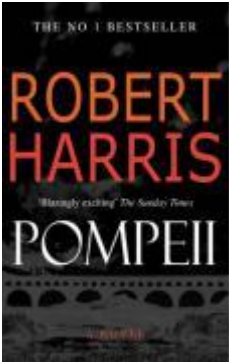
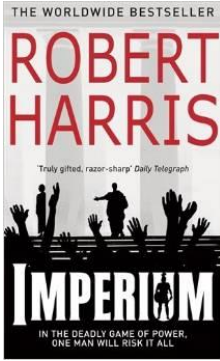
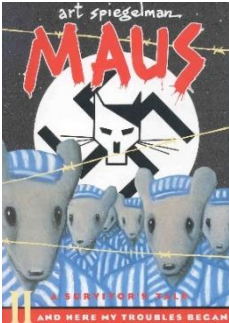
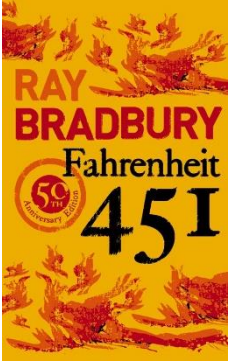

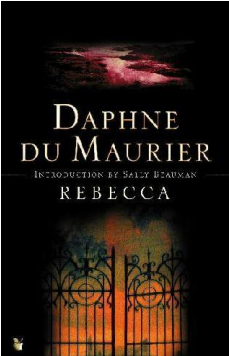
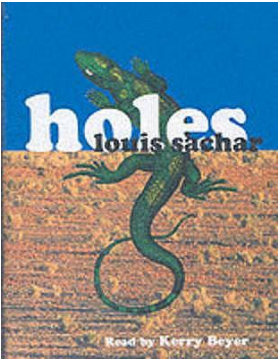
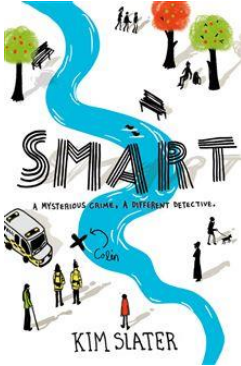



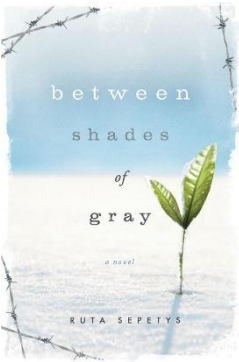
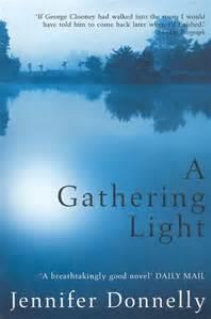
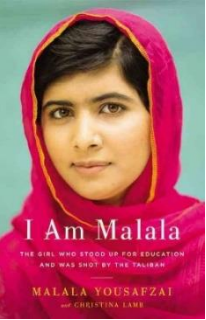
3rd form Christmas reading suggestions - What will your tutor group read?

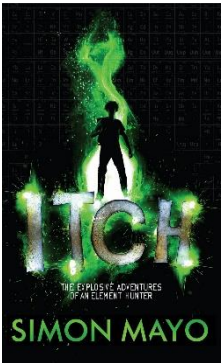
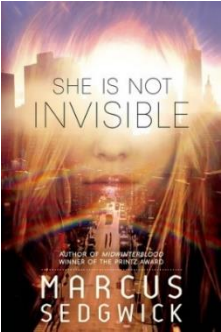
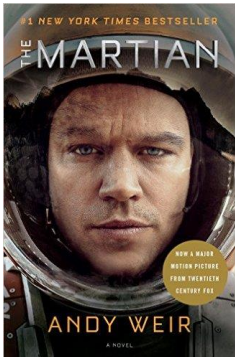
	Book title	Copies	Further information
	Pompeii – Robert Harris	1 print also available as an e- book	This thriller vividly recreates a historical time as it is set in an opulent Roman town on the verge of destruction by the eruption of Vesuvius. Harris takes well-known historical facts and weaves his breakneck-paced plot around them. The Aquarius (aqueduct engineer) mysteriously disappears and Marcus Attilius is appointed. The key aqueduct stops flowing and the new Aquarius must resolve this problem before all the towns in the Bay of Naples run dry. Wonderfully evocative of life in ancient Italy with fictional characters interspersed with real historical figures such as Pliny the Elder.
	Imperium – Robert Harris	2 print, also available as an e- book	<i>Imperium is a great book exploring the lust for power in Ancient Rome. It follows Marcus Cicero, a lawyer, who creates a very dramatic courtroom battle that could win him control of Rome. This book is very gripping and tells an account that is both accurate and informative. Harris has cleverly written in a modern manner for such an ancient subject and used some of the oratory techniques that create a book that keeps its suspense throughout. This book keeps you on your toes, as it introduces many different people that all add texture to the story. Definitely a good book!</i> (Tom Y10) A great book for boosting your background knowledge for Classics.
	Maus: A Survivor's Tale – Art Spiegelman	2	<i>Maus</i> is a graphic novel by American cartoonist Art Spiegelman. It was serialized from 1980 to 1991. It depicts Spiegelman interviewing his father about his experiences as a Polish Jew and Holocaust survivor. The book represents Jews as mice and other Germans and Poles as cats and pigs. Critics have classified <i>Maus</i> as memoir, biography, history, fiction, autobiography, or a mix of genres. In 1992 it became the first graphic novel to win a Pulitzer Prize. (Wikipedia) A ground-breaking book and a remarkable read – try a historical novel with a difference.

