



MAIDSTONE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1549

Super Curriculum
For KS3 & KS4

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Introduction

What is the 'Super Curriculum'?

The term 'Super Curriculum' is widely used by educational settings to describe the reading, research and exploration of academic subjects above and beyond the narrow curriculum content prescribed by exam board specifications.

At MGS, we encourage all of our students to develop their academic interests more widely. Students who read up on and extend their knowledge of a favourite topic, who watch a related documentary, who visit a relevant exhibition or who explore good quality academic websites are all engaging in the Super Curriculum. These types of activities help to shape our students into interested and interesting young people and often spark a long term interest in or love of a particular subject.

Top universities seek to confirm a prospective student's academic curiosity, genuine interest in and ongoing commitment to his or her subject through evidence of wider academic reading, personal exploration and independent research.

How to use this resource?

A huge volume of information is now instantly available at our fingertips. Many of the resources easily available online platforms are, undoubtedly, very beneficial to anyone wishing to extend and deepen their knowledge and understanding. However, it can also be hard to know where to start, a difficult and daunting task to select worthwhile and reliable resources and easy to overlook 'hidden gems'.

With this in mind, we have asked our subject departments to recommend a small number of worthwhile, good quality and easily available and accessible books, websites etc to support and encourage KS3 and KS4 students to pursue a subject interest beyond the classroom. We ask form tutors and subject teachers to look for opportunities to explore the list with students or recommend particular resources from it. We would encourage students to try anything which triggers an interest.

We understand that all of our students are different – some love to read and research widely and will do this independently with a high degree of self-motivation. Others will be inspired by a particular topic, a teacher or a friend which will provide the impetus they need to get started. Others still will need a lot of encouragement and persuasion to have a go. Parental support and encouragement can be absolutely invaluable in encouraging young people to widen their academic horizons, but it can also be very difficult for parents and carers to know how hard to push and how best to help and support - we hope that this resource will help you if you are looking for some ideas and suggestions.

Beyond this resource list

Older students and/or those seeking higher level resources and an additional level of challenge, can find further suggestions in our Super Curriculum Booklet (KS5).

Some other bits and pieces...

On the final page we have included a few other "bits and pieces" which are of more general interest/motivational, challenging or not to be overlooked.

Art

Books:

- Hall's Dictionary of Subjects & Symbols in Art
- Objects of Desire: The Modern Still Life
- A Concise History of Modern Painting, by Herbert Read
- The Shock of the New, by Robert Hughes
- The Art Book
- DK Annotated Guides ART, by Robert Cumming
- The Art Gallery Faces - Philip Wilkinson
- Annotated Art - Robert Cumming
- The Story of Paintings: A history of art for children - Mick Manning
- The Picture of Dorian Gray - Oscar Wilde
- Art Today - Edward Lucie-Smith
- Art Matters - Neil Gaiman
- A world history of Art - Hugh Honour and John Fleming
- 50 Women Artist you should know
- The Guide to Modern Art Terms
- Girl with a Pearl Earring - Tracy Chevalier
- Understanding Modern Art (Isms)

Helpful websites:

<http://www.npg.org.uk/live/index.asp>

<http://www.saatchi-gallery.co.uk/artcolleges/>

<http://www.artcyclopedia.com/index.html>

<http://www.britishmuseum.org/>

<http://www.masters-of-photography.com/index.html>

<http://www.louvre.fr/llv/commun/home.jsp?bmLocale=en>

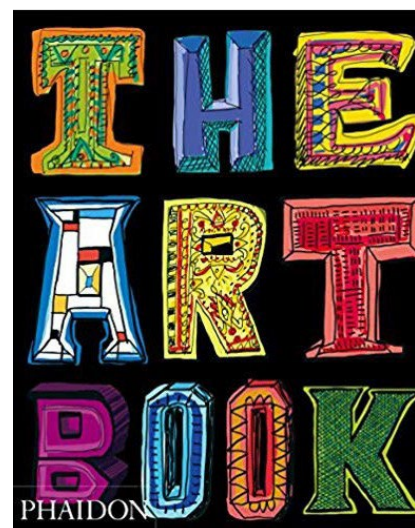
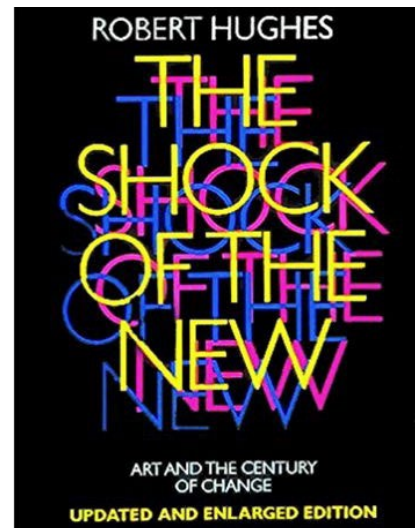
<http://www.moma.org/>

<http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/default.htm>

<http://www.tate.org.uk/>

Larger galleries and Museum spaces, all with permanent exhibitions:

- The Tate Modern - Modern and Contemporary art
- The Tate Britain - British Art
- The Victoria and Albert Museum - Applied arts and design from around the world
- The Design Museum
- The National Portrait Gallery
- Contemporary Art Galleries with changing exhibitions:
- The White Cube
- The Saatchi Gallery
- The Whitechapel Art Gallery
- The Crafts Council Gallery



Classical Civilisations & Latin

Pompeii, Robert Harris (KS3 and KS4)

A gripping thriller set in the ancient town of Pompeii on the eve of its destruction by Mount Vesuvius.

Imperium (Lustrum –part 2; Dictator- part 3; KS4), Robert Harris

Historical fiction – a brilliant and ruthless political trilogy set in Rome and based around the power struggles of Cicero, Caesar and Pompeii

Mythos, Stephen Fry

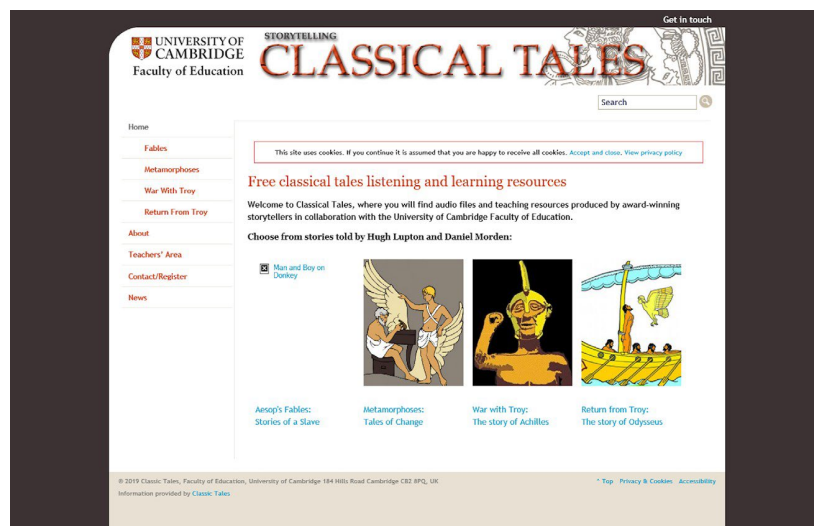
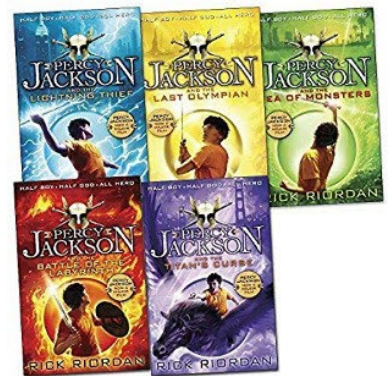
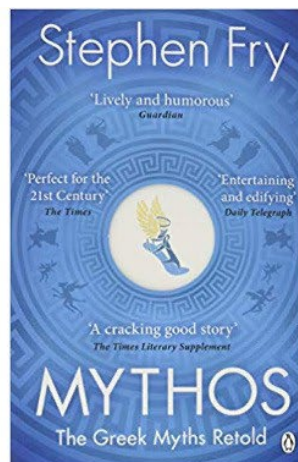
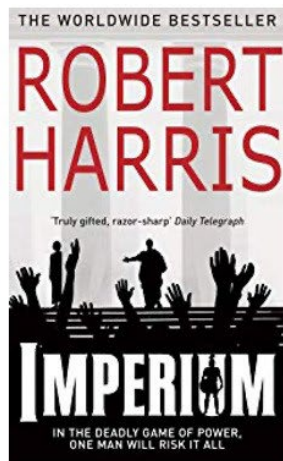
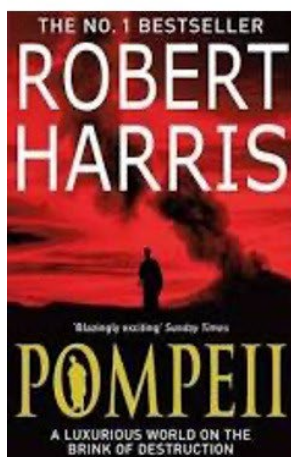
Informative and very entertaining tales of the ancient Greeks gods and heroes expertly retold by Stephen Fry.

