



HERSCHEL GRAMMAR SCHOOL LIBRARY

ICONIC READS FOR 6TH FORMERS & BEYOND!



Compiled by
Mrs Downs, School Librarian
in collaboration with other Professional Librarians
ALL IN STOCK IN THE LIBRARY



ADAMS, Douglas **Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy** series -
the answer is 42



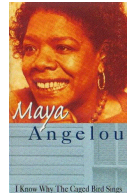
ADIGA, Aravind **White Tiger** - satire depicting the
dark humour of the common man; a tale of two Indias

ALI, Monica **Brick Lane** - Sharply observed novel
about the life of an Asian immigrant

girl

ANGELOU, Maya **I know why the caged bird sings** - Auto-
biographical account of growing up in black America

ATWOOD, Margaret **The Handmaid's Tale** -
Feminist dystopia



AUSTEN, Jane **Pride and Prejudice** - If you only ever
read one classic - this is the one

BALLARD, J.G. **Empire of the Sun** - Very clever. A
child's eye view of wartime oppression

BACH, Richard **Jonathan Livingston Seagull** - follow
your dreams

BANKS, Iain **The Wasp Factory** - A macabre, gothic
horror story

BARKER, Pat **Regeneration** - A love story played out
against the background of the horrors of
World War I

BRITAIN, Vera **Testament of Youth** - Stunning
autobiography of World War I



BROOKNER, Anita **Hotel du Lac** - Beautifully
crafted novel

BURGESS, Anthony **Clockwork Orange** -
Rape, torture & murder. Alarming vision
of high technology and authoritarianism

BYATT, Antonio

Possession - Tale of literary controversy

CAPOTE, Truman

In Cold Blood - amoral killers who are
frighteningly human



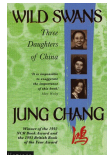
CHANG, Jung

Wild Swans - Moving story of three generations of women in modern China

COLLINS, Wilkie

Woman in White - C19th thriller

CONRAD, Joseph

Heart of Darkness—Marlowe travels down the Amazon and discovers a terrible truth. Inspired the film **Apocalypse Now**.COUPLAND, Douglas **Generation X** -Under-employed, over-educated and unpredictableDEFOE, Daniel **Moll Flanders** - Racy, historical romp

DICKENS, Charles

David Copperfield - 'Of all my books' wrote Dickens, 'I like this the best'

DOSTOYEVSKY, Fyodor

Crime and Punishment -You think your life is bad, read this

DU MAURIER, Daphne

Rebecca - Suspense, doubt and mystery

ECO, Umberto

Name of the Rose - Historical mystery concerning a series of murders in a medieval monastery

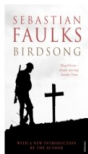
ELIOT, George

Middlemarch - Unsuitable C19th marriage equals disaster

ELLISON, Ralph

The Invisible Man - Black man, invisible to a white society

FARRELL, J.G.

Siege of Krishnapoor - British Empire taleFAULKES, Sebastian **Birdsong** - Trench warfare & first day of the Somme portrayed with unusual power. Now try 'Charlotte Gray'FIELDING, Henry **Tom Jones** - Ribald, raunchy C18th

FITZGERALD, F Scott

The Great Gatsby - Mystery based in 1920s New York

FLAUBERT, Gustav

Madame Bovary - C19th. Try comparing it with Anna Karenina

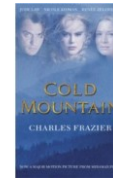
FORSTER, E.M.

Passage to India - Accusation of rape & its repercussions

FOWLES, John

French Lieutenant's Woman - Tale of love & disappointment

FRAZIER, Charles

Cold Mountain -Traces parallel lives of two characters through the American Civil War

GAARDNER, Jostein

Sophie's World - An adventure in philosophy

GALSWORTHY, John

The Forsyte Saga - passion & betrayal in a middle class dynasty

GARCIA, Marquez, Gabriel

One Hundred Years of Solitude - Love discovered in old age

GARLAND, Alex

The Beach - Young man's search for Utopia

GIBBONS, Stella

Cold Comfort Farm - Richly comic portrayal of rural life

GOLDING, William

Lord of the Flies - Survival of the fittest

GRAVES, Robert

Goodbye to all that - World War I memoirs

GREENE, Graham

Brighton Rock - 17 year old is embroiled in gang warfare

HADDON, Mark

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night- Time - a murder mystery like no other

HARDY, Thomas

Tess of the d'Urbervilles - Great C19th rural Romance

HARTLEY, L.P.

