

**St Aidan's Church of England High School Library**  
**Recommended reads for Year 12 & 13**

|   |                     |  |
|---|---------------------|--|
| The Alchemist                                     | Paolo Coelho        | Believe in your dreams   |
| A Clockwork Orange                                | Anthony Burgess     | Cult novel   |
| All the Light we Cannot See                       | Anthony Doerr       | Moving Second World War story                                    |
| Americanah  | C Adichie           | A love story   |
| Beck  | M Rosoff and M Peet | Harrowing  |
| The Cuckoo Calling                                | R Galbraith         | Detective fiction by JK Rowling                                  |
| A Passage to India                                | E M Forster         | Colonial India brought to life                                   |
| All Quiet on the Western Front                    | E M Remarque        | Moving, poignant WW2 novel                                       |
| Angel's Game                                      | C R Zafon           | Supernatural action thriller                                     |
| Atonement   | Ian McEwan          | Family conflict and deceit                                       |
| Birdsong  | S Faulks            | First World War fiction  |
| Bonfire of the Vanities                           | Tom Wolfe           | Satire on the money-feverish 1980s                               |
| Brave New World                                   | Aldous Huxley       | Thought provoking dystopia                                       |
| Brick Lane  | Monica Ali          | A young Asian immigrant in Tower Hamlets                         |
| The Buddha of Suburbia                            | Hanif Kureishi      | Don't read it if you're easily offended                          |
| Burnt Shadows                                     | K Shamsie           | An epic book spanning generations and countries                  |
| Crow Road   | Iain Banks          | 'It was the day my grandmother exploded'                         |
| Cutting for Stone                                 | Abraham Verghese    | Forbidden love, family secrets and a country in turmoil          |
| Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine               | Gail Honeyman       | Sad but uplifting story  |
| The End of the World Running Club                 | Adrian J Walker     | A race against time thriller                                     |
| Enigma  | Robert Harris       | WWII mystery novel   |
| The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo                   | Stieg Larsson       | Popular crime/mystery series                                     |
| The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society | Mary Ann Shaffer    | Poignant, German Occupation                                      |
| The Hand That First held Mine                     | Maggie O'Farrell    | Two women, two linked stories                                    |
| The Handmaid's Tale                               | Margaret Atwood     | The Republic of Gilead offers Offred only one function, to breed |
| The Help  | Katherine Stockett  | 1962 USA black maids/ white children                             |
| High Fidelity                                     | Nick Hornby         | Humour, romance, music   |
| The History of Love                               | N Krauss            | Moving storyline, memorable <b>PTO</b>                           |

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|--------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| How to Stop Time               | Matt Haig          | Time travel romance                        |
| The Lacuna                     | Barbara Kingsolver | 1940s/50 USA and Mexico                    |
| The Life of Pi                 | Yann Martell       | Read the book before seeing the film       |
| Little Stranger                | Sarah Waters       | Chilling                                   |
| The Long Song                  | Andrea Levy        | Slave trade in Jamaica                     |
| The Lovely Bones               | Alice Sebold       | Thought provoking, tear jerker             |
| The Muse                       | Jessie Burton      | England 1967, Spain 1936, romance, art     |
| Never Let Me Go                | Kazuo Ishiguro     | Love, friendship and the fragility of life |
| The Night Circus               | Erin Morgenstern   | A fairy tale                               |
| On the Road                    | Jack Kerouac       | USA travels of Sal Paradise                |
| Oranges are not the only fruit | Jeanette Winterson | Semi-autobiographical                      |
| The Outcast                    | Sadie Jones        | A riveting story                           |
| The Power                      | Naomi Alderman     | Feminist Science Fiction                   |
| Ready Player One               | Ernest Cline       | The year 2044, an ugly place               |
| Regeneration                   | Pat Barker         | Agony of the First World War               |
| The Return                     | Victoria Hislop    | Set during the Spanish Civil War           |
| Room                           | Emma Donoghue      | Prisoners in their own home                |
| Sacred Hearts                  | Sarah Dunant       | Historical fantasy                         |
| The Secret History             | Donna Tartt        | Shocking story of a group of students      |
| The Secret Life of Bees        | Sue Monk Kidd      | Racism in the deep South                   |
| Silver Linings Play Book       | Matthew Quick      | Love, life and US football                 |
| Sister                         | Rosamund Lupton    | Psychological thriller                     |
| Small Island                   | Andrea Levy        | Prejudice in post-war Britain              |
| Swing Time                     | Zadie Smith        | Race, friendship, dance                    |
| Trainspotting                  | Irvine Welsh       | Thrilling, frightening and funny           |
| The Underground Railroad       | Colson Whitehead   | Gripping adventures of a young slave       |
| Vernon God Little              | DBC Pierre         | Angry, sharp, smart and witty              |
| The Wasp Factory               | Iain Banks         | Macabre horror story                       |
| Waterland                      | Graham Swift       | Life and history in the Fens               |
| White Tiger                    | Aravind Adiga      | Set in India, thought provoking            |
| Wolf Hall                      | Hilary Mantel      | Historical novel                           |

This is just a selection of books available in the Library – don't forget the classics, travel fiction etc!  
**Please** ask Mrs Roth if you need any help finding a good book to read. 2019

