



## December 2020 Library News

Despite current restrictions, the library has seen a busy half term, with click-and-deliver service continuing, and a dramatic increase in e-book loans. We are also pleased to announce our subscription to a large audiobook library, with immediate effect - further information below.

As our Year 8 genre reading challenge draws to a close, we still wait to see which teaching group will be the first to hit the target of 100 books read. There have been some very positive and creative book reviews posted on the library page.

In November we hosted our first-ever Parents' Book Group meeting on Zoom with 18 attendees.

There was a lively online discussion of the Science Book Prize shortlist at a Lower School Beacon Challenge meeting.

Lower Sixth have all selected their working title for their Symposium topics and are busy researching for their reports.

As always, Autumn has been marked by a number of prestigious book prize short-list or winner announcements.

And we are looking forward to our 'Library Unlocked' lunchtimes next term, when pupils in different year groups will be able to visit in person weekly to browse and select books.

Scroll down for more detail and to view our 'Twelve Books for Christmas' recommendations.



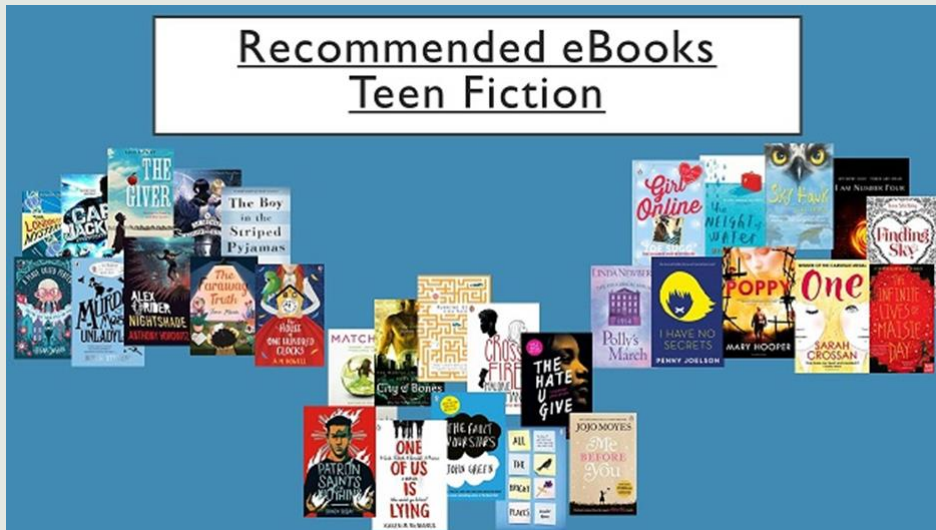
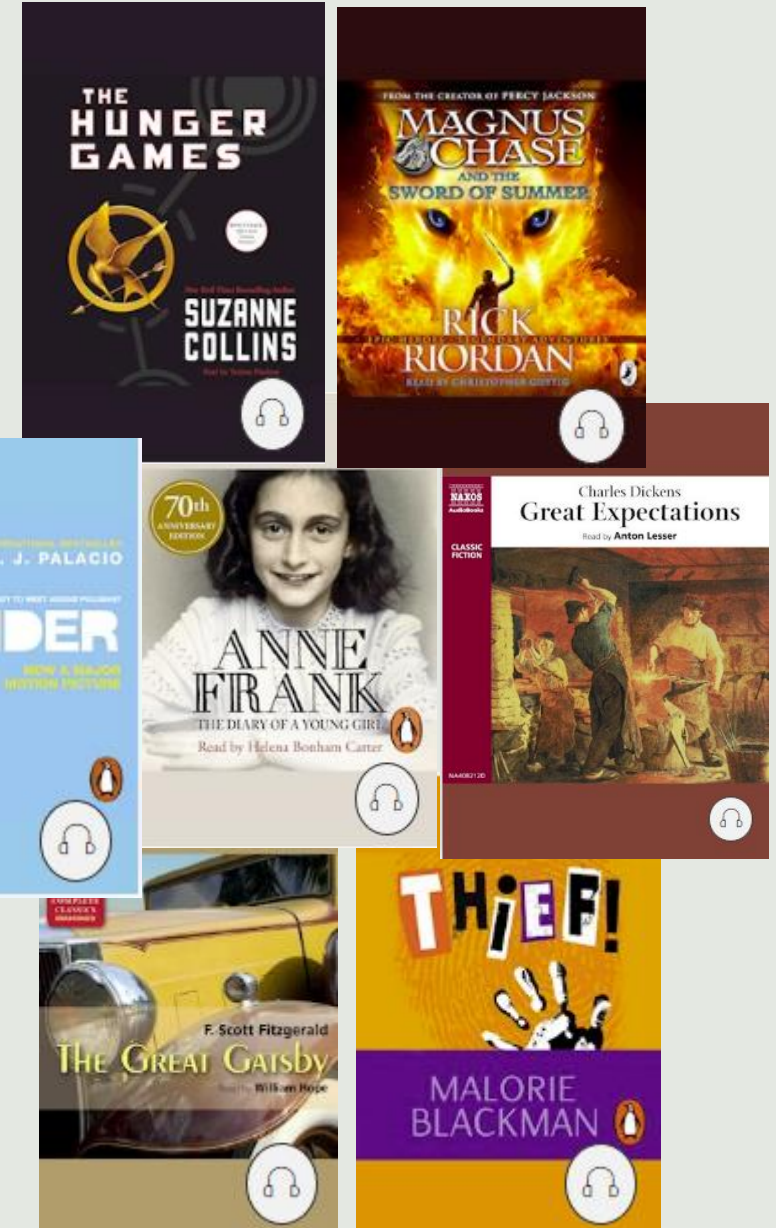
# Ebooks and audiobooks - ideal for when you can't get to the library



