



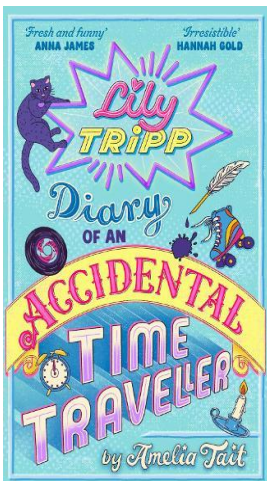
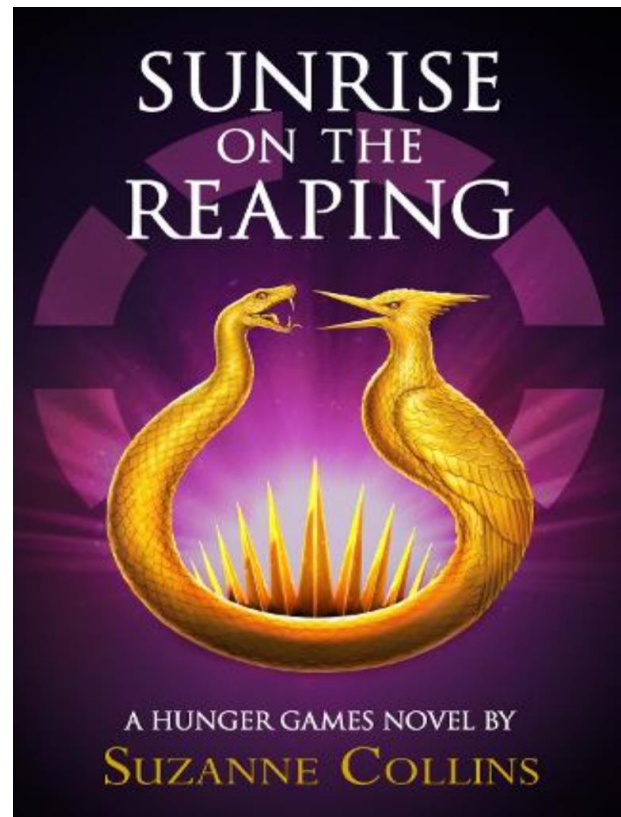
Key Stage 3 Pick

The eagerly awaited fifth Hunger Games book - and second prequel - places fan-favourite Haymitch Abernathy centre stage in an unputdownable tale of danger, action and intrigue set during the fiftieth deadly contest.

Shortlisted for [Waterstones Book of the Year 2025](#)

Shortlisted for the [British Book Awards Children's Fiction Book of the Year 2026](#)

When you've been set up to lose everything you love, what is there left to fight for?



Year 7

Lily Tripp: Diary of an Accidental Time Traveller

Lottie Brooks meets Horrible Histories!

'Hugely entertaining – time travel has never felt so funny.' - Alexander Armstrong

Lottie Brooks with a time-travelling twist, Tait's riotously relatable middle grade novel sees our titular heroine wake up in a different century every New Year's Day with her BFF, family and secret crush all along for the ride.

PLC Updates

Dudley Libraries Summer Reading Challenge:

<https://www.better.org.uk/library/dudley/events-and-activities/childrens-activities/summer-reading-challenge-at-dudley-libraries>

What our PLC after-school Book Clubs are reading:

Mon: Year 9 - Dead Happy by Josh Silver

Tue: Year 8 - Last One to Die by Cynthia Murphy

Tue: Classics Book Club - The Odyssey by Homer (this club is run by Ms Froggatt)

Wed: Year 7- I Have No Secrets by Penny Joelson

Fri: Year 7 - Small Wonder by Ross Montgomery



National
Year of
Reading
2026

KS4 Pick

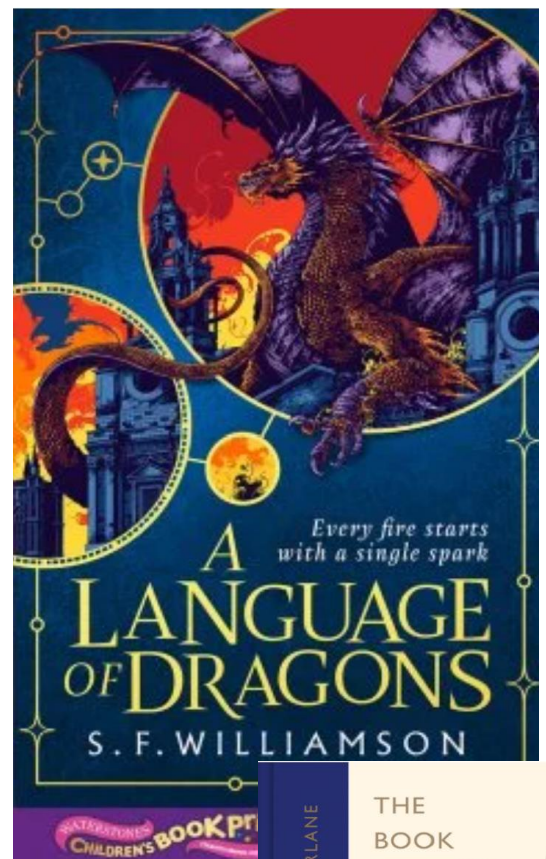
A heart-pounding dark academia YA fantasy, *A Language of Dragons* takes readers into an alternate Bletchley Park in 1923 as civil war threatens a fragile truce with ancient beasts and a resourceful girl takes on a perilous codebreaking mission.

EVERY FIRE STARTS WITH A SINGLE SPARK.

Welcome to Bletchley Park... with dragons.

London, 1923. Dragons soar through the skies and protests erupt on the streets, but Vivien Featherswallow isn't worried. She's going to follow the rules, get an internship studying dragon languages, and make sure her little sister never has to risk growing up Third Class. By midnight, Viv has started a civil war.

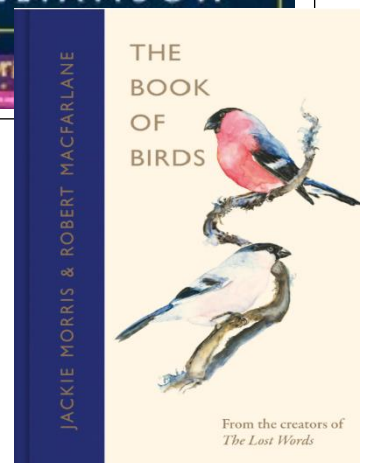
An epic, sweeping fantasy with an incredible Dark Academia setting, a clandestine, slow-burn enemies-to-lovers romance, and an unputdownable story, filled with twists and turns, betrayals and secret identities, *A Language of Dragons* is the unmissable debut of 2025, from an extraordinary new voice.



Books for Parents

A breath-taking book to treasure and a perfect gift for bird-lovers of all ages, this stunning volume from the duo behind the acclaimed *The Lost Words* celebrates the splendours and mysteries of British birdlife with Robert Macfarlane's lyrical text and Jackie Morris' exhilarating illustrations.

Based on classic bird books of old, this lyrical love letter showcases 49 declining or endangered species, featuring incredible illustrations throughout.

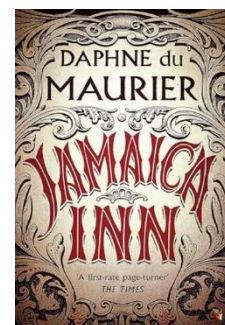
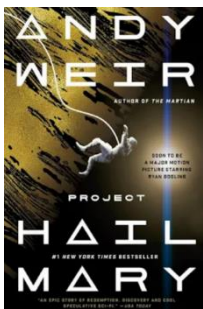


Staff Picks:

What staff are reading: Mr Fox is reading...

Project Hail Mary – seen the film? Now read the book!

Jamaica Inn – Daphne du Maurier's classic tale of Cornish pirates.



Recommended Reads

Reading Lists - <https://dormston.dudley.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/RECOMMENDED-READS-updated.pdf>

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Holiday time, when you're away from school, with no homework and lots of free time is *the* perfect time to pick up a book, chill out and read.

Most importantly, relaxing and making time to lose yourself in a great book and take part in our Summer Reading Challenge will help to ensure your reading skills don't dip during the long break.

How do I to take part?

- collect a Summer Reading Challenge log from the PLC;
- record all the books you read during the summer, onto the log. Details of what to do are also printed on the back of the log;
- we also invite you to write reviews of the books;
- please return your completed Summer Reading Challenge log and book reviews to the PLC by **Monday 14th September 2026;**
- 5 House points will be awarded to **all** students who take part and who hand in their log and reviews;
- students who take part, and hand in their log and reviews, will be invited to a Summer Reading Challenge Celebration reward event.

What can I read?

Fiction, non-fiction, graphic novels, manga....it all counts!

The most important thing is to give yourself time to read and to reap the invaluable benefits of reading.