The Go-Between - tragic story of early adolescence

HELLER, Joseph

Catch 22 - World War II airmen struggle to survive their situation

HEMINGWAY, Ernest

Farewell to Arms - Spanish Civil War epic

HILL, Susan

Woman in Black - Powerful ghost story

HINES, Barry

A Kestrel for a Knave - wild bird gives wild boy direction in life

HORNBY, Nick

Fever Pitch - An autobiography & football bible rolled into one



HOSSEINI, Khaled

The Kite Runner - Set in Afghanistan, a gripping story of a boyhood friendship destroyed by jealousy and fear

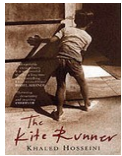
[Read also Thousand Splendid Suns]

HUXLEY, Aldous

Brave New World - The World Controllers have created the ideal society

ISHIGURO, Kazuo

Remains of the Day - Portrayal of pre-war British class awareness



JAMES, Henry

Portrait of a Lady - The heroine is free to choose her own destiny

KAFKA, Franz

Metamorphosis - Gregor Samsa wakes to find himself transformed into a monstrous insect

KENEALLY, Thomas **Schindler's Ark (List)** - German

Industrialist who risked his life saving Jewish people during World War II

KEROUAC, Jack

On the road - Discovery along the road of sex, friendship, drink and drugs

KESEY, Ken

One flew over the Cuckoo's Nest - Who belongs in a mental institution?

KUREISHI, Hanif

Buddha of Suburbia - Rumbustious, rude novel of a young man growing up with an Indian father and English mother

LE CARRE, John

Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy - Complex story of espionage set in the Cold War era



LEVY, Andrea

Small Island - Story about prejudice in post-war Britain

MARTEL, Yann

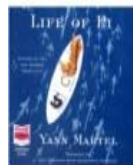
Life of Pi - Defies categorisation - it is about the oceanic wanderings of a lost boy

McCARTHY, Cormac

The Road - Harrowing post-apocalyptic tale of father and son's journey to the sea

McCOURT, Frank

Angela's Ashes - Semi autobiographical novel of growing up poor in Limerick



McEWAN, Ian

Atonement - Events of one day in 1935 change the lives of those involved

MURDOCH, Iris

The Bell - quite weird!



NIFFENEGER, Audrey **The Time Traveler's Wife** - Now you see him, now you don't— time travel with a difference

ORWELL, George **1984** - People controlled by those who know they are right

PATON, Alan

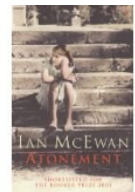
Cry Beloved Country - Rends the spirit of South Africa

PEAKE, Mervyn

Gormenghast - Gothic fantasy

PLATH, Sylvia

The Bell Jar - gifted young woman's mental breakdown. Autobiographical?



POE, Edgar Allan

Tales of Mystery & terror - arch exponent of the short story

PRATCHETT, Terry

Discworld series - voyage through the bizarre land of Discworld

ROY, Arundhati

The God of Small Things - Description of contemporary Indian life

SALINGER, J.D

Catcher in the Rye - Youthful innocence in conflict with the corruption of the adult world

SETH, Vikram

A Suitable Boy - Splendid, massive family saga, set in post-Independence India

SHAN, Sharan-Jeet

In my own Name - This is a heartrending story by the daughter of a Sikh army officer who grew up in the Punjab



SHELLEY, Mary **Frankenstein** - Gothic terror

SMITH, Zadie **White Teeth** - Contemporary novel, a comic family epic with an injection of ethnic colour



SOLZENITSYN, Alexander	One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovitch - Life in the gulag	
SPARK, Muriel	The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie - Inspirational teacher v authority	
STEINBECK, John	The Grapes of Wrath - America in the Depression	
STERNE, Laurence	Tristram Shandy - C18th Monty Python	
STOKER, Bram	Dracula - Gothic Horror	
SUSKIND, Patrick	Perfume; The Story of a Murderer - Survivor, genius, perfumier, killer: - Jean- Baptise Grenouille	
SWIFT, Jonathan	Gulliver's Travels. - C18th political satire	
TOLKIEN, J.R.R.	Lord of the Rings - epic trilogy of fantasy	
TOLSTOY, Leo	Anna Karenina - C19th Russian Romance	
TROLLOPE, Anthony	Barchester Towers - C19th clerics	
WALKER, Alice	The Color Purple - Powerful American novel of racial struggle	
WATSON, James	Talking in Whispers - a political thriller set in Chile under the military junta	
WAUGH, Evelyn	Decline and Fall - Short and funny	
WELLS, H.G.	War of the worlds - Classic Science Fiction	
WILDE, Oscar	The Picture of Dorian Gray - what you see is not what you get	
WOOLF, Virginia	To the Lighthouse - Unrestrained ego	
WYNDHAM, John	The Day of the Triffids - What's lurking in the garden?	
	ZUSAK, Markus The Book Thief - Unsettling, thought-provoking, life-affirming, triumphant and tragic; narrated by Death	



How many have you read and what else would you include?