



# Padgate Academy Recommends

## 25 Reading Books

### for Year 7 students.

	Name of Book	Written by	Blurb
1	<b>A Little Princess</b>	<i>Frances Hodgson Burnett</i>	Alone in a new country, wealthy Sara Crewe tries to settle in and make friends at boarding school. But when she learns that she'll never see her beloved father again, her life is turned upside down. Transformed from princess to pauper, she must swap dancing lessons and luxury for hard work and a room in the attic.
2	<b>A Rag, A Bone and a Hank of Hair</b>	<i>Nicholas Fisk</i>	A gripping science-fiction novel set at the end of the 22nd century. The birth-rate is falling following a nuclear power plant leak, and the government have begun manufacturing 'Reborns', new people from old.
3	<b>A Wrinkle in Time</b>	<i>Madeleine L'Engle</i>	Meg's father had been experimenting with time-travel when he suddenly disappeared. Will Meg, Charles, and their friend Calvin outwit the forces of evil as they search through space for their father?
4	<b>Alice's Adventures In Wonderland</b>	<i>Lewis Carroll</i>	Alice in Wonderland details the story of a young girl named Alice who falls through a rabbit hole into a fantasy world of anthropomorphic creatures.
5	<b>Artichoke Hearts</b>	<i>Sita Brahmachari</i>	Twelve-year-old Mira comes from a chaotic, artistic and outspoken family where it's not always easy to be heard. As her beloved Nana Josie's health declines, Mira begins to discover the secrets of those around her and starts to keep some of her own.
6	<b>Freedom (1783)</b>	<i>Catherine Johnson</i>	Nathaniel doesn't want to move to England with his master's family, leaving behind his mother and sister on the Jamaican plantation. But then he remembers what his mother told him: once a slave sets foot on English soil, they're free...
7	<b>Holes</b>	<i>Louis Sachar</i>	Stanley Yelnats is sent to Camp Green Lake Juvenile Detention Centre. Every day he and the other inmates are told to dig a hole, reporting anything they find. The evil warden claims that it is character building, but Stanley must dig up the truth.
8	<b>Kick</b>	<i>Mitch Johnson</i>	Budi's plan is simple. He's going to be a star. Budi's going to play for the greatest team on earth, instead of sweating over each stitch he sews, each football boot he makes. But one unlucky kick brings Budi's world crashing down.
9	<b>Kit's Wilderness</b>	<i>David Almond</i>	Kit has just moved to Stoneygate with his family, to live with his ageing grandfather who is gradually succumbing to Alzheimer's Disease. Here Kit meets Askew, a surly and threatening figure who masterminds the game called Death...
10	<b>My Family and Other Animals</b>	<i>Gerald Durrell</i>	My Family and Other Animals is the bewitching account of a rare and magical childhood on the island of Corfu by treasured British conservationist Gerald Durrell.
11	<b>Private Peaceful</b>	<i>Michael Morpurgo</i>	Told in the voice of a young soldier, the story follows 24 hours in his life at the front during World War One and captures his memories as he looks back over his life.
12	<b>The Dark is Rising</b>	<i>Susan Cooper</i>	It's Midwinter's Eve, the day before Will's eleventh birthday. But there is an atmosphere of fear in the familiar countryside around him. This will be a birthday like no other. Will discovers that he has the power of the Old Ones, and that he must embark on a quest to vanquish the terrifyingly evil magic of the Dark.
13	<b>The Eagle of the Ninth</b>	<i>Rosemary Sutcliff</i>	The Ninth Legion marched into the mists of northern Britain - and they were never seen again. Marcus must find out what happened to his father, who led the legion. So, he sets out into the unknown, on a quest so dangerous that nobody expects him to return.

14	<b>The Goldfish Boy</b>	<i>Lisa Thompson</i>	Twelve-year-old Matthew is trapped in his bedroom by crippling OCD, spending most of his time staring out of his window as the inhabitants of Chestnut Close go about their business. Until the day he is the last person to see his next-door neighbour's toddler, Teddy, before he goes missing.
15	<b>The Graveyard Book</b>	<i>Neil Gaiman</i>	Brought up by the resident ghosts, ghouls and spectres, Bod has an eccentric childhood learning about life from the dead. But for Bod there is also the danger of a murderer looking for him - after all, he is the last remaining member of the family.
16	<b>The Hunger Games</b>	<i>Suzanne Collins</i>	In the ruins of a place once known as North America lies the nation of Panem, a shining Capitol surrounded by 12 outlying districts. The Capitol keeps the districts in line by forcing them all to send one boy and one girl between the ages of 12 and 18 to participate in the annual Hunger Games, a fight to the death on live TV.
17	<b>The Machine Gunners</b>	<i>Robert Westall</i>	Chas McGill has the second-best collection of war souvenirs in Garmouth, and he desperately wants it to be the best. When he stumbles across the remains of a German bomber crashed in the woods - its shiny, black machine-gun still intact - he grabs his chance. Soon he's masterminding his own war effort with dangerous and unexpected results . . .
18	<b>The Ruby in the Smoke</b>	<i>Phillip Pullman</i>	If you've not yet met Sally Lockhart, prepare to be bowled over. The beautiful, smart 16-year-old can ride like a Cossack and shoot like a demon - and now she's braving terrible danger to hunt down her father's killer!
19	<b>The Silver Sword</b>	<i>Ian Serallier</i>	This is a story of many different things: of a terrible war and an occupied land; of the Balicki children who are determined to survive; of a dangerous journey from war-torn Poland to Switzerland; of a paper knife that gives them the courage to carry on when nearly all hope is lost.
20	<b>The Sword in the Stone</b>	<i>T.H. White</i>	The extraordinary story of a boy called Wart – ignored by everyone except his tutor, Merlyn – who goes on to become King Arthur.
21	<b>The Weight of Water</b>	<i>Sarah Crossan</i>	Life is lonely for Kasienka. She misses her old home in Poland, her mother's heart is breaking, and at her new English school friends are scarce. But when someone new swims into her life, Kasienka learns that there is more than one way to stay afloat.
22	<b>The Weirdstone of Brisingamen</b>	<i>Alan Garner</i>	When Colin and Susan are pursued by eerie creatures across Alderley Edge, they are saved by the Wizard who has been searching for the Weirdstone of Brisingamen for more than 100 years. The forces of evil are closing in and Colin and Susan must help to defeat them.
23	<b>The Wolves of Willoughby Chase</b>	<i>Joan Aiken</i>	When Sylvia and Bonnie (both orphans) fall into the hands of evil Miss Slighcarp, they must use all their wits to escape unscathed - for the governess is crueller and more merciless than the wolves that surround the great house of Willoughby Chase.
24	<b>Watership Down</b>	<i>Richard Adams</i>	Fiver, a young rabbit, is very worried. He senses something terrible is about to happen to the warren. His brother Hazel knows that his sixth sense is never wrong. So, there is nothing else for it. They must leave immediately.
25	<b>Wolf</b>	<i>Gillian Cross</i>	Cassy lives with her granny, until the night that she is packed off to her mum's - a squat in London that her beautiful, simple mother shares with a couple of actors. Cassy does her best to throw herself into her mother's life, even agreeing to take part in their travelling show called 'Wolf'. But she can't ever get rid of the feeling that something is following her, and something bad is going to happen.