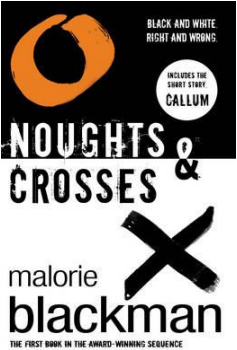
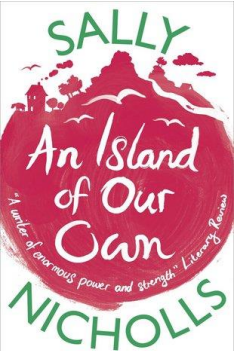
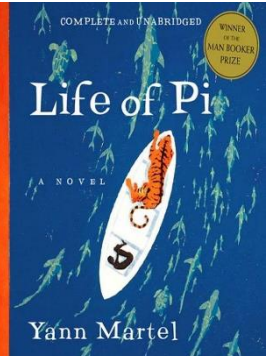
	<p>Buffalo Solder – Tanya Landman</p>	<p>12 print copies, also available as an e-book</p>	<p>Buffalo Soldier won the Carnegie Book Award 2015. The Judges comment <i>"We were particularly impressed with how Buffalo Soldier explored what it means to be truly free: the evolving idea of freedom is an essential part of this gripping, often traumatic book"</i></p> <p>What does freedom really mean? Tanya Landman pushes back against all kinds of prejudice in this action-packed, emotionally rich and vividly told story about one girl's struggle to find out. When Charley is freed from slavery at the end of the Civil War between the Yankees and the Confederates she imagines a new world of unlimited opportunities. Instead, she finds a life that is more dangerous than ever before. Her only way to survive is to disguise herself as a boy and join the army. But the army, like everywhere else, is riddled with prejudice and danger. It is only when Charley is sent to fight against the Apache Indians, another much discriminated against group, that she begins to learn what it could mean to be free. (Loverreading4kids.co.uk)</p>
	<p>The Outsiders – by S.E. Hinton</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>S. E. Hinton wrote her first book, The Outsiders, when she was just 17 years old. Disturbed by the clashes between two gangs, the Greasers and the Socs, in her high school in Tulsa, Oklahoma, she wrote The Outsiders from the point of view of a 14 year-old boy called Ponyboy Curtis. It was published in 1967 and became an immediate success. It was made into a film in 1983, directed by Francis Ford Coppola.</p> <p>We gave this to all new 3rd formers in 2014 and the feedback from both boys and girls was very positive. It was also enjoyed by other year groups including 6th formers and a number of parents.</p>
	<p>The Chocolate War – Robert Cormier</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>This is not an easy book, although it is very readable and gripping. It is also thought-provoking and examines moral issues in an intense way. It is brilliantly written and challenges readers to engage with it and make difficult decisions alongside the characters. Jerry Renault, a new boy at Trinity High School confronts not only the school secret society, The Vigils, but the headmaster in his attempts to stick to his principles. Enormous emotional and physical pressure is put on him and his friend and there is huge tension in the book as it builds towards an inevitable shocking tragedy.</p> <p>(Reminiscent of William Golding's Lord of the Flies)</p>

