

TCS Daily Reading Catalogue.

Reading to unlock the best version of us!

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.”

Dr. Seuss

“‘Classic’ – a book which people praise and don’t read.”

Mark Twain



Teignmouth Community School



At Teignmouth Community School we believe, like Dr Seuss, that reading widely is both important and exciting because it enables us to explore and experience lives, places and people that we would not otherwise get to be in contact with. This, in turn, supports us to develop and grow into the best versions of ourselves.

In selecting our texts, we have considered the words of Mark Twain and have built a catalogue that brings into our lives the people, places and themes that we feel are needed as we challenge ourselves to work hard and never give up, be kind and care for each other and to join in so that we develop and grow.

Our Daily Reading Catalogue ranges from traditional texts such as *1984* (published in 1949) to contemporary fiction such as *Wink* (published in 2020) as well as incorporating the full range of genres from fantasy adventure to autobiographical memoirs. Every text has a reason for being part of our Daily Reading Catalogue: it reflects our values and shines a light on worlds beyond coastal Devon in order to challenge us to unlock the best version of ourselves.

YEAR 7

<p>Boy 87: hope, kindness, human rights, asylum, refugees. <i>Bildungsroman</i></p>	<p>Shif is just an ordinary boy who likes chess, maths and racing his best friend home from school. But one day, soldiers with guns come to his door - and he knows that he is no longer safe. <i>Boy 87</i> is a gripping, uplifting tale of one boy's struggle for survival; it echoes the story of young people all over the world today.</p>
<p>October, October: relationships, loss, redemption, family <i>Drama</i></p>	<p>October and her dad live in the woods. They know the trees and the rocks and the lake and stars like best friends. They live in the woods and they are wild. And that's the way it is. Until the year October turns eleven. That's the year everything changes.</p>
<p>The Giver: individuality, friendship, bravery <i>Dystopian</i></p>	<p>It is the future. There is no war, no hunger, no pain. No one in the community wants for anything. And at twelve years old, each member of the community has their profession carefully chosen for them. Twelve-year old Jonas has never thought there was anything wrong with his world. But from the moment he is selected as the Receiver of Memory, Jonas discovers that their community is not as perfect as it seems. The Giver is the award-winning classic of bravery and adventure.</p>
<p>The Girl of Ink and Stars: friendship, sacrifice, loyalty, redemption <i>Fantasy/adventure</i></p>	<p>Isabella is the daughter of a cartographer who lives on the island of Joya; an isle both steeped in mythology and shrouded in mystery. For the last thirty years, a strict Governor has forbidden the island inhabitants from venturing beyond their small township. When her best friend Lupe runs away, disappearing into the forbidden forest, Isabella volunteers to bring her back.</p>



YEAR 8

Wolf Hollow: death, loss, bullying, social isolation

Historical fiction

It all begins in the summer of 1943, in a place a long way from war and yet haunted by it, in a community hiding prejudice and fear. Powerful, poignant and lyrical, *Wolf Hollow* is an unforgettable story about growing up and facing the many difficulties of adulthood; not least the realisation that the ties that bind are also often the roots of our deepest communal intolerances.

Salt to the Sea: determination, trauma, race, community

Historical fiction

It's early 1945 and a group of people trek across Germany, bound together by their desperation to reach the ship that can take them away from the war-ravaged land. The author devoted three years of research into what still remains the worst maritime disaster in history, the sinking of the German military transport ship the *Wilhelm Gustloff* in 1945. Some 9,400 lives were lost.

Salt to the Sea picks up on four of those lives, a group of young people desperate to flee Germany by any means, even if this is a dangerously overcrowded vessel in a Baltic port.

Chinese Cinderella: family, diversity, abuse, loneliness

Memoir

Jung-ling's family considers her bad luck because her mother died giving birth to her. They discriminate against her and make her feel unwanted yet she yearns and continuously strives for her parents' love. The story is of survival in the light of the mental and physical cruelty of her stepmother and the disloyalty of her siblings.

Wind Singer: oppression, trust, justice, hope

Fantasy/adventure

In the walled city state of Aramant, rules are everything. When Kestrel Hath dares to rebel, the Chief Examiner humiliates her father and sentences the whole family to the harshest punishment. Desperate to save them, Kestrel and her twin brother, Bowman, set out on a terrifying journey.



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YEAR 9

The Boy Who Steals Houses: isolation, neurodiversity, love
Drama

Sam is only fifteen but he and his autistic older brother, Avery, have been abandoned by every relative he's ever known. Now Sam's trying to build a new life for them. He survives by breaking into empty houses when their owners are away, until one day he's caught out when a family returns home. To his amazement this large, chaotic family takes him under their wing. But Sam has a secret, and his past is about to catch up with him.

Buffalo Soldier: racism, discrimination, love, freedom
Historical fiction

Plantation slave Charley Smith is eleven when America blows itself apart, with Abraham Lincoln's decision to prohibit slavery. Charley thinks a slice of heaven is coming her way. But it's a taste of hell. Her surrogate mother is raped and lynched. Charley is left to burn in the cellar. But she survives, stealing the clothes from a dead man's back to enlist in the army. But clearing land and killing red Indians doesn't seem right. Nor does being a man when Jim, the Indian tracker, joins up...

Lord of the Flies: morality, human nature
Allegory

Through the haunting story of a group of schoolboys stranded on an island, Golding's ever-relevant tale of survival and power explores the fragility of moral and social codes, illuminating both the darkest corners of the human mind and its infinite aptitude for hope and compassion.

Wink: Illness, bullying, friendship
Comedy

Last summer, Ross was diagnosed with a rare form of eye cancer. He's just started radiotherapy and, now school term has begun, he's become the 'cancer kid'. Aside from figuring out what having cancer means for him, he also has to deal with everyone looking at him, his friends freaking out and, perhaps worst of all, the embarrassing side effects of his treatment. Ross has some tough days but it's also funny in plenty of ways. He unflinchingly faces his illness head on, and the combination of the comic strip inserts and everyday trials makes *Wink* relatable, light-hearted and honest.



YEAR 10

The Hate You Give:
racism, black lives matter, loyalty
Drama

Inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, this is a powerful, gripping and piercingly relevant YA novel about inequality, police violence, 21st century prejudice and one girl's struggle for justice.

Sixteen-year-old Starr lives in two worlds: the poor neighbourhood where she was born and raised and her posh high school in the suburbs. The uneasy balance between them is shattered when Starr is the only witness to the fatal shooting of her unarmed best friend, Khalil, by a police officer.

Now what Starr says could destroy her community. It could also get her killed.

The House in the Cerulean Sea:
kindness, prejudice, differences, belonging
Fantasy

Klune's enchanting fantasy romance sees a case worker for magical children forced to choose between saving the world or dividing a family when he is sent to a mysterious residence housing half a dozen unique youths. The story is about the profound experience of discovering an unlikely family in an unexpected place - and realising that family could be yours.

1984: Censorship, inequality, power, freedom

Written more than 70 years ago, *1984* was George Orwell's chilling prophecy about the future. And while 1984 has come and gone, his dystopian vision of a government that will do anything to control the narrative is timelier than ever. Winston Smith toes the Party line, rewriting history to satisfy the demands of the Ministry of Truth. With each lie he writes, Winston grows to hate the Party that seeks power for its own sake and persecutes those who dare to commit thoughtcrimes. But as he starts to think for himself, Winston can't escape the fact that Big Brother is always watching...

