



# Sir John Nelthorpe School: Recommended Reads for Transition

## Guidance

- The number in brackets (e.g. **(7.1)**) indicates its difficulty. This scale runs from 0.1 to 15+; however, the two extremes of the scale have not been used for this booklist. Please note that for some titles this information is unavailable.
- Books with **(!)** are recommended for more mature pupils and these books may contain content, themes or language that may not be suitable for some pupils.
- Most pupils should aim to consistently read books that are rated as 5.0 and above; this will offer a good level of challenge for the majority of pupils, although this is of course dependent upon the pupil's starting point. Therefore, this is only offered as a guideline – pupils are encouraged to read books which offer a suitable level of challenge, which may be lower or higher than 5.0. Please contact Mr R. Eskrett ([r.eskrett@nelthorpe.org.uk](mailto:r.eskrett@nelthorpe.org.uk)) if you would like any further guidance on this.

### Action, Adventure and Mystery

<b><i>The Middler</i></b> by Kristy Applebaum. A thriller set in a dark future	<b><i>Beetle Boy</i></b> by MG Leonard. A mystery adventure with a boy and beetle in search of a missing dad. <b>(4.9)</b>
<b><i>Airman</i></b> by Eoin Colfer. A fast-paced action book, perfect for anyone fascinated by adventure/flight. <b>(5.8)</b>	<b><i>The Explorer</i></b> by Katherine Rundell. Stranded in the Amazon jungle, will Fred survive? <b>(4.5)</b>
<b><i>The London Eye Mystery</i></b> by Siobhan Dowd. How can someone disappear from the London Eye?! <b>(4.1)</b>	<b><i>Murder Most Unladylike</i></b> by Robin Stevens. A body disappears from the gym. What happened? Sherlock Holmes inspired detective story set in a 1930s girl School <b>(!)</b> <b>(5.8)</b>
<b><i>High Rise Mystery</i></b> by Sharna Jackson. A tech-savvy detective duo fight crime in London.	<b><i>Beetle Boy</i></b> by MG Leonard. A mystery adventure with a boy and beetle in search of a missing dad. <b>(4.9)</b>
<b><i>Ranger's Apprentice: Ruins of Gorlan</i></b> by J Flanagan. Will must protect the kingdom from evil magic. <b>(5.9)</b>	<b><i>The Whispers</i></b> by Greg Howard. A powerful family drama with creatures who can grant wishes.



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<u>Fantasy, Magic Realism, Ghosts...and Horror!</u>	<u>Relationships &amp; Tough Situations</u>
<b><i>The Girl Who Drank the Moon</i></b> by K Barnhill. A witch & a poetic swamp monster. Award winner. <b>(4.8)</b>	<b><i>The One and Only Ivan</i></b> by K Applegate. Story 'told' by an exploited gorilla. Newbery winner. <b>(3.6)</b>
<b><i>The Accidental Billionaire</i></b> by Tom McLaughlan. Jasper creates the world's first talking cat – and becomes rich. But are talking cats a good idea? <b>(4.4)</b>	<b><i>Cloud Busting</i></b> - by Malorie Blackman. Inspiring and heart-warming. <b>(4.9)</b>
<b><i>My Brother is a Superhero</i></b> - (& sequels) by David Solomon. Life is not fair: Luke loves comics, but it is his geeky older brother who gets superpowers. <b>(5.4)</b>	<b><i>Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech</i></b> . A moving award winner about grief and love. <b>(4.3)</b>
<b><i>The Savage</i></b> by David Almond. What if your writing became reality – and you have created a savage? <b>(4.6)</b>	<b><i>The Many Worlds of Albie Bright</i></b> by C Edge. Can Albie bring his mum back using quantum physics <b>(6.6)</b>
<b><i>Doll Bones</i></b> by Holly Black. Eleanor Black died in 1895 – and now she wants to play. <b>(5.4)</b>	<b><i>The Bubble Boy</i></b> by Stewart Foster. Because of his health, 11 year old Joe is stuck in hospital. And yet...
<b><i>Uncle Montague's Tales of Terror</i></b> by C. Priestley. A collection of intertwined, spine-tingling stories. <b>(6.0)</b>	<b><i>Hello, Universe</i></b> by EE Kelly. A story of unusual friendships from 4 points of view. Award winner.

<u>War &amp; History</u>	<u>Just for Fun!</u>
<b><i>Soldier Dog</i></b> by Sam Angus. Stanley is a dog-handler in WWI. Will his dog save countless lives? <b>(6.6)</b>	<b><i>The Person Controller</i></b> by David Baddiel. Fred and Ellie love video games but struggle at school. Then they get a bizarre controller with hilarious results! <b>(4.7)</b>
<b><i>Letters from the Lighthouse</i></b> by Emma Carroll. 12 yo Olive has been evacuated to a lighthouse during WWII – but her sister is missing. Extraordinary. <b>(4.9)</b>	<b><i>Flora and Ulysses</i></b> by Kate DiCamillo. A squirrel with superpowers, a self-described 'cynic' and comic book-style illustrations. Award winner. <b>(4.3)</b>
<b><i>Race to the Frozen North</i></b> by Catherine Johnson. Based on M. Henson's life, this is a story of a fight against prejudice and cruelty to become a pioneer <b>(4.6)</b>	<b><i>Enginerds</i></b> by Jarret Lerner. Super-smart boys vs farting robots – a funny, action-packed novel
<b><i>Armistice Runner</i></b> by Tom Palmer. Lily's gran has Alzheimer's – but will the WWI diaries of her brave great-great-granddad reconnect them? <b>(4.0)</b>	<b><i>Fenway and Hattie</i></b> by Victoria Cole. Written from the point-of-view of Fenway, the dog. Hysterical!