The Percy Jackson Series, Rick Riordan

Hugely popular with many students in KS3 – great stories filled with gods and characters from the ancient Greek myths but with a modern twist!

Youtube/ BBC Iplayer – Any documentaries about the Romans or Pompeii by leading Classicist Professor Mary Beard.

Fantastic retelling of the great Homeric epics (The Iliad and The Odyssey) by professional story teller duo Danial Morden and Hugh Lupton. Very engaging and accessible for all ages. Available online – search '**Cambridge School Classics Project**' and **click on The Stories from the Ancient World section**



Computing

Willful Machines by Tim Floreen

In this near future thriller, scientists have created “Charlotte” - an artificial human with intelligence, who has uploaded her consciousness to the Internet and started terrorizing the American people.

Six by Mark Alpert

A teenager with muscular dystrophy whose main outlet is virtual reality video games has to save the world from the threat of a rogue artificial intelligence program.

Diary of Minecraft Skeleton Steve the Noob Years – by Skeleton Steve

The very first diary of Skeleton Steve himself! Welcome to a new adventure. Follow along the 'The Noob Years' of Skeleton Steve, Minecraft writer and adventurer, back when he first started his travels on Diamodia! Fresh out of the "Enderman Ninja" series, Skeleton Steve and Elias the Enderman Ninja are traveling east to explore a distant village on the Enderman's map. The village's library is a great place to find an empty journal for Skeleton Steve's first diary, right?

Bash Bash Revolution, by Douglas Lain

Matthew Munson is an unambitious kid from a broken home. His father is often absent and also working on a highly secretive government project looking to create a sentient artificial intelligence.

Ready Player One by Ernest Cline

"Ready Player One" takes place in the not-so-distant future-the world has turned into a very bleak place, but luckily there is OASIS, a virtual reality world that is a vast online utopia. People can plug into OASIS to play, go to school, earn money, and even meet other people (or at least they can meet their avatars), and for protagonist Wade Watts it certainly beats passing the time in his grim, poverty-stricken real life. Along with millions of other world-wide citizens, Wade dreams of finding three keys left behind by James Halliday, the now-deceased creator of OASIS and the richest man to have ever lived. The keys are rumoured to be hidden inside OASIS, and whoever finds them will inherit Halliday's fortune. But Halliday has not made it easy. And there are real dangers in this virtual world

Trigger Happy: The inner life of videogames - Stephen Poole

A witty, comprehensive and passionate discourse on the videogame explosion. Essential reading for anyone with an interest in this industry.

Accidental Empires - Robert X Cringely

An insider's account of the origins and growth of the micro-computing industry from the earliest times to the present day; acerbic and funny in equal measure.

Crashing Computers (The Knowledge) by Michael Coleman

FIRST computers weighed three tonnes and added two plus two - if you were lucky ...

NEXT along came the microchip and the first personal crashing computers ...

NOW smaller, faster, with massive massive memories, computers have taken over the world ... but they still crash!

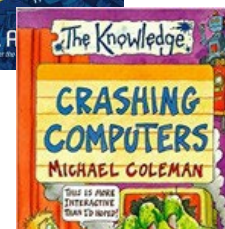
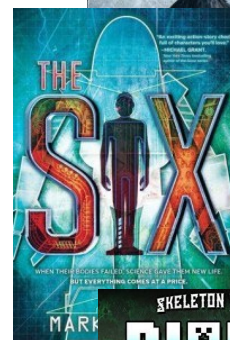
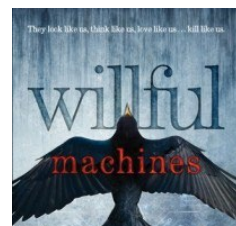
This guide gives you loads of dynamic data about gobsmacking games and rampaging robots, computer crooks and virtually everything on virtual reality.

Computational Fairy Tales by Jeremy Kubica

Have you ever thought that computer science should include more dragons and wizards? Computational Fairy Tales introduces principles of computational thinking, illustrating high-level computer science concepts, the motivation behind them, and their application in a non-computer-fairy tale-domain. The goal of this book is not to provide comprehensive coverage of each topic, but rather to provide a high level overview of the breadth and excitement of computer science.

It's a quest that will take you from learning the basics of programming in a blacksmith's forge to fighting curses with recursion. Fifteen seers delivered the same prophecy, without so much as a single minstrel to lighten the mood: an unknown darkness threatens the kingdom. Suddenly, Princess Ann finds herself sent forth alone to save the kingdom. Leaving behind her home, family, and pet turtle Fido, Princess Ann must face goblin attacks, magical curses, arrogant scholars, an unpleasant oracle, and rude Boolean waiters. Along the way she must build a war chest of computational knowledge to survive the coming challenge.

The CS Detective: An Algorithmic Tale of Crime, Conspiracy, and Computation by Jeremy Kubica



Design & Technology

Books:

- The Look of the Century: Design icons of the 20th Century: Michael Tambini. ISBN: 0-7513-0801-3
- Twenty-First Century Design: New design icons, from mass market to avant-garde. ISBN:1-84442-269-0
- 20th Century Design: Catherine McDermott. ISBN: 1-85868-338-6
- Emotional Design: Donald A. Norman: ISBN-13: 978-0-465-05136-6

Product Design - Iconic and Classic Design:

<http://www.complex.com/style/2013/02/the-50-most-iconic-designs-of-everyday-objects/>

<https://gizmodo.com/5992457/the-22-best-product-designs-of-the-year>

<https://designmuseum.org/>

On BBC iplayer:

Watch: Absolute Genius with Dick and Dom.

Watch: Click.

Links to relevant Youtube videos:

iGenius How Steve Jobs Changed The World

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VdRvV1hlYfQ>

BBC Three - Secrets of the Superbrands (Technology)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TdkeMpN8hOIDisconnect>

How product design can change the world | Christiaan Maats | TEDxUniversityofGroningen

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZqeA_psKn2E

Raymond Loewy, Father of Industrial Design

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zci4r1MWz7c>

A Morning with Paul Smith

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mY2WVBYcuvU>

Dyson UK Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/user/dysonteam>

English (KS3)

1. All Key Stage 3 students are encouraged to read a wide breadth of texts to improve their literacy and creative writing skills. A list of challenging texts for Key Stage 3 students are:

- **Blood Brothers by Willy Russell** - A famous play that's been adapted to stage in the West End. Twin brothers separated at birth and given away to different families, will they realise the connection they have? A heart rendering story that should be read and watched.
- **The Crucible by Arthur Miller** - One of Miller's most famous plays based on the true events of witchcraft in puritan America. A true account of how far one person's lies can go and the consequences of this tragedy.
- **The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain**. A nineteenth-century boy from a Mississippi River town recounts his adventures as he travels down the river with a runaway slave, encountering many dangers along the way.
- **Empire of the Sun by J.G. Ballard**. A story about a boy, Jim who is separated from his parents in a world at war. To survive, he must find a deep strength greater than all the events that surround him. A novel set in Shanghai during Pearl Harbour and a Japanese concentration camp. An engrossing novel.
- **I'm The King of the Castle by Susan Hill**. Edmund Hooper doesn't want anyone moving into his house, so when Charles Kingshaw's family move in, he slowly victimises Charles, but how far can one boy bully another before it goes too far?
- **Roll of Thunder Hear Mr Cry by Mildred Taylor**. 1930's Mississippi and Cassie Logan is only just understanding her place in a white society. This story brings both joy and sorrow to the reader following the Logan family through their trials and triumphs.

2. Research post colonialism on Britannica to supplement learning for **The Tempest by Shakespeare**. This is a great way to explore how context shapes meaning; a skill crucial for the study of Literature.

3. Research satire in Victorian novels to supplement learning for **The Importance of Being Earnest**. Much of the Literature you will study at MGS will be tragedy and comedy with the exception of The Importance of Being Earnest, explore what this genre is about and why you think it was popular at the time.

