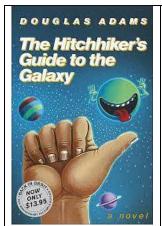
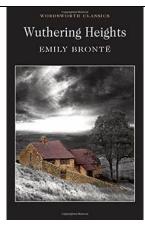


# Year 8 'Must Reads'



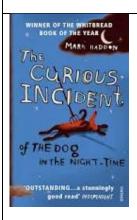
Science Fiction/Humour

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by **Douglas Adams** Seconds before the Earth is demolished to make way for a galactic freeway, Arthur Dent is plucked off the planet by his friend Ford Prefect, a researcher for the revised edition of The Hitch Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy. Hilarious and irreverent, this is a modern classic.



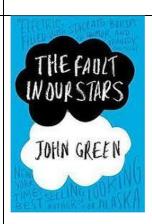
Classic

Wuthering Heights by **Emily Bronte** A wild, passionate story of the intense love between Catherine Earnshaw and Heathcliff, a foundling adopted by Catherine's father. After Mr Earnshaw's death. Heathcliff is bullied and humiliated by Catherine's brother Hindley. He proceeds to exact a terrible revenge for his former miseries.



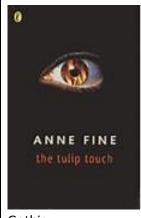
Diverse

The Curious Incident of The Dog in the Night-time by Mark Haddon A murder mystery like no other, Christopher Boone is 15 and has Asperger's Syndrome. His investigation leads him to uncover a variety of family secrets and turns his world upside down.



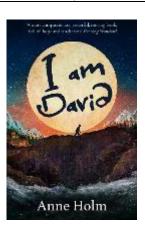
Relationships

The Fault In Our Stars by John Green Filled with dark humour, this raw and heartbreaking book addresses the big themes of love and the transience of life.



Gothic

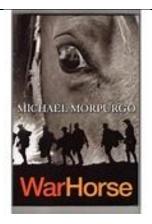
The Tulip Touch by
Anne Fine
Nobody wants Tulip in
their gang. She skives
off school and makes
herself unpopular with
her classmates by
telling awful lies. None
of this matters to
Natalie who finds Tulip
exciting. However,
increasingly Natalie
realises that Tulip is
going too far, much too
far...



Historical

I am David by Anne
Holm
David escapes from the
concentration camp
where he has spent his
entire life and flees
across Europe. He is
utterly alone – who can
he trust? What will
await him? And all the
while, how can he be
sure that they won't

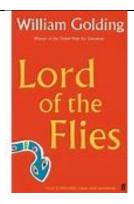
catch up with him...



### War Horse by Michael Morpurgo

In the chaos of the First World War, one horse witnesses the reality of battle from both sides of the trenches.

Bombarded by artillery, with bullets knocking riders from his back, Joey tells a powerful story of the truest friendships surviving in terrible times.



Classic

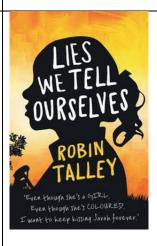
Lord of the Flies by
William Golding
A group of British boys
are stranded on
an uninhabited island.
They attempt to govern
themselves, with
disastrous results.

Historical



Illustrated/Fairy tale

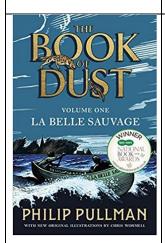
The Sleeper and the Spindle by Neil Gaiman This is a gripping fusion of familiar fairy tales told in a dark-hearted version, with spell-binding illustrations by Chris Riddell.



Racism/Relationships

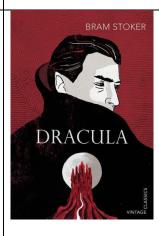
The Lies We Tell Ourselves by Robin Talley Sarah Dunbar is one of

Sarah Dunbar is one of the first black students to attend Jefferson High School in Virginia. Popular Linda Hairston parrots her father's beliefs that integration goes against the natural order. When the two girls are thrown together, they delight in one another's company in spite of their differences.



