

# AGS



## Recommended Reading

September - October | 2025 | KS3

Welcome to our half termly reading newsletter. Each term, we will recommend books from a range of genres and styles.

Don't forget to check out our reading lists aimed at specific year groups. All are available on our website.

*The English Department*

### The Sky Over Rebecca

This book is included within our Read Around the World scheme and is worth 15 PRIDE points.



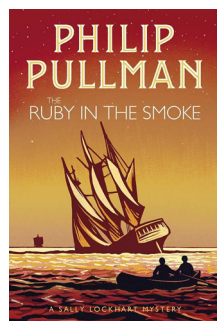
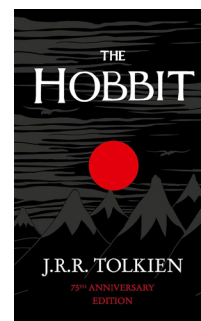
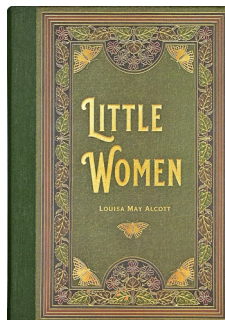
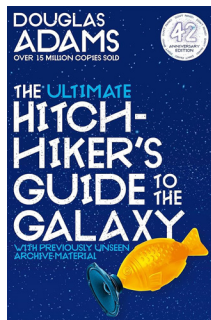
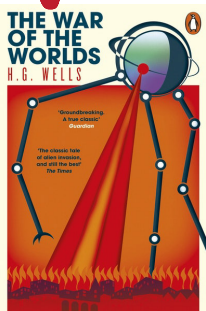
Adventure | Friendship | Family | War

When mysterious footprints appear in the Stockholm snow, ten-year-old Kara must discover where they've come from - and who they belong to. The trail of footprints leads Kara to Rebecca, a thirteen-year-old Jewish girl, and her younger brother Samuel. Kara realises they are refugees - from another time, World War Two - and are trying to find their way home.

The grief and loneliness that Rebecca and Samuel have endured is something Kara can relate to - feeling like you're always on the outside looking in - and she finds herself compelled to help them escape. Through her eyes, we rediscover the magic that lies in the world around us, if only we have the courage to look for it.

Kara is a heroine for modern times: fragile but fierce, in this utterly compelling story from Matthew Fox.

### What about a classic?



A selection of books taken from the Classic 50 Reads as promoted by the Guardian. Each of these books are worth a silver reading award and worth 10 PRIDE points.

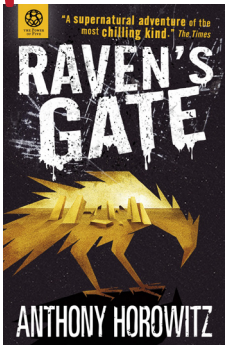
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## Recommended Reading

### Texts read in English lessons

#### Raven's Gate



Year 7 Thriller | Adventure

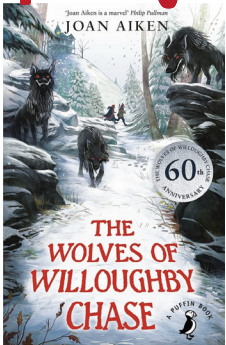
The first episode in The Power of Five series by the author of the bestselling Alex Rider series, Anthony Horowitz.

Matt has always known he has unusual powers. Raised in foster care, he is sent to Yorkshire on a rehabilitation programme, only to find himself in the midst of sinister goings-on.

Matt investigates and uncovers a terrible secret - eight guardians are protecting the world from the Old Ones, beings banished long ago by five children.

But devil worshippers want to let the Old Ones back in...

#### The Wolves of Willoughby Chase



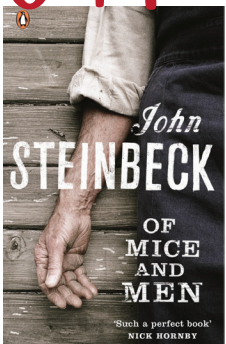
Adventure | Drama | Fantasy

Wicked wolves and a grim governess threaten Bonnie and her cousin Sylvia when Bonnie's parents leave Willoughby Chase for a sea voyage.

Left in the care of the cruel Miss Slighcarp, the girls can hardly believe what is happening to their once happy home. The servants are dismissed, the furniture is sold, and Bonnie and Sylvia are sent to a prison-like orphan school. It seems as if the endless hours of drudgery will never cease.

With the help of Simon the gooseboy and his flock, they escape. But how will they ever get Willoughby Chase free from the clutches of the evil Miss Slighcarp?

#### Of Mice and Men



Realism | Tragedy

They are an unlikely pair: George is "small and quick and dark of face"; Lennie, a man of tremendous size, has the mind of a young child.

Yet they have formed a "family," clinging together in the face of loneliness and alienation.

Laborers in California's dusty vegetable fields, they hustle work when they can, living a hand-to-mouth existence. But George and Lennie have a plan: to own an acre of land and a shack they can call their own.





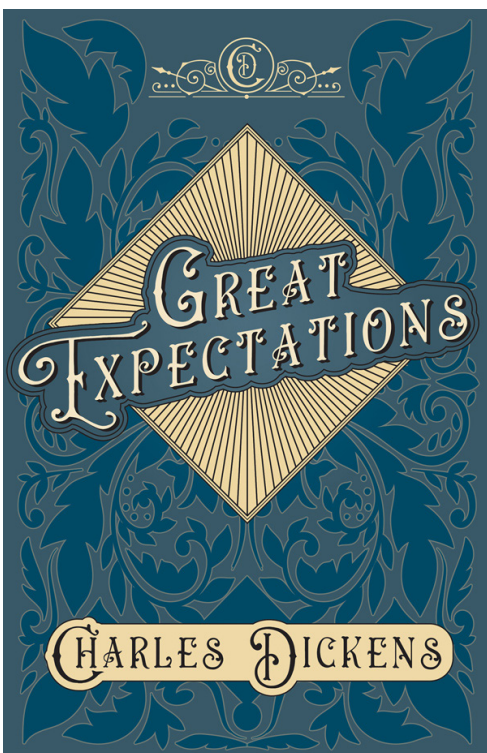
# A student who reads is a student who succeeds.

We love hearing about books you have read so let us know what book you think everyone should read!

All of our summaries are taken from Goodreads' website: [www.goodreads.com](http://www.goodreads.com)

## Book of the month

Each month, staff and students recommend a book to read. This month's recommended read is by Martha Douglas (Year 8)



Great Expectations charts the progress of Pip from childhood through often painful experiences to adulthood, as he moves from the Kent marshes to busy, commercial London, encountering a variety of extraordinary characters ranging from Magwitch, the escaped convict, to Miss Havisham, locked up with her unhappy past and living with her ward, the arrogant, beautiful Estella.

Pip must discover his true self, and his own set of values and priorities. Whether such values allow one to prosper in the complex world of early Victorian England is the major question posed by Great Expectations, one of Dickens's most fascinating, and disturbing, novels.

(This book is part of our Read around the World scheme and available in the LRC)