

Year 7

Heroes - Term 1

In this unit, we consider what qualities make someone truly heroic and we will make speeches about our own hero. It will be helpful for students to read books featuring a range of different types of heroes, including superheroes, classic adventurers, everyday heroes and real-life biographies.

The Girl of Ink and Stars by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

Isabella lives on the uncharted islands of Joya, where the recent governor has outlawed travel to most parts of the islands. When her friend and the governor's daughter goes missing, she embarks on a quest to uncover the islands' secrets.

Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

Twelve-year-old Percy Jackson is on the most dangerous quest of his life. With the help of a satyr and a daughter of Athena, Percy must journey across the United States to catch a thief who has stolen the original weapon of mass destruction — Zeus' master bolt.

Windrush Child by Benjamin Zephaniah

Written from the point of view of Leonard, a boy who leaves Jamaica with his Mum to reunite with his dad who has moved to England on the Windrush boat. They live in Manchester and his father is a bus driver.

Skandar and the Unicorn Thief by A.F. Steadman

Thirteen-year-old Skandar Smith has only ever wanted to be a unicorn rider. To be one of the lucky few selected to hatch a unicorn. To bond with it for life; to train together and race for glory; to be a hero.

The Boy At the Back of the Class by Onjali Q Rauf

When a new boy joins their class, a group of children try to befriend him. They soon learn that Ahmet is a refugee and has been separated from his family. None of the grown-ups seem to be able to help him, so the friends come up with a daring plan, embarking on an extraordinary adventure.

I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai

Malala Yousafzai's extraordinary journey has taken her from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations. She has become a global symbol of peaceful protest and is the youngest ever winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Reaching for the Moon - The autobiography of the NASA scientist Katherine Johnson

The autobiography of Katherine Johnson, who broke boundaries as an African-American girl growing up in an era of brutal racism and sexism.

Victorian Literature - Term 2

This term, we study Victorian literature, including Charles Dickens, William Blake and Charlotte Brontë. Students will benefit from reading books set in the Victorian era as well as increasing their exposure to texts written in the period. Film and audiobook versions of

classic Victorian texts (such as *Oliver Twist* and *Jane Eyre*) will also help increase their confidence.

Books set in the Victorian Period:

The Little Match Girl Strikes Back by Emma Carroll

Bridie works hard to feed her family, selling matches on the streets of Victorian London. After an incident leaves her with only three matches left, the magical strike of each one sees her tumble into visions of a brighter future. Realising she has the power to change her own fortune, Bridie leads the match factory workers out on strike, achieving the remarkable through their unity and courage.

The Ruby in the Smoke by Philip Pullman

After the sudden death of her father, Sally Lockhart is forced to go to live in London with an obnoxious cousin. There, she receives an anonymous letter containing a warning so dire that it makes a man die of fear at her feet. Determined to discover the truth about what happened to her father, Sally is soon plunged into a dangerous and terrifying adventure that takes her to the dark heart of Victorian London.

Enola Holmes Mystery Series by Nancy Springer

When Enola Holmes, sister to the detective Sherlock Holmes, discovers her mother has disappeared, she quickly embarks on a journey to London in search of her. But nothing can prepare her for what awaits.

The Whisperling by Hayley Hoskins

The year is 1897, and Peggy Devona can speak with ghosts. She hides her gift from those afraid of a girl with such powers, terrified of the secrets the dead could reveal through her. But when her best friend is accused of murdering her rich mistress, Peggy knows only she - a whisperling - can save her.

Crime and Punishment - Term 3

Our final unit of Year 7 covers the detective genre as well as looking at the morality of crime and punishment. The detective stories from the Victorian topic above will also be helpful for this term. It will be useful for students to read books which engage with questions about the rights and wrongs of different crimes.

The Good Thieves by Katherine Rundell

Vita arrives in New York to find that her grandfather has been robbed of his family home, Hudson Castle, by mafia-linked scammers. Clever and spirited Vita gathers together a crew of unlikely vagabonds to help her reclaim it, becoming the 'good thieves' who will carry out a Robin Hood style mission leading to a daring heist scene.

Black Powder by Ally Sherrick

An action-packed historical adventure that transports the reader back to England at the time of the Gunpowder Plot. Black Powder tells the story of a boy called Tom, who finds himself at the service of an intriguing stranger called 'The Falcon'. The stranger seems to be the only person who can help Tom to save his father from being hanged, but as Tom journeys

towards London he discovers that the Falcon has his own, somewhat explosive, mission in mind.

Hacker by Majorie Blackman

A cyber-crime thriller from the former Children's Laureate Malorie Blackman. Vicky's father is sent to jail for stealing a large sum of money from the bank and she sets about to prove that he is innocent. Using her brilliant computer skills, Vicky decides to hack into the bank computer files to find evidence of the truth about the real thief.

High Rise Mystery by Sharna Jackson

When their art teacher is mysteriously murdered during the summer holiday, sisters Nik and Norva turn detective to solve the case and find his killer.

Millions by Frank Cottrell Boyce

Millions is the humorous tale of a not-so-great train robbery. Damian and Anthony are brothers who unwittingly find themselves in possession of a large amount of money after being caught up in a train robbery. The pair have big decisions to make, needing to reconcile their wildly different ideas about what to do with the cash.