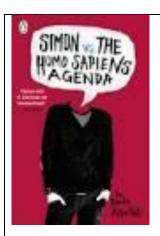
**Fantasy** 

The Book Of Dust by Philip Pullman Set 12 years before Northern Lights, La Belle Sauvage describes how the 11vear-old Malcolm Polstead and the 15year-old Alice protect the infant Lyra. It introduces Dust as a mysterious subatomic particle, related to consciousness, and the origins of Lyra's alethiometer.



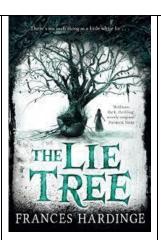
Gothic

Dracula by Bram Stoker He is deathly pale. His fingernails are cut to points and his teeth are menacingly sharp. Yet even Count Dracula's appearance and the frightened locals are not enough to warn Jonathan Harker about his host. This is a land where babies are snatched and wolves howl menacingly, where reality is far more frightening than superstition.



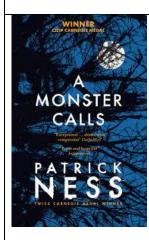
Relationships

Simon vs. The Homo Sapiens Agenda by Becky Albertalli Simon Spier is 16 and trying to work out who he is – and what he's looking for. But when one of his emails to the very distracting Blue falls into the wrong hands, things get all kinds of complicated.



Mystery

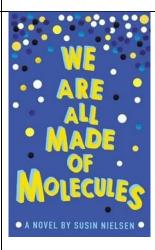
The Lie Tree by Francis Hardinge When Faith's father is found dead under mysterious circumstances, she is determined to untangle the truth from the lies. Searching through his belongings for clues, she discovers a strange tree. A tree that feeds of whispered lies and bears fruit that reveals hidden secrets.



Fantasy/Grief

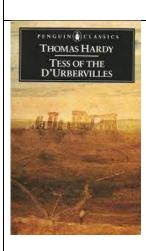
A Monster Calls by
Patrick Ness
Conor has the same
dream every night,
ever since his mother
first fell ill. But tonight
is different. Tonight
when he wakes, there's
a visitor at his window.
It's ancient, elemental,
a force of nature. And
it wants the most
dangerous thing of all
from Conor. It wants

the truth.



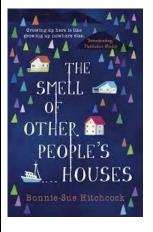
Relationships

We Are All Made Of Molecules by Susin Nielsen Intellectually highfunctioning, socially floundering Stewart; socially superior, insecure Ashley: their distinctive and compelling voices alternate as they negotiate painful, difficult relationships as two families forge themselves a new shape.



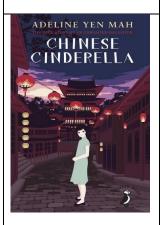
Classic

Tess Of The D'Urbervilles by Thomas Hardy Tess Durbeyfield is driven by poverty into the service of her wealthy 'relations'. Her lowly position leads her to become a victim of her cousin Alec. When she marries Angel Clare, she confesses her past with tragic consequences.



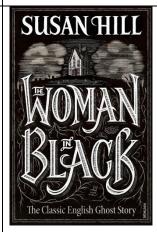
Mystery

The Smell Of Other People's Houses by Bonnie-Sue Hitchcock. Alaska, 1970. Being a teenager here isn't like being a teenager anywhere else. Ruth wants to be remembered. Dora wishes she was invisible. Alyce can't bring herself to leave. Hank is running away. A thrilling novel, intertwining tragedy, wild luck and salvation.



Biography

Chinese Cinderella by
Adeline Yen Mah
The unforgettable story
of a young Chinese
girl's struggle to find
acceptance within her
own family and her
survival amongst
parents and siblings
who think she
represents bad luck.
Based on a true story.



Thriller

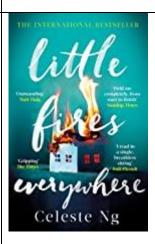
The Woman In Black by Susan Hill
Arthur Kipps, a young lawyer, travels to a remote village to put the affairs of a recently deceased client in order. Masterfully atmospheric and chilling to the core, this is a pitch-perfect horror story.



Mystery

Seven Ghosts by Chris Priestley

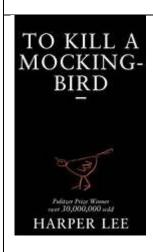
A tour guide stirs up old ghosts in a stately home, and as Jake hears tales of the children who haunt these walls, he realises that something is very, very wrong.



Contemporary

Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng

The arrival of enigmatic artist Mia Warren and her teenaged daughter Pearl in Shaker Heights, Ohio, upends the Richardson family, who lead a seemingly idyllic life. When friends attempt to adopt a Chinese-American baby, a custody battle erupts, dividing the town - and putting Mia and Elena Richardson on opposing sides.



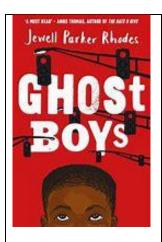
Classic

To Kill A Mockingbird by Harper Lee Set in the American Deep South in the 1930s, this classic novel explores the story of a black man charged with attacking a white woman. It addresses the terrible impact of racism in America through a young girl's point of view.



Poetry

Everything All At Once by Steven Camden A poignant, funny, true-to-life, and punchpacking collection of poems about one week in a secondary school 'where everything happens all at once'.



Contemporary

Ghost Boys by Jewell
Parker Rhodes
Jerome doesn't get into
trouble. He goes to
school. He does his
homework. Then
Jerome is shot by a
police officer who
mistakes his toy gun for
a real threat.
As a ghost, Jerome
begins to notice other
ghost boys. Each boy

has a story and they all

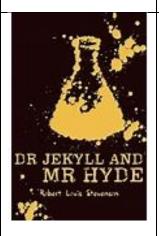
have something in

common...

I AM THE MINOTAUR ANTHONY McGOWAY CARNEGE MEDIAL WINNING AUTHOR

Relationships

I Am The Minotaur by Anthony McGowan Fourteen-year-old Matthew struggles to look after his mum, himself, and to make friends. Everything is much easier if no one notices him, so he stays under the radar and watches life from the side-lines. Until one day he sees his chance to make a good impression for once.



Classic

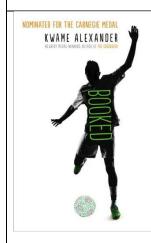
The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson In seeking to discover his inner self, the brilliant Dr Jekyll discovers a monster. First published to critical acclaim in 1886, this mesmerising thriller is a terrifying study of the duality of human nature.



Action/Racism & Prejudice

## Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman Sephy is a Cross: she lives a life of privilege and power. Callum is a

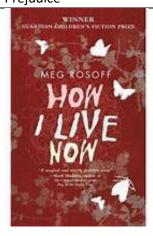
lives a life of privilege and power. Callum is a nought: he's considered to be less than nothing: a blanker. Noughts and Crosses are fated to be bitter enemies. Then - in spite of a world that is fiercely against them - these star-crossed lovers choose each other.



Sport

#### Booked by Kwame Alexander

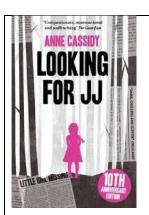
'Like lightning/you strike/fast and free/legs zoom/down field/eyes fixed/on the checkered ball/on the goal.' 12-year-old Nick is football-mad who hates books. This energetic novel-inverse captures all the thrills and setbacks, the action and emotion of a World Cup match.



Historical

#### How I Live Now by Meg Rosoff

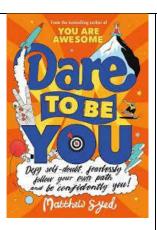
Daisy is sent from New York to England to spend a summer with cousins she has never met. She never met anyone quite like them before. But their lives are about to explode. War breaks out - a war none of them understands, or really cares about, until it lands on their doorstep.



Mystery

## Looking for JJ by Anne Cassidy

Alice Tully knows exactly what happened that spring day six years ago, though it's still hard for her to believe it's real. She's making a go of things, putting all that behind her. But Alice's past is dangerous and it's about to rip her new life apart.



Non-Fiction: Positive Thinking

## Dare To Be You by Matthew Syed With a mix of hilarious text, stylish illustration, personal insights and inspiring real-life examples, including Greta Thunberg and Malala Yousafzai, Matthew Syed introduces children to the power of diverse thinking, celebrate what makes them different and question the world around

them.