	<p>Fahrenheit 451 – Ray Bradbury</p>	<p>1 print copy and a graphic novel version</p>	<p>This is a short, classic novel written in 1953 by Ray Bradbury, an acclaimed science fiction and fantasy writer. It is a dystopian novel set in a sinister future American where books are illegal and ‘firemen’ start fires with any books they discover. The population are subdued with mind-numbing television shows and lose the ability to think as individuals.</p> <p>This is a small book full of big ideas and thought-provoking themes. It explores censorship and freedom of speech and expression. Look out for his prediction of developments in technology – many of his ideas from the 1950s we take for granted and use in daily life now. You could try the graphic novel for a more visual experience.</p> <p>This book is sure to ignite some heated discussions!</p>
	<p>I Capture the Castle – Dodie Smith</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>This book has wonderful opening lines: <i>I write this sitting in the kitchen sink. That is, my feet are in it; the rest of me is on the draining-board, which I have padded with our dog's blanket and the tea-cosy.</i> <i>This is the diary of Cassandra Mortmain, which tells of her extraordinary family and their crumbling castle home. Cassandra's father was once a famous writer, but now he mainly reads detective novels while his family slide into genteel poverty. Her sister Rose is bored and beautiful, and desperate to marry riches. Their step-mother Topaz has habit of striding through the countryside wearing only her wellington boots. But all their lives will be soon be transformed by the arrival of new neighbours from America - and Cassandra finds herself falling in love..</i></p>
	<p>Rebecca – Daphne du Maurier</p>	<p>2</p>	<p><i>Working as a lady's companion, the orphaned heroine of Rebecca learns her place. Life begins to look very bleak until, on a trip to the South of France, she meets Maxim de Winter, a handsome widower whose sudden proposal of marriage takes her by surprise. Whisked from glamorous Monte Carlo to his brooding estate, Manderley, on the Cornish Coast, the new Mrs de Winter finds Max a changed man. And the memory of his dead wife Rebecca is forever kept alive by the forbidding Mrs Danvers . . .</i></p> <p><i>Not since Jane Eyre has a heroine faced such difficulty with the Other Woman. An international bestseller that has never gone out of print, Rebecca is the haunting story of a young girl consumed by love and the struggle to find her identity.</i></p>

	<p>Holes – Louis Sachar</p>	<p>1 print also e-book</p>	<p>If you haven't read Holes yet you've missed a treat. This book is a great read for all ages and many adults have read and loved it too. It is a cleverly plotted story which is hard to put down. (watch the excellent film AFTER you've read the book!)</p> <p><i>Stanley Yelnats' family has a history of bad luck going back generations, so he is not too surprised when a miscarriage of justice sends him to Camp Green Lake Juvenile Detention Centre. Nor is he very surprised when he is told that his daily labour at the camp is to dig a hole, five foot wide by five foot deep, and report anything that he finds in that hole. The warden claims that it is character building, but this is a lie and Stanley must dig up the truth.</i></p>
	<p>Smart – Kim Slater</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>If you liked <i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time</i> by Mark Haddon then this is the book for you.</p> <p>Shortlisted for the Waterstone's Children's Book Prize Best Fiction for Teens Award 2015</p> <p><i>Kieran watches the world carefully. He's good at noticing things that others don't which makes him an excellent detective. Born with learning difficulties and living with a violent stepfather, Kieran has a lot to contend with but his inner resilience gives him great strength as he sets out to solve some of the many mysteries that are intertwined around his life. (loveReading4kids)</i></p>
	<p>One – Sarah Crossan</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Recently published and beautifully written in free verse - this novel follows the story of conjoined teenage twins Tippi and Grace as they embark on school life for the first time. It movingly recounts their difficulties and closeness and draws you into their lives - making it hard to put down and impossible to forget.</p>

	<p>Between Shades of Gray – Ruta Sepetys</p>	<p>6</p>	<p><i>Lina lives a comfortable, happy life in a middle class family in the 1940's. She lives in Lithuania with her caring mother and father and her younger brother. However one night, her whole world falls apart when her home is invaded by NKVD officers under Stalin's orders. At only 15 she, her mother and her brother are forced to fight for survival in the harsh conditions of Siberia.</i></p> <p><i>This book stirs many powerful emotions within the reader, as it is based on a true story. It evokes disgust at the way the refugees were treated and realization at the horrors people had to face. However, despite the appalling conditions these innocent people had to face, there is a theme of hope throughout, which is what the refugees cling on to in order to keep going and stay alive another day. I thoroughly enjoyed this book because, although the reality of it is shocking, its meaning is so deep and moving, it is impossible to put the book down. (review by a former Y10)</i></p> <p>This has proved a hugely popular book over the last couple of years and tells one of the lesser known human stories of World War II.</p>
	<p>Gathering Light – Jennifer Donnelly</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>This novel won the Carnegie Book Award in 2003.</p> <p><i>This is a moving and unforgettable story of life in the Adirondack Mountains, in upstate New York at the turn of the 20th Century. The central character, Mattie, struggles to choose between family duty and her burning desire for education and a better life. Her story is cleverly interwoven with a murder mystery which unfolds after the mysterious death of a woman guest at the hotel where Mattie works. This captivating novel is beautifully structured and perfectly captures the mood of time and place with many varied and vivid characters. (Carnegie Book Award website)</i></p>
	<p>I am Malala – Malala Yousafzai and journalist Christina Lamb</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>I Am Malala, Malala Yousafzai's fearless memoir, co-written with journalist Christina Lamb, begins on Malala's drive home from school on the day she was shot in the head. "Who is Malala?" the young gunman who stopped the Khushal school van asked. None of the girls answered. But everyone in the valley knew who Malala was. Ten years old when the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan came to the beautiful Swat Valley, once the home of ancient Buddhist kings, 11 years old by the time she had established herself as an international advocate for girls' education in Pakistan, Malala was targeted by the Taliban for "spreading secularism". (Guardian Review)</p>

