

- \* **Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass by Lewis Carroll** Indispensable. The great classic beginning of English children's literature.
- \* **Pinocchio by Carlo Collodi.** What effortless invention looks like.
- \* **Emil and the Detectives by Erich Kastner** A great political story: democracy in action.
- \* **Swallows and Amazons by Arthur Ransome** As clear and pure as Mozart.
- \* **Black Hearts in Battersea by Joan Aiken** If Ransome was Mozart, Aiken was Rossini.
- \* **The Owl Service by Alan Garner.** Showed how children's literature could sound dark and troubling chords.
- \* **The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster** Superb wit and vigorous invention.
- \* **Moominsummer Madness by Tove Jansson** Any of the Moomin books would supply the same strange light Nordic magic.
- \* **The Castafiore Emerald by Hergé** We love Tintin Perfect timing, perfect narrative tact and command, blissfully funny.
- \* **The Star of Kazan by Eva Ibbotson** The heroine is blessed with wonderful friends who help her through the twists of this incredible journey.
- \* **Just William books by Richmal Crompton** These are a must for every child.
- \* **Treasure Island by R.L. Stevenson** The classic sea tale of adventure.
- \* **The Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway** A classic tale of man versus nature.
- \* **The Man Who Planted Trees by Jean Giono.** A book for children from 8 to 80. The story of how a man's efforts can change the future for so many.
- \* **The Singing Tree by Kate Seredy** The story of two children who go to find their father who has been listed missing in the trenches of the First World War.
- \* **The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson-Burnett** The story of a girl's life being changed by nature.
- \* **Refugee Boy by Benjamin Zephaniah** Story of a young Ethiopian boy, whose parents abandon him in London to save his life.
- \* **I Capture the Castle by Dodie Smith** Written for a teenage audience but fun at any age.
- \* **The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings by JRR Tolkien** Be warned, these tales of hobbits, elves and Middle Earth are dangerously addictive.
- \* **Carry On, Jeeves by PG Wodehouse** A grown-up book – but not that grown-up.

The Icknield KS3  
Reading List (in no  
particular order)...



- \* **When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit by Judith Kerr** Judith Kerr's semi-autobiographical story of a family fleeing the Nazis in 1933.
- \* **Moving Pictures by Terry Pratchett** Elaborate mythological imagery and a background based in real science. If you like this, the Discworld series offers plenty more.
- \* **The Story of Tracy Beaker by Jacqueline Wilson** The pinnacle of the wonderful Jacqueline Wilson's brilliant and enormous output.
- \* **The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle** Irresistible puzzle-solving tales of the chilly Victorian master-sleuth and his loyal medical sidekick.
- \* **Mistress Masham's Repose by TH White** Magical story of 10-year-old Maria, living in a derelict stately home, lonely and under threat from both her governess and her rascally guardian.
- \* **Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz** First of the action-packed adventures with 14-year-old Alex Rider.
- \* **Private Peaceful by Michael Morpurgo** "Dulce et Decorum Est" for pre-teens.
- \* **Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer** Lively, amoral, wildly imaginative debut about the money-grabbing master-criminal Artemis, 12. The author called it "Die Hard with fairies".
- \* **The Silver Sword by Ian Serraillier**. Inspiring wartime story of the Balicki family in Warsaw.
- \* **Animal Farm by George Orwell** Smart 11-year-olds won't need any pre-knowledge of Marx, Lenin, Trotsky and 1917 to appreciate this brilliantly-told fable.
- \* **Skellig by David Almond** Brings magical realism to working-class North-east England.
- \* **Red Cherry Red by Jackie Kay** A book of poems that reaches deep into our hidden thoughts but also talks in a joyous voice exploring the everyday.
- \* **Talkin Turkeys by Benjamin Zephaniah** A book of poems that demands to be read aloud, performed and thought about.
- \* **Greek myths by Geraldine McCaughrean** Superheroes battle with demons, gods intervene in our pleasures and fears – a bit like the spectres in our minds going through daily life.
- \* **People Might Hear You by Robin Klein** A profound, suspenseful story about sects, freedom and the rights of all young people – especially girls.
- \* **Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman** A book that dared to go where no one thought you could with young audiences because it raises tough stuff to do with race.
- \* **Einstein's Underpants and How They Saved the World by Anthony McGowan** A crazy adventure set amongst the kids you don't want to know but who this book makes you care about.
- \* **After the First Death by Robert Cormier** Cormier is never afraid of handling how the personal meets the political all within the framework of a thriller.
- \* **The London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd** A book that allows difference to be part of the plot and not a point in itself.
- \* **The Beano Annual**. A cornucopia of nutty, bad, silly ideas, tricks, situations and plots.