## ePlatform by Wheelers

Hundreds of ebooks and audiobooks for children and young adults. Install the free 'ePlatform by Wheelers' app on your iPad (or mobile phone), then select Tormead School.

When you get there, sign in top right, and start browsing!



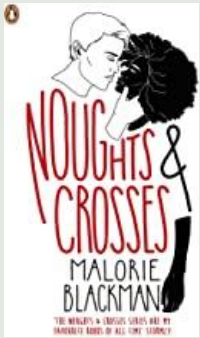


# Year 8 Reading Challenge – Book Reviews

As classes near their challenge completion, there have been some **great reviews** coming in. Here is a selection.

AM					
AT	KL	GO	CHI	GO	
AT	ZF	ST	GO	ST	
TC	IC	CHI	HW	AC	
EBe	Cho	CV	AC	LD	
GG	ESo	EBe	HW	GH	
GO	NP	ST	AT	Esh	
AT	GG	TC	CHI	AM	
CV	ESo	GH	TC	AC	
AC	Cho	AD	ZF	NP	
AD	TC	NP	ST	LD	
CHI	GH	GH	IC	Esh	
AC	TC	NP	NP	EBo	
GH	AD	AD	EBo	EBo	
Cho	CHI	NP	AD	HW	
EBo	KL	GH	EBe	AD	

8MW topping the leaderboard

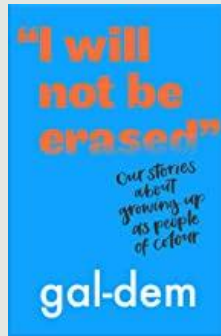


This book is full of everything: scheming, love, friendship, world problems, murder. The ending is very difficult as it is very emotional, I almost didn't want to read it. As with most books, allow the plot line and characters to develop before you give up as it is definitely worth it in the end. (Emmie)

I enjoyed reading before I went to bed. I don't really like reading but when I started this one I read every night. (Caitlin)



I really liked this book as it showed how words can hurt and not to judge anyone for their race or appearance, and it was also very helpful as it shows you how you're not alone and everyone has difficult times in life.



It tells us about Michelle Obama's life and how she found being First Lady, this is a great read for people who want to grow up and be strong independent people. (Alice)



A gripping dystopian book that reels you in. The characters are relatable and very likeable in the setting where everyone's choices are made for them. (Nicole)

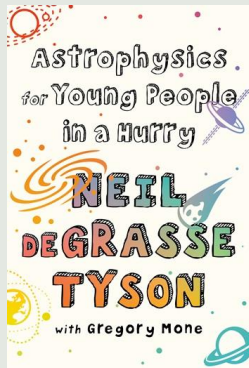


This is a super non-fiction diary of a young doctor which is funny, at times, but also heart-breaking, particularly towards the end of the book. (Lily)

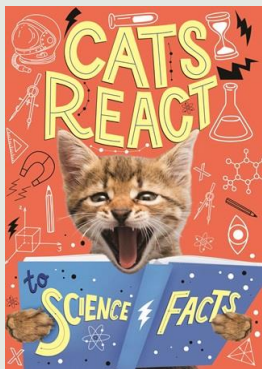
# ROYAL SOCIETY YOUNG PEOPLE'S BOOK PRIZE 2020

Our thoughts so far from our initial Zoom meeting.

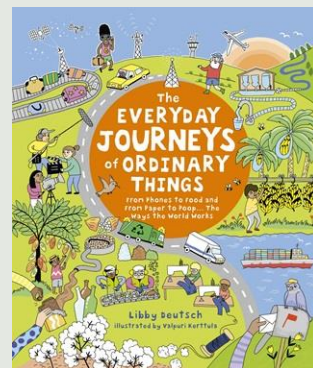
More information on the shortlisted books available [here](#)



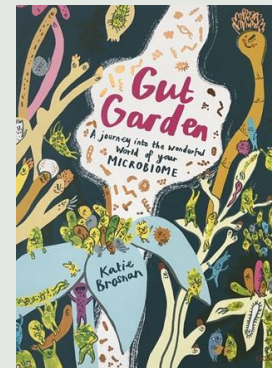
We liked the mix of real photos and cartoons



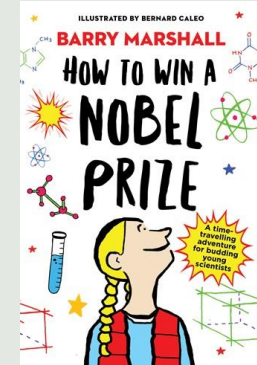
Not sure what the cats are for, but it's quite fun and we learn some weird facts



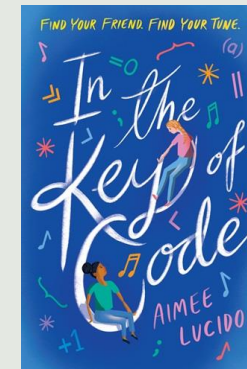
Well illustrated, not too much writing



This was fun and informative



We learn a lot about the Nobel Prize, but the story felt a bit contrived.