	<p>Itch – Simon Mayo</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>This Young Adult novel follows the adventures of 14 year old Itchingham Lofte, a fanatical element hunter as he takes on sinister global corporations and carries out all kinds of eyebrow singeing experiments! The story brings chemistry to life – explaining explosions and how items in daily life relate to the periodic table without detracting from a tense and thrilling plot. Itch shares his escapades with his younger sister Chloe and his cousin Jaqueline (Jack). Chloe is the sensible one and Jack is clever and fearless. The dynamics between the trio make for a humorous and sympathetic set up. Simon Mayo (most well known as a radio DJ) has succeeded in creating a convincing teen thriller and if you enjoy this debut novel you can move on to the two further adventures of Itch – <i>Itch Rocks</i> and <i>Itch Craft</i>.</p>
	<p>She is not Invisible – Marcus Sedgwick</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>A beautifully written mystery which is intriguing from the outset.</p> <p><i>Laureth Peak's father is a writer. For years he's been trying, and failing, to write a novel about coincidence. His wife thinks he's obsessed, Laureth thinks he's on the verge of a breakdown. He's supposed to be doing research in Austria, so when his notebook turns up in New York, Laureth knows something is wrong. On impulse she steals her mother's credit card and heads for the States, taking her strange little brother Benjamin with her. Reunited with the notebook, they begin to follow clues inside, trying to find their wayward father. Ahead lie challenges and threats, all of which are that much tougher for Laureth than they would be for any other 16 year old...</i></p>
	<p>The Martian – Andy Weir</p>	<p>3</p>	<p><i>The Martian</i> is a science fiction novel and the film adaptation was released in October 2015. The story follows American astronaut, Mark Watney, as he is stranded alone on Mars. The year is 2035 and it takes all his ingenuity, tenacity and skills as a botanist and engineer to survive.</p> <p>This book has enthused many students who wouldn't class themselves as 'readers' and introduces a lot of science in a gripping way.</p>

	<p>Noughts and Crosses – Malorie Blackman</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Sephy is a Cross – a member of the dark-skinned ruling class. Callum is a nought – a ‘colourless’ member of the underclass who were once slaves to the Crosses. The two have been friends since early childhood. But that’s as far as it can go. Until the first steps are taken towards more social equality and a limited number of Noughts are allowed into Cross schools... Against a background of prejudice and distrust, intensely highlighted by violent terrorist activity by Noughts, a romance builds between Sephy and Callum – a romance that is to lead both of them into terrible danger...</p>
	<p>An Island of our own – Sally Nicholls</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>This book is a refreshingly different adventure story about family and friendship. It is funny, touching and full of suspense. The protagonist Holly is a great role model for resilience with a positive outlook on life.</p> <p><i>Siblings Jonathan, Holly and Davy have been struggling to survive since the death of their mother, and are determined to avoid being taken into care. When the family's wealthy but eccentric Great-Aunt Irene has a stroke, they go to visit her. Unable to speak or write, she gives Holly some photographs that might lead them to an inheritance that could solve all their problems. But they're not the only ones after the treasure...</i></p>
	<p>Life of Pi – Yann Martel</p>	<p>2 copies, also available as an e-book</p>	<p>16 year old Pi is the only survivor from the wreck of a cargo ship in the Pacific. He is stranded in a lifeboat with a female orangutan, a hyena, a zebra with a broken leg and a tiger called Richard Parker. It is a fantasy adventure with musings on spirituality, religion, the psyche of tigers, survival and much more. The final section of the story offers new ways of looking at Pi's experiences and provides much to discuss with other readers of the book!</p> <p>This extraordinary novel won the Booker Prize in 2002.</p>



Knife of
Never Letting
Go – Patrick
Ness

The Knife of Never Letting Go: Book 1 in the Chaos Walking Trilogy by Patrick Ness

Imagine you're the only boy in a town of men. And you can hear everything they think. And they can hear everything you think. Imagine you don't fit in with their plans. Todd Hewitt is just one month away from the birthday that will make him a man. But his town has been keeping secrets from him. Secrets that are going to force him to run.

What the Carnegie Award judges said:

'A bleak and unflinching novel with fascinating characters and extraordinary dialogue which creates a fully-realised world that the reader really buys into. The dog Manchee is an inspired creation! Ness conveys a real sense of terror and the ending is devastating. A novel that really stands out.'

This is still on my TBR (to be read) pile but I am assured it is an amazing page turner and you will race through it eager to get on to the next two books in the trilogy.

Lucy Atherton 10/12/2015