4. Research Wilfred Owen and Siegfried Sassoon for poetry unit and Journey's End. Look at the 'War poet's association' website.

5. Research '**Royal Shakespeare Company**' website and read about histories, comedies and tragedies.

6. Visit the Sherlock Holmes Museum in London and learn about Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's works.

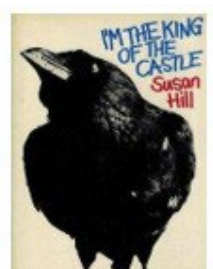
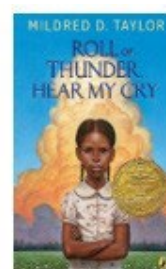
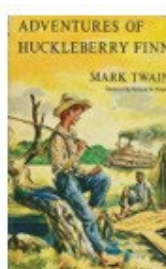
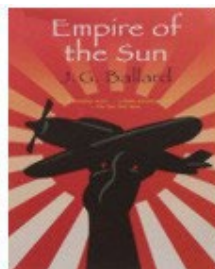
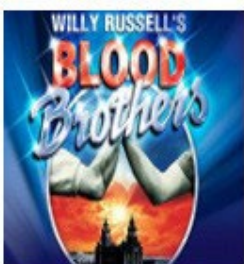
7. Watch The Woman in Black theatre performance.

8. Read and annotate high level poetry such as:

- Neutral Tones by Thomas Hardy
- My Last Duchess by Robert Browning
- The Manhunt by Simon Armitage
- Hurricane Hits England by Grace Nichols
- To Autumn by John Keats
- London by William Blake

9. Listen to 'Longform' podcasts for interviews from different writers about their inspirations and ways of crafting novels and interviews.

10. Listen the 'The Allusionist' podcast which is about the etymology of words. Focussing to the English language and how it is used.



English (KS4)

1. All Key Stage 4 students are encouraged to read a wide breadth of texts to improve their literacy and creative writing skills. A list of challenging texts for Key Stage 4 students are:

- **Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë** – my all-time favourite book, I think this is beautiful story of a strong, powerful woman who overcomes great hardships in her life. She never gives up on what she truly wants and I think she is an all-time literary heroine!
- **A View from a Bridge by Arthur Miller** – a great example of American Literature at its finest; a story of family and how love can tear them apart
- **The History Boys by Alan Bennett** – a controversial story focussing on relationships between teachers and pupils in an all boy's grammar school; but what happens when the line gets crossed? Is there any going back?
- **The War of the Worlds by H.G Wells** – alien invasions in the Victorian times? Yes, you read correctly. The seminal work on invasion literature, a very important text that explores themes of fear and the expansion of the British Empire.
- **The Woman in Black by Susan Hill** – a great ghost story, imagine yourself reading this on those October afternoons when the day is drawing in. The residents of Crythin Gifford are not pleased by the arrival of Arthur Kipps, what secrets will he stir and will the town, or Arthur, ever be the same again? Once you have read the book, watch the film and see the play – you won't be disappointed!

2. Research British Imperialism in the Victorian period on Britannica to supplement learning for Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson.

This is the perfect opportunity to start exploring the context relating to 19th century Britain, an age you will study in KS3

3. Research manners and decorum in Victorian and Edwardian novels to supplement learning for An Inspector Calls

4. Research the Wilfred Owen website and read articles on the journal to give you wider contextual references for the poem Exposure.

5. Research 'Royal Shakespeare Company' website and read about histories, comedies and tragedies. You can never read enough Shakespeare, enjoy a range of plays to see how the great playwright altered his craft depending on the genre he was writing.

6. **Read 16 classic novels before you hit 16.** You could choose from: The Great Gatsby, Wuthering Heights, Nineteen Eight-four, The Catcher in the Rye, A Streetcar Named Desire, Pride and Prejudice, Frankenstein Dracula, Lord of the Flies.

7. Watch a Macbeth theatre performance or a DVD version of a theatre performance. There have been lots of different performances of this well-known Shakespearean text. By watching a version, it may give you a different insight or perspective as to how a character is perceived. It will also help you to revise and visualise the key scenes.

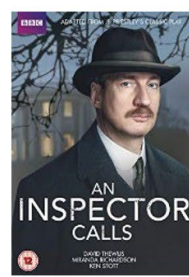
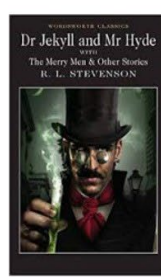
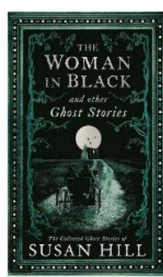
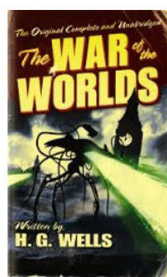
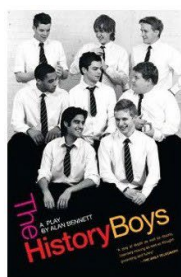
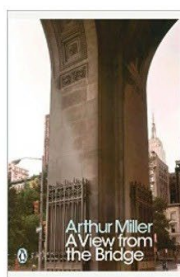
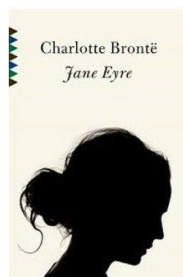
8. Read quality broadsheet articles from The Times, The Independent or The Guardian and identify the non-fiction techniques evident in the articles.

This will really help with your non-fiction pieces of writing. It is important to explore the layout, structure and tone of different pieces of writing, especially as you may be asked to write an article in your Language Paper 2 exam.

9. Listen to 'Longform' podcasts for interviews from different writers about their inspirations and ways of crafting novels and interviews.

Number 9 and 10 are a great alternative way to revise: download a podcast and listen to it on the bus or on the way into school. Top level responses look for varied and original interpretations; if you listen to interviews with the authors you may get your inspiration for new ideas based on what they have said!

10. Listen the 'The Allusionist' podcast which is about the etymology of words. Focussing to the English language and how it is used.



Film Studies (KS4)

Citizen Kane (Orson Welles, 1940, US)

Often cited as the greatest film ever made, this was Orson Welles' first feature length film. In fact, Welles was given a never before seen contract by the film studio, the chance to direct, write, produce and act in his own project: at 24 years of age this was unheard of. Welles, created Citizen Kane, the story of a wealthy media mogul who dies with the final word, 'Rosebud', leaving journalists to delve into his life story and find out all they can about the meaning of, 'Rosebud'. Without a doubt a master class in filmmaking and a must see for every film studies student.

It's a Wonderful Life (Frank Capra, 1946, US)

One of the greatest, and most uplifting films ever made. This story of George Bailey and the good he has done throughout his life is warm and funny, whilst also very moving and with a strong message at the heart. On original release the film underperformed, but the filmmakers later re-released this at Christmas and were pleased to see the film prove extremely well with viewers.

Star Wars (George Lucas, 1977, US)

Arguably one of the most influential films of all time. Lucas drew inspiration from the Western and Samurai genres and created one of the most successful franchises of all time. The narrative may be simple, but it created fantastic characters, development, depth, lore and huge amounts of profit.

Wall-E (Stanton, 2008, US)

So many people dismiss animated films as being simple and appealing to mass audiences, but Wall-E couldn't be more different. In Wall-E, planet Earth has been ruined by excessive waste and pollution leaving mankind to flee to spaceships. Left behind is Wall-E (Waste Allocation Load Lifter, Earth Class) a robot left to clean up the planet. This mostly dialogue free film is intelligent, nostalgic, funny and heart-warming, a masterclass in storytelling and one of Pixar's best.



There are also hundreds of other amazing films to watch, it's always worth using award ceremonies such as the Oscars or the BAFTAs as advice on what to watch.

Books:

- The Short Cuts Series, Wallflower Press

There are a whole series of these in publications including, 'Disaster Movies: the Cinema of Catastrophe', 'Costume and Cinema: Dress Codes in Popular Film' and 'The New Hollywood: from Bonnie and Clyde to Star Wars'. Each book is about 150 pages and offers a strong overview of the topic in a fairly straight forward manner. They offer examples and further readings if you want to find out more, these are always a good start.

- Morphology of the Folktale – Vladimir Propp

Propp's work on structuralism and narrative is oft quoted and referenced and has been for many years. Morphology of the Folktale is his perhaps his most recognised work, offering reflections on folklore in order to identify a common narrative structure and character functions within stories.

- The Story of Film – Mark Cousins

A look at film as an art form and the history and cultural impact it has had. This book serves as a compendium to Cousin's documentary 'The Story of Film – An Odyssey' and explores what film can mean and stand for in our lives and how far it has progressed.

Websites:

<https://www.boxofficemojo.com/>

Box Office Mojo is an amazing resource for film students. It offers clear and thorough details on how much money films have made at the box office and then breaks this down into domestic, worldwide, weekly and daily figures. It also allows comparisons against other films, budget information and details of all time records. All in all, this is a brilliant resource for anyone looking to better understand the film industry.

<https://www.bfi.org.uk/>

The BFI, or British Film Institute, funds and promotes numerous films and offers a fantastic research library and archive system. The website is also highly useful, offering case studies, resources, critical reviews as well as detail of courses and conference being held at their theatre in Southbank, London

French

Electronic textbooks:

Allez (KS3) and AQA French (KS4)

www.kerboodle.com

Grammar:

<https://french.kwiziq.com/>

<https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/>

Vocabulary:

www.kerboodle.com (Resources tab / Vocabulary builder)

<https://quizlet.com/>

News:

<https://www.1jour1actu.com/>

General Knowledge:

<https://fr.vikidia.org/wiki/Vikidia:Accueil>

Podcasts:

<https://www.fluentu.com/blog/french/french-podcasts/>

<https://parisoclock.com/podcast/>

<https://www.podcastfrancaisfacile.com/apprendre-le-francais/french-communication-dialogues-fle-daily-life-listen-mp3T>

Introduction to Literature:

Le Petit Prince

A. de Saint-Exupéry

ISBN: 3946571654

Tintin au Tibet

Hergé

ISBN: 9782203001190

Films:

- Les choristes (Y8 and above; topic: school; French history)
- Ratatouille (Y8 and above; topic: food; French culture)
- Intouchables (Y10 and above; topic: social issues; French society)

Publications:

Le Journal des Enfants

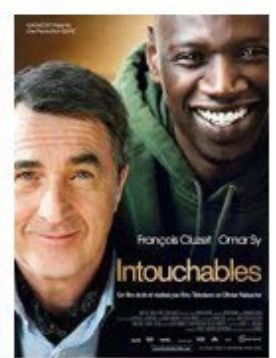
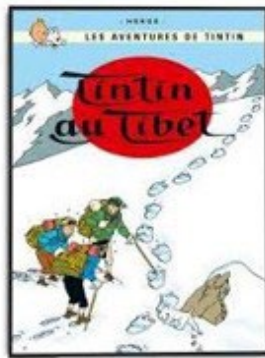
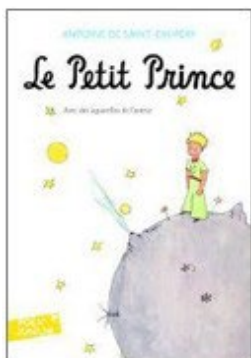
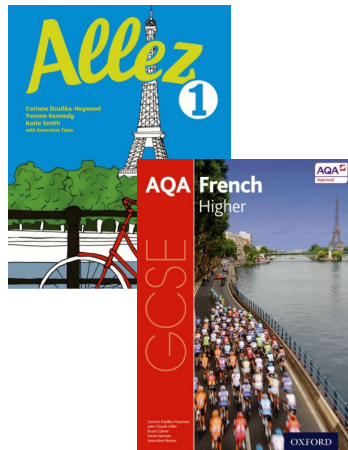
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Geography

Websites:

<https://brilliantmaps.com/>

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/>

A brilliant website dedicated to the different!

<https://worldmapper.org/>

Maps that change the area of the country based on the statistic you want to look at, from Climate Change to Birth Rate.

<https://www.worldatlas.com/>

Improve your sense of place and Geography facts.

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>

A brilliant website with data for nearly all the countries in the World.

Books:

Tim Marshall – Prisoners of Geography

An amazing book looking at how Geography has created the World we live in and the Power Struggles that exist and dominate our news!

Horrible Geography Series

Brilliant facts to add to your knowledge on a wide range of both physical and human topics.

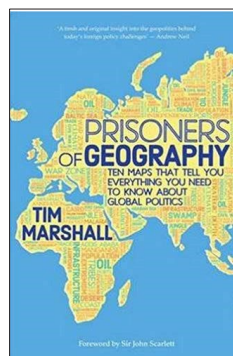
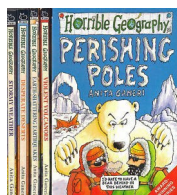
Apps

Volcanoes and Earthquakes

Live data and information about locations and impacts of Volcanoes and Earthquakes Worldwide

GeoQuest

Test your knowledge of place, lots of options and levels of difficulty!



KS3 Specific:

<https://www.kids-world-travel-guide.com/>

<https://maps4kids.com/blog/>

<https://www.quizwise.com/geography-quiz/archive>

KS4 Specific:

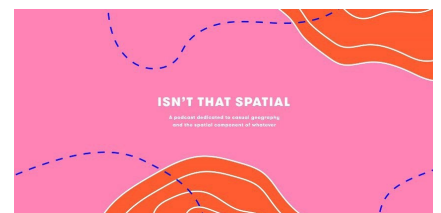
<https://www.internetgeography.net/blog/>

<https://www.geographyrealm.com/>

Podcasts:

Isn't that Spatial?

<https://veryspatial.com/>

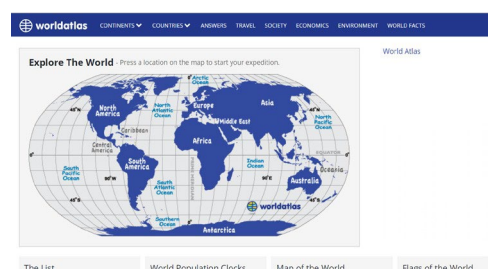
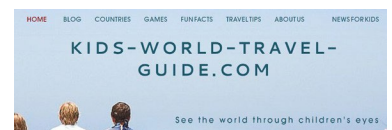
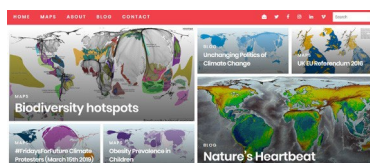


WHAT PLANET ARE WE ON?

The impacts of climate change are ever more apparent with each passing day. Biologist Liz Bonnin uncovers the effects that human activity has had on the environment as well as what we can do now to improve the health of the planet. The podcast offers solutions and practical tips on how each of us can help. It also draws help from world renowned environmentalists; names as influential as Sir David Attenborough.

Youtube Channels:

- Sustainable Human
- MinuteEarth



German

News:

Süddeutsche Zeitung für Kinder

<https://www.sueddeutsche.de/thema/Kinderzeitung>

Kruschel

<https://www.kruschel.de/index.htm>

General Knowledge:

Vikidia

<https://de.wikidia.org/wiki/Vikidia:Hauptseite>

Podcasts:

Slow German

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXntXBr2YKBO1xDni0EgXA>

<https://www.fluentu.com/blog/german/intermediate-german-podcast/>

Web portal for children:

Blinde Kuh

<https://www.blinde-kuh.de/index.html>

Introduction to Literature:

Emil und die Detektive

E. Kästner

ISBN: 3791530127

Redaktion Wadenbeißer Band 1

I. Rometsch

ISBN: 3897778394

History (KS3)

Stormin' Normans by Terry Deary

Another gem from the 'Horrible History stable, this time examining life in England in the late 11th Century. Readers can discover all the foul facts about the STORMIN' NORMANS, including why Norman knights slept with a dolly. With a bold, accessible new look and a heap of extra-horrible bits, this bestselling title is sure to be a huge hit with yet another generation of Terry Deary fans.

The Lady in the Tower by Alison Weir

On 2 May, 1536, in an act unprecedented in English history, Anne Boleyn, Henry VIII's second wife, was imprisoned in the Tower of London. On 15 May, she was tried and found guilty of high treason and executed just four days later. Mystery surrounds the circumstances leading up to her arrest - did Henry VIII instruct his Minister Thomas Cromwell to fabricate evidence to get rid of her so that he could marry Jane Seymour? Did Cromwell, for reasons of his own, construct a case against Anne? Or was Anne, in fact, as guilty as charged? This is a compelling story of the last days of history's most charismatic, controversial and tragic Queen.