Probably our favourite so far, very clever

Here are just some of the titles chosen by Lower Sixth for their independent research projects this year



Symposium

Should V10 Engines be reintroduced to Formula 1?

Do animals have their own personalities?

How do poisonous plants benefit the ecosystem?

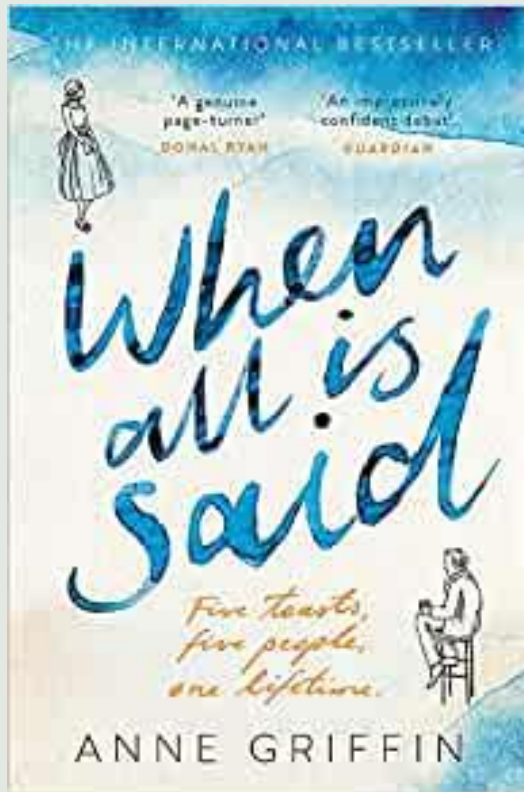
What is the best theory for the universe's origin?

How has Jane Austen's literature shaped and influenced modern society?

How does film-making in the horror genre psychologically affect the viewer?

## Tormead Parents' Book Group

A great way to get to know other senior school parents whilst also sharing recommendations for good books both for adults and for young people.

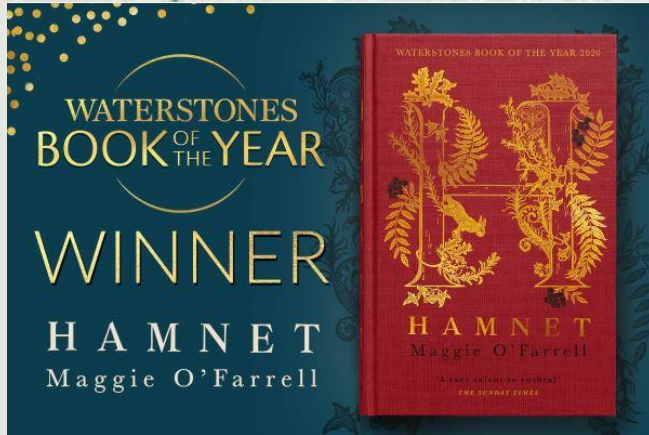


Although usually held in school, this is not possible at the moment and so we are meeting via Zoom.

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 26th January from 8 pm**. As well as exchanging recommendations for reading, we will be discussing 'When All is Said', by Anne Griffin. Over the course of one evening, 84-year-old Irishman Maurice Hannigan reflects on his life and raises five toasts to the people who have meant the most to him.

Please email the librarian ([library@tormeadschool.org.uk](mailto:library@tormeadschool.org.uk)) if you would like to be added to the mailing list for the group and you will receive an invitation to the Zoom meeting, as well as further mailings with book recommendations and information about future meetings.

# Award-winners and Shortlists

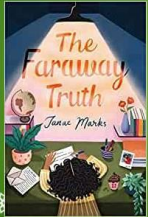


# Twelve Books for Christmas

Follow the links below to view our recommendations:

## [For Young Adults](#)


## [For Lower School](#)



**12 Books for Christmas**

*For Young Teens  
No. 1*

Zoe is determined to find out the truth about her father.

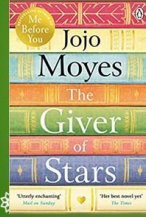


**12 Books for Christmas**

*For Young Adults  
No. 1*

A lyrical, dreamy coming-of-age tale

## [For Older Readers](#)



**12 Books for Christmas**

*For Older Readers  
No. 1*

Alice Wright finds freedom and love in the sisterhood bringing books to the isolated and vulnerable.

Happy Holidays!  
And best wishes for  
2021.