks. The Reformed Vampire Support Group.

Donna Jo Napoli. Alligator Bayou.

David Small. Stitches: A Memoir.

Rebecca Stead. When You Reach Me.

Francisco X Stork. Marcelo in the Real World.

Laini Taylor. Lips Touch: Three Times.

Sally Walker. Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland.