

Our KLA Canon

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Recommended Key Stage	Title	Author	What we say about it!
KS3	The Hobbit	J.R.R Tolkien	This fantasy novel, tells of Bilbo's strange and magical adventure. A timeless classic.
	The Chronicles of Narnia	C S Lewis	Perhaps the ultimate battle between good and evil?
	Alice's Adventures in Wonderland	Lewis Carroll	Alice falls through a rabbit hole and enters a subterranean, fantastical world, populated by peculiar creatures. A fabulous example of literary nonsense and a must read.
	His Dark Materials	Philip Pullman	A chain of events catapults Lyra into a series of perilous journeys as she searches for the truth about her world and links to other.
	Harry Potter Books	J K Rowling	Fantasy novels follow Harry's life, from discovering he is a wizard. We embark on an enthralling and unmissable adventure, as we accompany Harry to Hogwarts and follow his struggles against dark magic.
	Johnny Maxwell	Terry Pratchett	Johnny has special powers that help him see the world in a different way from other boys.
	The Boy in The Stripped Pyjamas	John Boyne	A holocaust novel depicts a friendship on either side of the fence.

	The Cherub Series	Robert Muchamore	Great action/spy stories.
	Wonder	RJ Palacio	Miss Barber recommends this as a narrative about being different, not fitting in. It encompasses anxieties about growing up, that we are all different - and this isn't a bad thing.
	The Graveyard Book	Neil Gaiman	Jack murders every member of a family except a child upstairs. When the ghosts in the graveyard find him they decide to raise him.
	Percy Jackson And the Lightning Thief	Rick Riordan	A modern-day myth.
	Noughts and Crosses	Malorie Blackman	A passionate narrative akin to Romeo and Juliet. In an alternative world the issues of racism are tackled. Friendship goes beyond barriers.
	A Little Princess	Frances Hodgson Burnett	A great book that might have you in tears. We follow Sara as her world is turned upside down when she goes from princess to pauper.
	Watership Down	Richard Adams	Possibly the best and most well-known animal adventure.
	The God of Small Things	Arundhati Roy	A charming story of childhood in India.
	The Diary of a Girl	Anne Frank	Anne Frank's diary of living and hiding during World War Two - 'one of the greatest books of the century' - The Guardian.

	A Wrinkle in Time	Madeleine L'Engle	A captivating and imaginative story providing a gateway to a parallel universe. A great novel for those with an interest in science.
	Across the Barricades	Joan Lingard	A gritty story of religious divide and distrust.
	The Call of The Wild, White Fang	Jack London	A challenging story of survival in extreme conditions.
	The Box of Delights	John Masefield	A classic fantasy novel of magic and time travel.
	The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13 3/4	Sue Townsend	A very funny read about a fictional diary charting the teenage angst and dreams of Adrian Mole.
	Black Beauty	Anna Sewell	Victorian London is vividly portrayed through the eyes of a horse. A timeless classic.
	The Indian In the Cupboard	Lynne Reid Banks	An engaging read of disappointment, intrigue and wonder.
	My Sister Lives on The Mantelpiece	Annabel Pitcher	A heart-breaking, yet funny, story of emotional chaos in 10 year old James' family life.
	A Christmas Carol	Charles Dickens	Read about Scrooge yourself; much better than any film you may have seen.
	I Captured A Castle	Doddie Smith	A great novel of first love, as an eccentric family of sisters live in a dilapidated castle.
	The Hunger Games	Suzanne Collins	A mature series of books to get hooked on, as Katniss fights to the death in a reality TV lottery.
	Mortal Engines	Philip Reeve	Mrs Goodson says "a superb fantasy novel, where moving cities trawl the globe. A highly original read."

	Ruby in The Smoke	Phillip Pullman	Gripping plot and enjoyable to read. An exceptional mystery.
	The Breadwinner	Deborah Ellis	Miss Cousins says “this is a really enjoyable read giving insight into gender challenges under laws and poverty in Afghanistan.”
	The Book Thief	Markus Zusak	Mrs Harris suggest this is a great read. Highlighting many life lessons within the story - compassion and resilience being just a couple. Interesting narrative perspective - having Death telling the story.
	The Long Earth	Terry Pratchett	Gateway books that will introduce new ideas and broaden horizons.
	Anne of Green Gables	Lucy Maud Montgomery	A classic novel recounting the adventures of Anne Shirley, an 11 year old orphan.
	The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn	Mark Twain	A great American novel, following Huck’s adventures as he attempts to escape his guardian.
	The Outsiders	S E Hinton	Stunning study of hate, violence, loyalty and friendship set in the violent ganglands of New York. One of the best teenage novels ever written.,
	The Time Machine	H G Wells	Science-Fiction novel about time travel and its possible consequences.
	Stormbreaker	Anthony Horowitz	They told him his uncle died in an accident. “He wasn't wearing his seatbelt”, they said. But when fourteen-year-old Alex finds his uncle's windshield riddled with bullet holes, he knows it was no accident.

KS4	Frankenstein	Mary Shelley	Fable of the scientist who create a monster and inflicts murder on the human race.
	Inkheart	Cornelia Funke	A fantasy novel that has the ability to bring characters to life when read aloud.
	The Hitch-Hiker's Guide to The Galaxy	Douglas Adams	Friday doesn't go well for Arthur when his house is demolished, the earth is obliterated to make way for a bypass, and he discovers his best friend is an alien. Can things get any worse?
	The Hound of The Baskervilles	Sir Arthur Conan Doyle	Can Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson solve the mystery of the Baskerville family curse?
	Are You There God? It's Me Margaret	Judy Blume	Margaret is convinced she isn't normal, so she talks to God, with surprising results.
	To Kill A Mocking Bird	Harper Lee	Classic look at childhood and growing up, with a backdrop of segregation and racism.
	The Hate You Give	Angie Thomas	Inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement. A vital look at racism and violence.
	One of Us Is Lying	Karen M McManus	The story of what happens when five strangers walk into detention and only four walk out alive.
	Pride & Prejudice	Jane Austin	A head strong female protagonist and her sisters, navigate social expectations in Regency England
	The Bone Sparrow	Zana Fraillon	Beautiful, vivid and deeply moving story of refugee boy who has spent his entire life living in a detention centre.
	White Teeth	Zadie Smith	Clever, funny dialogue with quirky characters.
	The Perks of Being A Wallflower	Stephen Chbosky	Beautiful look at youth life through the eyes of a quirky teenager.

	The Long Walk	Stephen King	Grim futuristic tale of a killer race in which 100 boys are selected to race. The penalty for stopping is death.
	Brave New World	Aldous Huxley	A challenging read giving a nightmare vision of the future.
	1984	George Orwell	Dystopian novel which introduces the idea of Big Brother and Room 101. Can Winston rebel against Big Brother and stop the rewriting of history and language?
	Catch-22	Joseph Heller	A classic novel that will make you want to read it again!
	The Count of Monte Cristo	Alexandre	Dantes seeks to get back everything he lost and more.
	Dracula	Bram Stoker	Classic vampire tale following Dracula's move from Transylvania to England, pursued by Van Helsing.
	Remains of The Day	Kazuo Ishiguro	A deeply moving novel that explores class, love and longing.
	The Strange Cast of Dr Jekyll And Mr Hyde	Robert Louis Stevenson	Everyone has a dark side and Dr Jekyll has discovered the ultimate – a chemical that can turn him into something else. But his double life has a hideous price.
	The Fault in Our Stars	John Green	Stunning story of love in the face of desperate adversity.
	Cinderella Is Dead	Kalynn Bayron	It's time for Cinderella with a very, very different twist. We love how furious women in beautiful ball gowns are ready to destroy the patriarchy!
	Rebecca	Daphne Du Maurier	A compelling and interesting read, where whirlwind romance leads to an unexpected ghost from the past. A

			nemesis mysterious housekeeper and the question of what happened to Rebecca?
	Fahrenheit 451	Ray Bradbury	Books are banned in this legendary novel! The frightened and suppressed hide in the city to keep them concealed.
	Lord of The Rings Trilogy	JRR Tolkien	An epic high fantasy novel. An archetypal literary quest, where good is pitted against evil, noble action against sinful temptation, in a grand narrative.
	The Handmaids Tale	Margaret Atwood	Brilliant, enduring and scary! An unforgettable portrait of defiance and authoritarian rule. A devastatingly powerful exploration of female oppression.
	Wuthering Heights	Emily Bronte	Classic love story of intertwining lives, passion, revenge and betrayal.
	Atonement	Ian McEwan	Can Briony ever put the piece back together, after stumbling upon something shocking which sets things into a downward spiral?
	After the Fire	Will Hill	Explosively unique page turner. A seventeen-year-old maths genius with anxiety becomes embroiled in a treacherous world of espionage, following an assassination.
	The Curious Incident of The Dog in The Night	Mark Haddon	Miss Clarke cannot recommend this book enough - it gives an insight into Asperger's syndrome and just has the most brilliant plot

	Red Rising	Pierce Brown	Follow Darrow, as he infiltrates the ranks of the elite. Mrs Goodson gives this novel glowing review. Characters that have well thought through personalities, a plot that keeps great pace, action, adventure, a colourful and vibrant future society, mind games that keep you on the edge of your seat. A super mix of Science Fiction and dystopia that make you consider the future possibilities of space travel.
	The House on Mango Street	Sandra Cisneros	It will take readers along a coming-of-age story that explores happiness, heartbreak, and everything in between.
	The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian	Sherman Alexie	Both heart-breaking and funny — a perfect combination for young teens.
	Educated	Tara Westover	This is an unforgettable memoir for both adults and teens that has won many awards, including the recommendation of Barack Obama. Raised as a survivalist in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was kept out of school and survived a childhood of violence and isolation.
	The Princess Bride	William Goldman	Mrs Goodson says it's only got the good bits! As a boy, William Goldman claims, he loved to hear his father read The Princess Bride. But as a grown-up he discovered that the boring parts were left out of good old dad's recitation, and only the "good parts" reached his ears.

	The Clan of The Cave Bear	Jean M. Auel	This novel of awesome beauty and power is a moving saga about people, relationships, and the boundaries of love. Through Jean M. Auel's magnificent storytelling we are taken back to the dawn of modern humans.
	The Great Gatsby	F. Scott Fitzgerald	The Great Gatsby is one of the great classics of Twentieth-Century Literature, which stands as the supreme achievement of his career. This exemplary novel of the Jazz Age has been acclaimed by generations of readers.
	The Color Purple	Alice Walker	Set in the deep American south between the wars, The Color Purple is the classic tale of Celie, a young black girl born into poverty and segregation.
	We Are Liars	E. Lockhart	Gloriously witty, sharp and utterly addictive, this novel explores outwardly perfect lives consumed by secrets, deception and privileges taken too far.
	The Kite Runner	Khaled Hosseini	A beautifully crafted novel set in a country that is in the process of being destroyed. The unforgettable, heart-breaking story of the unlikely friendship between a wealthy boy and the son of his father's servant.
	The Summer We Turned Green	Willian Sutcliffe	A fresh, funny, heartfelt look at this generation's must-win battle: one earth, one chance. It's the summer holidays, and thirteen-year-old Luke's life has been turned upside down.
	Between the World and Me	Ta-Nehisi Coates	This winner of the 2015 national book award for nonfiction is written as a letter to Coates' teen son, and

			explores the sometimes-bleak reality of what it's like to be black in the United States. A must-read for teens.
	The Joy Luck Club	Amy Tan	Four Chinese American immigrant families in San Francisco start a mah-jong group known as the joy luck club. Structured somewhat like a mah-jong game, each part of the story focuses on the three mothers and four daughters of the club.
	The Sun Is Also A Star	Nicola Yoon	Daniel is a Korean boy who wants more than the life-plan his parents set out for him. Natasha is a Jamaican girl who fears her family will be deported. Over the course of a single day in New York city, the two randomly meet and fall in love.
	Ghost World	Daniel Clowes	One of the most important (and pleasurable) things to read about as a teenager is the complexity and specificity of friendship. You and your friends aren't like anyone else? Great, you shouldn't have to be. Enid and Rebecca are strange, interesting girls, not always feminine, and their friendship is a bittersweet lesson in how some things might go sometimes.
	Magic for Beginners	Kelly Link	Teenagers don't need staid stories. They need stories that are going to transport them, jump-start them, and make them love reading (despite all the screens that dominate their lives). Kelly link's stories, which are filled with myth and horror and magic and exceptional writing, are highly likely to do just that.

	Before You Suffocate Your Own Fool Self	Danielle Evans	I could say that this is a short story collection largely about growing up, race, class, and gender — and it is. But that doesn't really get at Evans' heart-popping language, or the eloquence with which she describes the terrifying waters that her often-young, often-black, often-female characters must thrash around in. A must read.
	Brighton Rock	Graham Greene	A gang war is raging through the dark underworld of Brighton. Seventeen-year-old Pinkie, malign and ruthless, has killed a man. Believing he can escape retribution, he is unprepared for the courageous, life-embracing Ida Arnold.
	Life of Pi	Yann Martel	On the surface Life of Pi is a funny little book, heart-warming and audacious, but dig a little deeper and you'll see how complex the story actually is.
	The Da Vinci Code (The Young Adult Adaptation)	Dan Brown	This book had so complex a story structure that my mind only wandered between the arcaneness of the pages. It haunts your thoughts to the core of your being and I'm loving this state of mind. And the plot twists?!!
	The Body	Stephen King	It's not King's trademark horror; it is actually free of the constraints of any so-called 'genre'. It is a coming-of-age character-study novella set in 1960 Maine where monsters are not hiding behind bushes but instead live in the hearts of people - the setting and themes at which King excels.

	Hate List	Jennifer Brown	Wow, this book was smart. It really delved into the aftermath of trauma from so many angles, ones that make you mad as a reader, and ones that make you hopeful. The writing itself changed and matured throughout the book, which was a bit jarring, but the subject matter is important and handled well in my opinion.
	Jane Eyre	Charlotte Bronte	Mrs Harris says persevere past the first 3 chapters so you can get to the juicy bit!
	Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit	Jenette Winterson	This is the story of Jeanette, adopted and brought up by her mother as one of god's elect. Zealous and passionate, she seems destined for life as a missionary, but then she falls for one of her converts.
	Clap When You Land	Elizabeth Acevedo	National book award-winning and New York times bestselling author Elizabeth Azevedo writes about the devastation of loss, the difficulty of forgiveness, and the bittersweet bonds that shape our lives.
	Feminists Don't Wear Pink and Other Lies	Scarlett Curtis	Every woman has a different story to tell. Reading them all in one book might just change your life.
	And the Stars Were Burning Brightly	Danielle Jawando	Mapping 15-year-old Nathan's quest for answers in the aftermath of his brother's suicide, <i>All the Stars were Burning Brightly</i> is a powerful and arresting debut about loss and courage to speak out.