Dissolution by C.J. Samsom

It is 1537, a time of revolution that sees the greatest changes in England since 1066. Henry VIII has proclaimed himself Supreme Head of the Church and the country is waking up to savage new laws, rigged trials and the greatest network of informers ever seen. Under the order of Thomas Cromwell, a team of commissioners is sent through the country to investigate the monasteries. There can only be one outcome: the monasteries are to be dissolved. But on the Sussex coast, at the monastery of Scarnsea, events have spiralled out of control. Cromwell's Commissioner Robin Singleton, has been found dead, his head severed from his body. His horrific murder is accompanied by equally sinister acts of sacrilege - a black cockerel sacrificed on the altar, and the disappearance of Scarnsea's Great Relic. Dr Matthew Shardlake, lawyer and long-time supporter of Reform, has been sent by Cromwell into this atmosphere of treachery and death. But Shardlake's investigation soon forces him to question everything he hears, and everything that he intrinsically believes . . .

King of the Shadows by Susan Cooper

Shakespeare's London is brought vividly to life in cleverly written novel that sees young actor Nat Field slipping back 400 years in time to find himself playing Puck at the Globe Theatre in 1599. Playing opposite him is the King of the Shadows himself, William Shakespeare. Worth a hundred history lessons, Cooper's novel combines thriller-like suspense with a story of theatrical and personal transformations.

You wouldn't want to be in the Great Fire of London by Jim Pipe

As if the plague wasn't bad enough, here comes the fiery antidote! As famous diary-keeper Samuel Pepys, you'll witness four days and four nights of fire and live to tell the tale. Find out how people lived in the London of 1666, how they coped in the aftermath and all importantly, whodunnit! - or at least who we think dunnit! "You Wouldn't Want To Be" is a constantly-growing library of exciting titles which transport the reader to the grisliest times and places in history. The first-person narrative approach puts the reader in the shoes of some of the most unfortunate people ever to have lived. Humorous cartoon-style illustrations bring the characters to life, while informative captions explain processes or chronological events.

The Slimy Stuarts by Terry Deary

Readers can discover all the foul facts about the SLIMY STUARTS, including why some slimy Stuarts ate toads, snails and fleas, which king picked his nose and never washed his hands and why people wore fish on their feet (bleeugh!). Another entertaining but informative read from Terry Deary.

The Astonishing life of Octavian Nothing by M.T. Anderson

Young Octavian is being raised by a group of philosophers known only by numbers - but it is only after he opens a forbidden door that learns the hideous nature of their experiments, and his own chilling role them. Set in Revolutionary Boston, M. T. Anderson's mesmerizing novel takes place at a time when Patriots battled to win liberty while African slaves were entreated to risk their lives for a freedom they would never claim. Winner of the 2014 US National Book Award for Young People.

Street Child by Berlie Doherty

The unforgettable tale of an orphan in Victorian London, based on the boy whose plight inspired Dr Barnardo to found his famous children's homes. When his mother dies, Jim Jarvis is left all alone in London. He is sent to the workhouse but quickly escapes, choosing a hard life on the streets of the city over the confines of the workhouse walls. Struggling to survive, Jim finally finds some friends... only to be snatched away and made to work for the remorselessly cruel Grimy Nick, constantly guarded by his vicious dog, Snipe. Will Jim ever manage to be free?>

War Horse by Michael Morpurgo

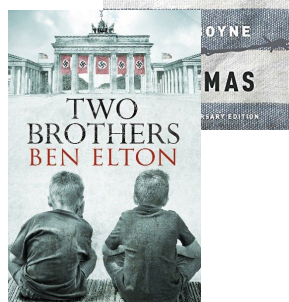
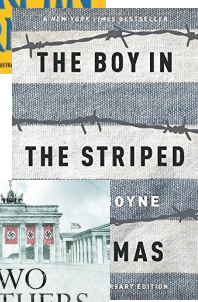
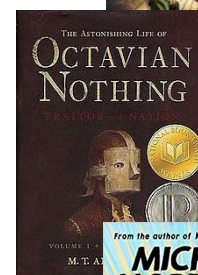
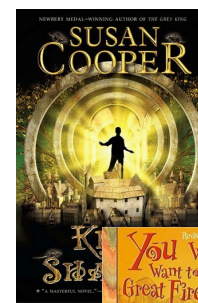
In the deadly chaos of the First World War, one horse witnesses the reality of battle from both sides of the trenches. Bombarded by artillery, with bullets knocking riders from his back, Joey tells a powerful story of the truest friendships surviving in terrible times. One horse has seen the best and the worst of humanity. The power of war and the beauty of peace. This is his story.

Two Brothers by Ben Elton

Berlin 1920: Two babies are born. Two brothers. United and indivisible, sharing everything. Twins in all but blood. As Germany marches into its Nazi Armageddon, the ties of family, friendship and love are tested to the very limits of endurance. And the brothers are faced with an unimaginable choice..... Which one of them will survive? Two Brothers transports the reader to the time of history's darkest hour.

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne

Nine-year-old Bruno knows nothing of the Final Solution and the Holocaust. He is oblivious to the appalling cruelties being inflicted on the people of Europe by his country. All he knows is that he has been moved from a comfortable home in Berlin to a house in a desolate area where there is nothing to do and no one to play with. Until he meets Shmuel, a boy who lives a strange parallel existence on the other side of the adjoining wire fence and who, like the other people there, wears a uniform of striped pyjamas. Bruno's friendship with Shmuel will take him from innocence to revelation. And in exploring what he is unwittingly a part of, he will inevitably become subsumed by the terrible process.



History (KS4)

The Plantagenets: The Kings who made England. By Dan Jones.

This book from the popular young Historian Dan Jones explores the lives of eight generations of the greatest kings and queens that this country has ever seen, and the worst. The Plantagenets – their story is the story of Britain.

England's greatest royal dynasty, the Plantagenets, ruled over England through eight generations of kings. Their remarkable reign saw England emerge from the Dark Ages to become a highly organised kingdom that spanned a vast expanse of Europe. Plantagenet rule saw the establishment of laws and creation of artworks, monuments and tombs which survive to this day, and continue to speak of their sophistication, brutality and secrets.

Dan Jones brings you a new vision of this battle-scarred history. From the Crusades, to King John's humbling over Magna Carta and the tragic reign of the last Plantagenet, Richard III – this is a blow-by-blow account of England's most thrilling age.

Twentieth Century Battlefields by Dan and Peter Snow.

The father and son team of Political Journalist Peter Snow and Military Historian Dan Snow bring you this riveting read, bringing to life the most intense and bitterly fought battles of the 20th century from the apocalyptic terrain of the Western Front to the desert landscape of Iraq. Punctuated by powerful eyewitness testimony, their compelling and often shocking narrative highlights the strategy of military commanders as well as the experience of men on the frontline. 20th Century Battlefields looks back at the most violent century in history and examines the challenges facing armed forces in the future.

The Cold War: A very short introduction. By Robert McMahon.

The massive disorder and economic ruin following the Second World War inevitably predetermined the scope and intensity of the Cold War. But why did it last so long? And what impact did it have on the United States, the Soviet Union, Europe, and the Third World? Finally, how did it affect the broader history of the second half of the twentieth century - what were the human and financial costs? This Very Short Introduction holds the answers!

Petrograd 1917: Witnesses to the Russian Revolution By John Pinfold.

'It's damned hard lines asking for bread and only getting a bullet!' The dramatic and chaotic events surrounding the Russian Revolution have been studied and written about extensively for the last hundred years, by historians and journalists alike. However, some of the most compelling and valuable accounts are those recorded by eyewitnesses, many of whom were foreign nationals caught in Petrograd at the time. Drawing from the Bodleian Library's rich collections, this book features extracts from letters, journals, diaries and memoirs written by a diverse cast of onlookers. Primarily British, the authors include Sydney Gibbes, English tutor to the royal children, Bertie Stopford, an antiques dealer who smuggled the Vladimir tiara and other Romanov jewels into the UK, and the private secretary to Lord Milner in the British War Cabinet. Contrasting with these are a memoir by Stinton Jones, an engineer who found himself sharing a train compartment with Rasputin, a newspaper report by governess Janet Jeffrey who survived a violent confrontation with the Red Army, and letters home from Labour politician, Arthur Henderson.

