



From the Librarian: Dr Graham Gardner

3 September 2020

Dear Parent,

Recommended reading for Third Years

To encourage and support independent reading across the Third Year at Abingdon, I've compiled a list of twenty-one recommended books, which I've attached for your reference. The recommendations are based on what other students at Abingdon have enjoyed.

Many boys stop reading in their early teenage years because they struggle to find books that appeal to them; the list should help. While I doubt that every book I've recommended will appeal to every student, I'm confident that every student will be able to find at least one book that looks worth a second glance.

If your son is to make reading a habit, the books he engages with must appeal to his heart as well as his head. To that end, I've chosen novels which combine gripping stories with ideas and vocabulary that should help to stretch and challenge your son's intellect. At the same time, some books are more challenging than others, to accommodate both the varying abilities of readers and the varying motivations for reading.

All of the books are available from the school library as well as from public libraries and bookshops. I'll be introducing students to each book over the course of the year. If your son wants further recommendations, I'm very happy to give advice, drawing on my own reading and what other students have recommended to me.

With best wishes,

Dr Graham Gardner
Librarian

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Recommended reading for Third Years

| Title | Author | Genre |
|---|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>The day of the Triffids</i> | John Wyndham | Science Fiction |
| <i>Killing floor</i> | Lee Child | Action / Thriller |
| <i>Flip</i> | Martin Bedford | Drama / Science fiction |
| <i>Looking for Alaska</i> | John Green | Drama |
| <i>Scythe (and sequels)</i> | Neal Shusterman | Science Fiction |
| <i>Night of the party</i> | Tracey Mathias | Thriller / Drama |
| <i>Spud (and sequels)</i> | Jon van de Ruit | Humour |
| <i>Bloodtide</i> | Melvin Burgess | Dystopia |
| <i>The hitchhiker's guide to the galaxy (and sequels)</i> | Douglas Adams | Humour |
| <i>The new recruit (and sequels)</i> | Andy McNab | War / Drama |
| <i>One of us is lying / One of us is next</i> | Karen McManus | Crime |
| <i>Running girl (and sequels)</i> | Simon Mason | Crime |
| <i>The gifted, the talented and me</i> | William Sutcliffe | Humour |
| <i>13 days of midnight (and sequels)</i> | Leo Hunt | Horror |
| <i>Unstoppable</i> | Dan Freedman | Alternative history / Drama |
| <i>The life of never letting go (and sequels)</i> | Patrick Ness | Science Fiction |
| <i>King of scars</i> | Leigh Bardugo | Fantasy |
| <i>The Martian</i> | Andy Griffiths | Science Fiction |
| <i>The loop</i> | Ben Oliver | Dystopia |
| <i>Fatherland</i> | Robert Harris | Thriller / Alternative history |
| <i>A skinful of shadows</i> | Francis Hardinge | Historical / Supernatural |