

## HGHS Y9 Academic Book List

Humanities		
Subject	Book	
<b>English</b>	<b>The Hobbit by J. R. R. Tolkein</b>	
<p>The Hobbit follows the quest of home-loving Bilbo Baggins, the titular hobbit, to win a share of the treasure guarded by a dragon named Smaug. Bilbo's journey takes him from his light-hearted, rural surroundings into more sinister territory. It is a classic, and along with its successor 'The Lord of the Rings' defined fantasy as we know it today. See if you can spot any similarities between this book, written in 1937, and any more modern fantasy stories.</p>		
<b>MFL</b>	<b>Spanish: ¡Qué montón de Tamales! By Gary Soto</b> <b>French: Adventure en Savoie by Domitille Hatuel</b> <b>German: Max und Moritz: Eine Bubengeschichte in Sieben Streichen by Wilhelm Busch</b>	
<p>All 3 of these stories are the right mix of engaging and appropriate for students with upcoming GCSEs in their respective languages. They come fully recommended!</p>		
<b>Geography</b>	<b>Divided: Why We're All Living in an Age of Walls by Tim Marshall</b>	
<p>This book explores the 'fences' cropping up all over the world; from America's Southern border to The Great Firewall of China, through the explosive combination of European politics and migration. A brilliant read, Tim Marshall combines the past, present and future to identify the fault lines which will shape our society for generations to come.</p>		
<b>History</b>	<b>Black and British: A short, essential history by David Olusoga</b>	
<p>David Olusoga illustrates black British history with maps, photos, portraits and testimony. It is a brilliant read which challenges our understanding of Black, British history from the Roman Africans who guarded Hadrian's Wall to the present day.</p>		
<b>Beliefs and Values</b>	<b>Religious Studies: The Life of Pi by Yann Martel</b> <b>PSHE: The Black Flamingo by Dean Atta</b>	
<p>The Black Flamingo: Big hearted and dizzyingly flamboyant, Atta's verse novel about a black gay teen reclaiming his identity as a drag artist is an outspoken triumph from the opening couplet to the last.</p> <p>The Life of Pi: This book wonderfully explores different religious beliefs and practices; is there one right path or are we all on our own right path? The vivid descriptions and journey we are taken on encourages us to look at the existence of God. A book full of twists and turns, it gives us the opportunity to explore what it means to be human.</p>		
STEM		
Subject	Book	
<b>Maths</b>	<b>Alex's Adventures in Numberland by Alex Bellos</b>	
<p>This book takes Alex Bellos around the globe in search of maths-based phenomena... From the world's fastest mental calculators in Germany to a surprisingly numerate chimpanzee in Japan. The blend of maths, history and Alex's skill as a reporter reclaims maths from our preconceptions, and shows how it underpins all of our lives.</p>		
<b>Science</b>	<b>Forces of Nature by Professor Brian Cox</b>	
<p>Based on the BBC2 series, this book answers questions such as: Why is the sky blue? Why are the stars and planets round? Why does the world keep turning?</p> <p>It does so without feeling like a dense lecture on astrophysics, though, and feels more like having a really good story read to you. It brings out the childish wonder in us all.</p>		
<b>Computing</b>	<b>The Code Book by Simon Singh</b>	
<p>Simon Singh combines history, espionage and intellectual breakthroughs to tell a story of cryptography from Ancient Egypt to today. This book is intensely readable, but also has an impressive range of technical analysis which will keep even the keenest of code-breakers interested. He has a knack for making the scary, inaccessible world of number theorems seem like child's-play.</p>		
<b>Food and Nutrition</b>	<b>Hungry Hearts: 13 Tales of Food &amp; Love by Elsie Chapman</b>	
<p>The experiences we share over food are rarely about the food. Told in interconnected short stories, Hungry Hearts explores the many meanings food can take on beyond mere nourishment. It can symbolize love and despair, family and culture, belonging and home</p>		
Arts		
Subject	Book	
<b>Performing Arts</b>	<b>Will Grayson, Will Grayson by John Green and David Levithan</b>	
<p>Two boys share the same name, and very little else – but when their worlds collide they are hurtled towards new and unexpected directions. With help from their larger-than-life friends, Will and Will begin building toward respective romantic turns-of-heart and the epic production of history's most awesome high school musical. A book which will make the shyest of students want to dive into a costume and join a production!</p>		

<b>Creative Design</b>	<b>Art: Art Matters: Because Your Imagination Can Change The World by Neil Gaiman</b> <b>Design &amp; Technology: The Essential Engineer: Why Science Alone Will Not Solve Our Global Problems by Henry Petroski</b>	
<p>Art Matters: Neil Gaiman once said that 'the world always seems brighter when you've just made something that wasn't there before'. This little book is the embodiment of that vision. Drawn together from speeches, poems and creative manifestos, Art Matters explores how reading, imagining and creating can change the world, and will be inspirational to young and old.</p> <p>The Essential Engineer is an eye-opening exploration of the ways in which science and engineering must work together to address our world's most pressing issues, from dealing with climate change and the prevention of natural disasters to the development of efficient automobiles and the search for renewable energy sources.</p>		
<b>Music</b>	<b>Let Me Hear a Rhyme by Tiffany D. Jackson</b>	
<p>After their friend's death, Quadir and Jarrell decide they will not let his music die with him. They release his work under a pseudonym, and soon it's all anyone can talk about. It is a brilliantly musical book about grief, secrets and honouring people's memories.</p>		
<b>P.E.</b>	<b>The Contender by Robert Lipsyte</b>	
<p>Alfred Brooks is scared. He's a high-school dropout, and his grocery store job is leading nowhere. His best friend is sinking further and further into drug addiction. Some street kids are after him for something he didn't even do. He begins going to Donatelli's Gym, a boxing club in Harlem that has trained champions. There he learns it's the effort, not the win, that makes the boxer--that before you can be a champion, you have to be a contender.</p> <p>This is a book about the impact sports can have on every part of our lives, in developing self confidence and the ability to make positive choices.</p>		