Animal Farm. By George Orwell

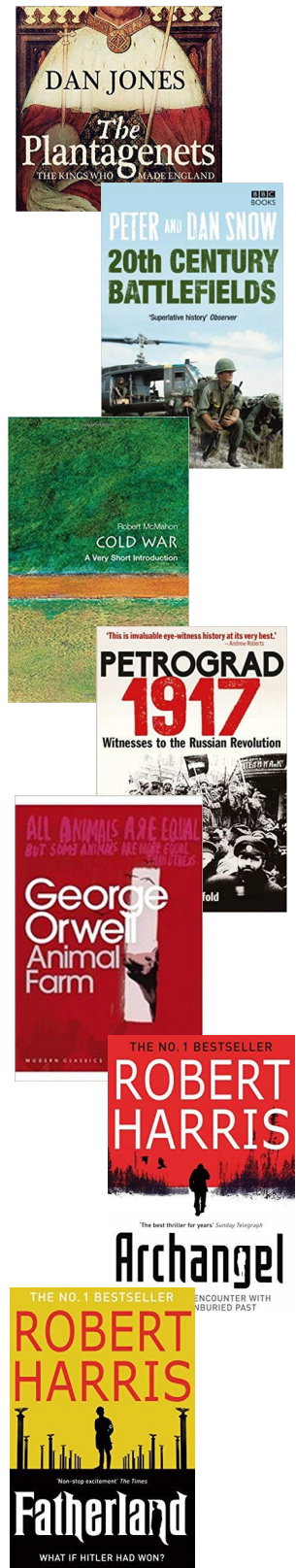
All animals are equal - but some are more equal than others' When the downtrodden animals of Manor Farm overthrow their master Mr Jones and take over the farm themselves, they imagine it is the beginning of a life of freedom and equality. But gradually a cunning, ruthless élite among them, masterminded by the pigs Napoleon and Snowball, starts to take control. Soon the other animals discover that they are not all as equal as they thought, and find themselves hopelessly ensnared as one form of tyranny is replaced with another. Orwell's exciting and tragic tale is the story of a revolution that went wrong and all the heartache that followed.

Archangel. By Robert Harris.

When historian Fluke Kelso learns of the existence of a secret notebook belonging to Josef Stalin he is determined to track it down, whatever the consequences. From the violent political intrigue and decadence of modern Moscow he heads north - to the vast forests surrounding the White Sea port of Archangel, and a terrifying encounter with Russia's unburied past. Now also a BBC film starring James Bond star Daniel Craig.

Fatherland. By Robert Harris.

What if Hitler had won? This is the terrifying question that Harris brilliantly answers in his international best seller. Fatherland is set in an alternative world where Hitler has won the Second World War. It is April 1964 and one week before Hitler's 75th birthday. Xavier March, a detective of the Kriminalpolizei, is called out to investigate the discovery of a dead body in a lake near Berlin's most prestigious suburb. As March discovers the identity of the body, he uncovers signs of a conspiracy that could go to the very top of the German Reich. And, with the Gestapo just one step behind, March, together with an American journalist, is caught up in a race to discover and reveal the truth - a truth that has already killed, a truth that could topple governments, a truth that will change history.



Mathematics (KS3)

The Number Devil by Hans Magnus Enzensberger

Twelve-year-old Robert hates maths. Then in a dream, Robert meets the Number Devil, who brings the subject magically to life, illustrating with wit and charm a world in which numbers can fascinate and amaze.

Murderous Maths by Kjartan Poskitt

All the Murderous Maths books feature a range of characters including One-Finger Jimmy, Half Smile and their gang, Dolly Snowlips, Professor Fiendish, Pongo McWhiffy and the terribly lovely Veronica Gumfloss, the evil Gollarks from the planet Zog, Urgum the Axeman and so on. They also include sneaky tricks, games, jokes (most of which are repeatable) and what's more - you'll find yourself picking up all sorts of advice and tips on how to cope with maths in all its various forms. Accompanied by an excellent website.

The Adventures of Penrose the Mathematical Cat by Theoni Pappas

Join Penrose on a mad cap tour of mathematical ideas. Watch a tangram egg hatch, learn how to make a square become a bird, help nanocat get back home, and many more amusing, entertaining and informative tales.

Websites:

<https://nrich.maths.org/secondary>

This website has lots of excellent mathematical puzzles to help you gain further understanding in the practical application of the subject. Choose Level 3 problems.

<https://www.mangahigh.com/en-gb/>

Excellent games and plenty of learning. This is a good resource even just the free version.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/>

This is based in the USA and so needs a little care but there is everything here you can use to learn and play. This website will take you from adding numbers to solving partial differential equations. We love it.

YouTube Channels:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/numberphile/>

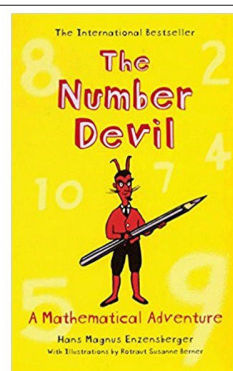
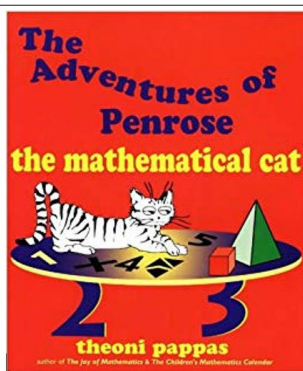
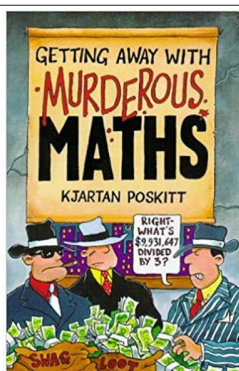
Numberphile will teach you so much exciting stuff you'll never want to miss a mathematics lesson again. Learn how the sum of the natural numbers is $-1/12$.

YouTube – Mathologer

Curiosities from the world of mathematics. Listen, watch and learn.

YouTube – Dr Frost Maths

Plenty of revision and learning for you to complete.



Mathematics (KS4)

Fermat's Last Theorem by Simon Singh

In 1963, a schoolboy browsing in his local library stumbled across a great mathematical problem: Fermat's Last Theorem, a puzzle that every child can now understand, but which baffled mathematicians for over 300 years. Aged just ten, Andrew Wiles dreamed he would crack it. Many people had tried before Wiles and failed, including an 18th-century philanderer who was killed in a duel. An 18th-century Frenchwoman made a major breakthrough in solving the riddle, but she had to attend maths lectures at the Ecole Polytechnique disguised as a man. This is the story of the puzzle that has confounded mathematicians since the 17th century. The solution of the Theorem is one of the most important mathematical developments of the 20th century.

The Code Book: The secret History of Codes and Code Breaking by Simon Singh

How to make it, break it, hack it, crack it. The secret history of codes and code breaking. Simon Singh's best-selling title The Code Book has now been re-issued for the young-adult market. The Science of Secrecy from Ancient Egypt to Quantum Cryptography.

Mathematics Minus Fear by Lawrence Potter

Lawrence Potter explains where school mathematics has come from with reference to its historical and cultural background, and connects it to relevant everyday situations. Can animals count? Who invented numbers? Why were the Egyptians frightened of fractions? What is the connection between long multiplication and nuns? How do you win on the horses? Lawrence shows that the mathematics you learnt in the classroom does not exist on its own, but has fascinating connections with the world around you.

Why do buses come in threes? by Rob Eastaway and Jeremy Wyndham

This book will change the way you see the world. Why is it better to buy a lottery ticket on a Thursday? Why are showers always too hot or too cold? And what's the connection between Rob Andrew taking a conversion in rugby and a tourist trying to get the best photograph of Nelson's Column? These and many other fascinating questions are answered in this entertaining and highly informative book ideal for anyone wanting to remind themselves - or discover for the first time - that maths is relevant to almost everything that we do.

How long is a piece of string? by Rob Eastaway and Jeremy Wyndham

Why do weather forecasters get it wrong? What are the best tactics for playing "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" and "The Weakest Link"? And what is the link between a tin of baked beans and a men's urinal? These and many other questions are answered in this book.

Websites:

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This website has lots of excellent mathematical puzzles to help you gain further understanding in the practical application of the subject. Choose Level 3 problems.

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YouTube – Mathologer

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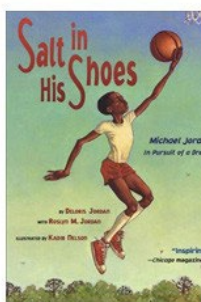
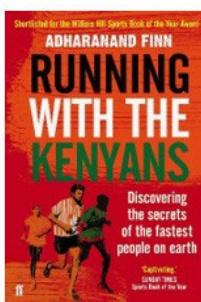
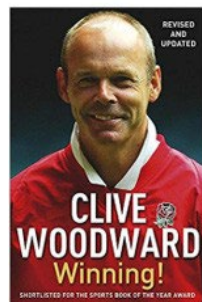
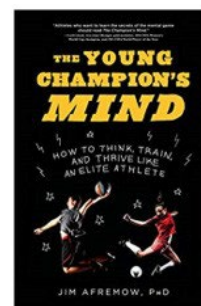
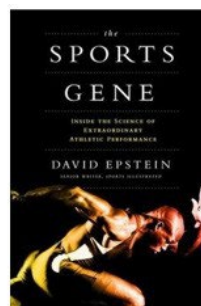
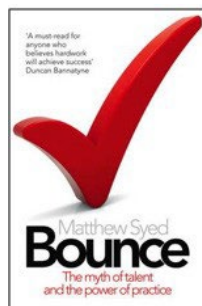
YouTube – Dr Frost Maths

Plenty of revision and learning for you to complete.

PE

Books:

- Bounce- Matthew Syed
- The Sports Gene- David Epstein
- The Young Champion's Mind- Jim Afremow
- Winning!- Sir Clive Woodward
- Running with the Kenyans-Adharanand Finn
- Salt in His Shoes-Michael Jordan



Ted Talks:

- Gonzalo Vilarino: How Argentina's blind soccer team became champions
- Billie Jean King: This tennis icon paved the way for women in sports
- David Epstein: Are athletes really getting faster, better, stronger?
- Lewis Pugh: My mind-shifting Everest swim
- Aimee Mullins: Changing my legs - and my mindset
- John Wooden: The difference between winning and succeeding

Online Articles:

Six reasons team sports are good for your health: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/quora/2018/03/21/six-reasons-why-team-sports-are-good-for-your-health/#3f3e54696e25>

Does playing sport make you smarter?: <https://examinedexistence.com/does-playing-sports-make-you-smarter/>

Documentaries:

- 'Free Solo'
- 'Through Hell or High Water'
- 'Icarus'
- 'Take the Ball, Pass the Ball'
- 'Undefeated'
- 'Murderball'

Performing Arts

Music:

Resources on the VLE

Spotify playlist on 'Edexcel Set Works'

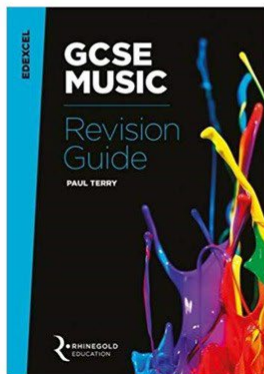
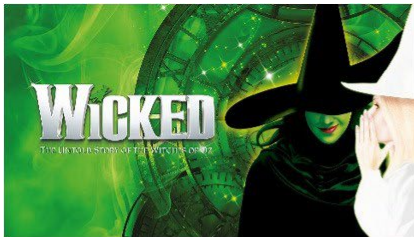
Musictheory.net

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https://www.rhinegold.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/MT0617-scheme-KS4_Music-for-stage-and-screen.pdf

https://www.rhinegold.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/MT0717-scheme-KS4_Fusions.pdf



RS (Religion, Philosophy and Ethics)

Recommended Reading for KS3

Life of Pi by Yann Martel

Piscine Molitor "Pi" Patel, a Tamil boy from Pondicherry, survives 227 days after a shipwreck while stranded on a boat in the Pacific Ocean with a Bengal tiger named Richard Parker. Throughout the story there are interesting questions raised about the nature of spirituality, the importance of faith and the relationship between science and religion.

The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis

This series of fantasy novels, alongside being one of the best loved series of children's books of all time, contains large amounts of religious symbolism. Aslan, the noble lion of Narnia, is a literary Christ figure who plays a pivotal role in the story, as Jesus Christ is central to the Christian faith. C.S. Lewis set out his story of Aslan as a retelling of the incarnation, crucifixion and resurrection, so this book would be an interesting read for anyone who wants a better understanding of key themes within Christian theology.

The Religions Book: Big Ideas Simply Explained (DK)

An excellent book to dip into for anyone who wants to understand the key concepts behind the earliest religious beliefs right up the world's newest faiths. It gets to the heart of what it means to believe with jargon-free descriptions and step-by-step diagrams that encapsulate every aspect of religious thinking.

His Dark Materials Trilogy by Philip Pullman

The epic story Pullman tells across the books is not only a spellbinding adventure featuring armoured polar bears, magical devices, witches and daemons, it is also an audacious and profound re-imagining of Milton's Paradise Lost.

Recommended Reading for KS4

Sophie's World by Jostein Gaarder

A phenomenal worldwide bestseller, SOPHIE'S WORLD sets out to draw teenagers into the world of Socrates, Descartes, Spinoza, Hegel and all the great philosophers. A brilliantly original and fascinating story with many twists and turns, it raises profound questions about the meaning of life and the origin of the universe.

The House of Islam: A Global History

Wise and authoritative, The House of Islam seeks to provide entry to the minds and hearts of Muslims around the world. It introduces us to the mercy of Muhammad, the aims of sharia law, the way scripture provides an ethical basis to life and the beauty of Islamic art.

Ethics: A Very Short Introduction

Presenting an introduction to ethics, this work tackles the moral questions surrounding birth, death, happiness, desire, and freedom. It also shows us how we should think about the meaning of life, and how we should mistrust the soundbite-sized absolutes that often dominate moral debates.

The Philosophy Book (DK)

Explore the history of philosophy, from ancient Greece to China to today, and find out how theories from over 2,000 years ago are still relevant to our modern lives. Follow the progression of human ideas and gain an understanding of the world's most influential philosophers.

Online Resources - KS3 and KS4

RE:quest (<https://request.org.uk/>)

An excellent educational website containing information about the Christian faith. For students in KS3, articles on this website will help you to gain a far deeper understanding of the religion. For KS4, it contains detailed information about many of the areas covered in the Christianity section of the GCSE specification.

Religion: Understanding Islam

(<https://www.ted.com/read/ted-studies/religion>)

A range of articles and TED lectures about Islam – an excellent set of resources to deepen your understanding of the religion, particularly at GCSE level.

Guide to the World's Philosophy

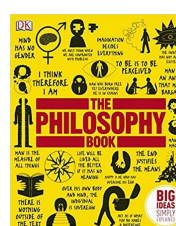
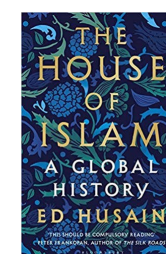
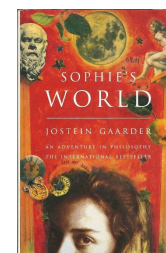
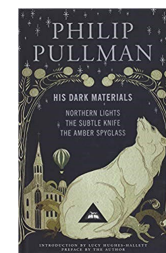
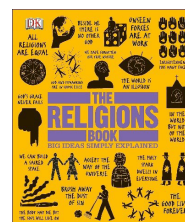
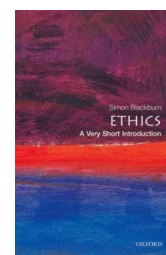
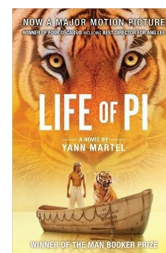
(<http://www.philosophers.co.uk/>)

A website containing information about some of the most influential philosophical thinkers.

BBC Today: Does science have all the answers?

http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_9410000/9410486.stm

An interesting article about whether science can provide answers to the big, philosophical and religious questions.



Science

Books:

- Elements by Theodore Gray
- The Times Science: A History in 100 Experiments by John Gribbin and Mary Gribbin
- Molecules by Theodore Gray
- The Knowledge: How To Rebuild Our World From Scratch by Lewis Dartnell
- A Short History of Nearly Everything by Bill Bryson
- What If? By Randall Monroe
- Brief Answers to the Big Questions, by Stephen Hawking
- What We Cannot Know, by Marcus du Sautoy
- The incredible human journey by Dr Alice Roberts
- The greatest show on earth: The evidence for evolution by Richard Dawkins
- Genome by Matt Ridley

YouTube:

What we cannot know- with Marcus du Sautoy, Royal Institute Lecture

<http://nobelprize.org> – Details of the history of the best scientific discoveries

How movement drives evolution

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jN7VkjUOR4>

How do you fold a genome?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6tkSz2J5jds>

Genetics as Revolution

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gAOPxpm_3EA

Will blindness be eliminated in my lifetime?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=USc61i1kfLo>

What do hairs have to do with hearing?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E8hltCAK4mI>

Race to crack the genetic code

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MYxASuEqMIY>

The 2013-2016 Ebola epidemic

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahpP6_nj15U

Let kids eat dirt

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xLEFI5A3QFM>

Antimicrobial Resistance: The end of modern medicine

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2H_Ox1vVnTc

Photosynthesis

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0UzMaoaXKaM>

Respiration (Nick Lane)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gb7pZyks_HE

Why is life the way it is?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PhPrirmk8F4>

How can you link biology and sports science?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MEpOC0J_C1o

If brains are computers, who designs the software?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TTFoJQSd48c>

The neuroscience of addiction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aOSD9rTVuWc>

The evolution of males and females

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=En26p6GvtHw>

The future of your genetic health

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=41fGH6efFqU>

How do you edit a gene?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XPDb8tqgfjY>

Gene regulation and the epigenome

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uU3hYIJmavc>

What is epigenetics?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9DAcJSAM_BA

Hope for the people and the ocean

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zha3Sg7PvdM>

Can we use robots to farm?

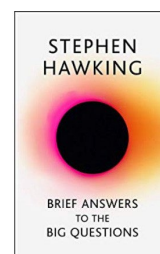
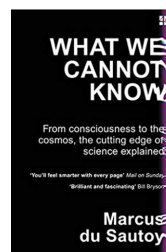
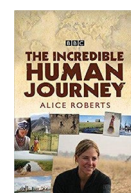
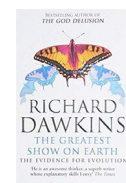
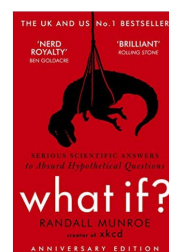
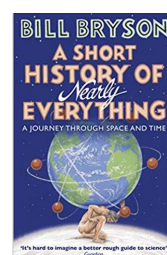
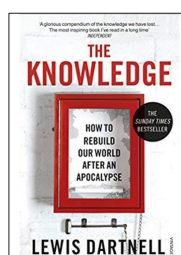
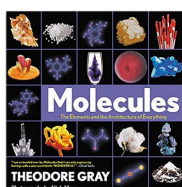
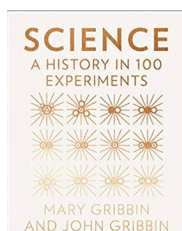
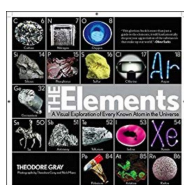
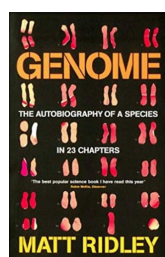
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OU8nwf2UI8g>

Gene to beans

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kOfOL4XzMsg>

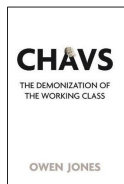
Venues:

- London Zoo
- Science Museum
- Natural History Museum
- Body Worlds

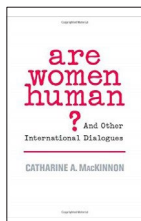


Sociology

Books to read:

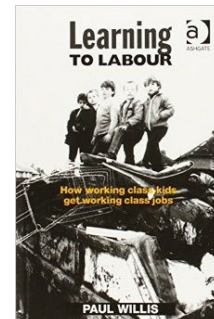


In modern Britain, the working class has become an object of fear and ridicule. Owen Jones explores how the working class has gone from "salt of the earth" to "scum of the earth." The chav stereotype, he argues, is used by governments as a convenient fig leaf to avoid genuine engagement with social and economic problems and to justify widening inequality.



The deliberately provocative title of the book does not fail to meet expectations of a fascinating exploration of the state of contemporary gender identity. Written by a feminist, it takes a unique angle on patriarchy in all its different manifestations.

Learning to Labour by Paul Willis (1977) is an ethnographic study of twelve working class 'lads' from a school in Birmingham conducted between 1972 and 1975. The study aimed to uncover the question of how and why "working class kids get working class jobs".



Useful websites:

Sociology central:

<http://www.sociology.org.uk/index.htm>

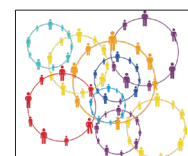
An excellent website with a useful breakdown of resources that cover a range of different topics.



Revise Sociology:

<https://revisesociology.com/>

Predominately aimed at A Level students, however provides explanations of many studies used for the GCSE course.



Socioweb:

<https://www.socioweb.com/>

A useful website that contains scholarly articles and links to other useful websites. Some of the material is more at a degree level that provides an extra bit of stretch and challenge, but most of it perfectly accessible



Useful Radio programmes/podcasts:

Radio 4: Thinking Allowed

Presented by Laurie Taylor. Every Wednesday at 4pm and available as podcasts. It is devoted to exploring the very latest in sociological research with interviews and debates with sociologists who have undertaken primary research.

All Sociology

Also on YouTube and Instagram, All Sociology provides revision material and techniques for GCSE and A Level students.



Useful magazines:

Sociology Review

A quarterly publication devoted to students of A Level Sociology. It is available in the library.

Prospect

A current affairs magazine that contains lots of interesting analysis of contemporary social issue.



Spanish

News:

CNN Español

<https://cnnespanol.cnn.com/category/ninos/>

General Knowledge:

Vikidia

<https://es.wikidia.org/>

Podcasts:

<https://www.fluentu.com/blog/spanish/spanish-podcasts/>

Publications:

Ahora

ISSN 0961-8481

¡LaLeche!

ISSN: 2530-2434

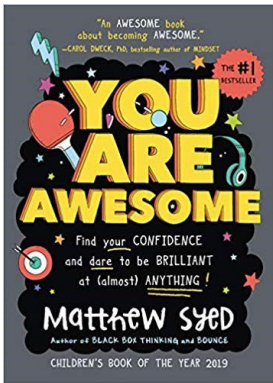
Introduction to Literature:

Papelucho

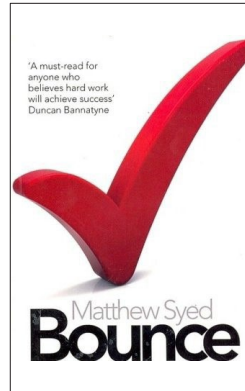
M. Paz

ISBN: 9561111853

Other bits and pieces...



This book was highly recommended by several Year 7 students who said that it had really helped them to develop their self esteem and self confidence.

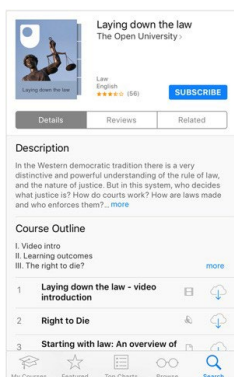
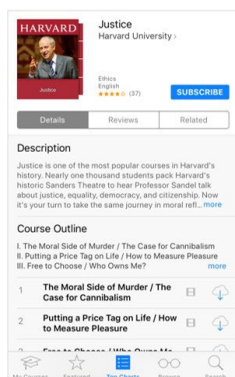


By the same author, Matthew Syed. This book is in the PE section but is also of general interest and has been read by many students. Syed argues that high performance is derived primarily from having the right mind set and from the power of practice..... rather than simply natural talent.

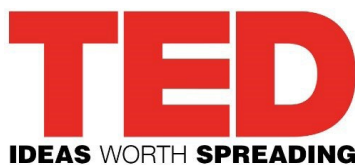
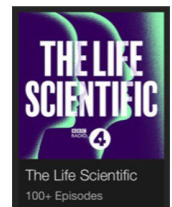
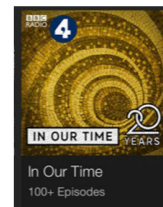
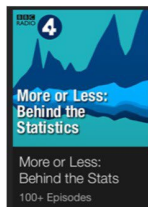
iTunes U is a dedicated section of Apple's iTunes Music Store that features educational audio and video files from universities, museums and public media organizations for free download to PCs and mobile devices.



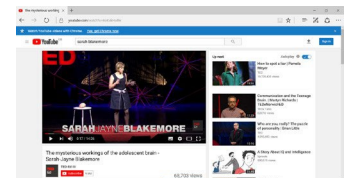
Open the App and search "Top charts" for academic content from universities including Harvard, Yale and the Open University. Particular recommendation for Professor Sandel's Justice lectures (below left) – he is a very engaging speaker and the content is fascinating for anyone interested in justice / ethics and looking for a higher challenge. You can hear more from Professor Sandel via the BBC Radio 4 podcast: The Public Philosopher.



Download the App and search podcasts from BBC Radio 4 including:



In addition, there are many other online mini lectures and talks available via Youtube such as TED Talks (search up topics of interest). Professor Sarah-Jayne Blakemore is Professor of Cognitive Neuroscience at University College, London. Her TED Talk on the adolescent teenage brain gives a good idea of what is on offer and may also be of interest to parents.



MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses)

For those really looking for a much higher level of challenge - stepping up to KS5 level work and beyond - there are a range of free online courses available for independent study: MOOCs.

FutureLearn provides one such platform including many free short courses designed and delivered by top universities and specialist organisations.

