



AUTUMN

If you would like to renew a book, or have any comments/ queries, please don't hesitate to contact us at library@newsteadwood.co.uk

Happy reading! – Miss Mullins, Miss Walker, and Miss Henry



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Orpington Library's Younger Teens Reading Group

Do you enjoy reading?
Enjoy talking about books?



Would you like to join the
Younger Teens Reading
Group at Orpington Library?

If you would like to join, please contact us by
email: orpington.library@gll.org

Meetings are once a month on a Monday from
5:30-6:30pm, during term time, for ages 11-
14 years

We look forward to seeing you!



NEW

Lore Olympus by Rachel Smythe

Persephone, young goddess of spring, is new to Olympus. Her mother, Demeter, has raised her in the mortal realm, but after Persephone promises to train as a sacred virgin, she's allowed to live in the fast-moving, glamorous world of the gods. When her roommate, Artemis, takes her to a party, her entire life changes - she ends up meeting Hades and feels an immediate spark with the charming yet misunderstood ruler of the Underworld. Now Persephone must navigate the confusing politics and relationships that rule Olympus, while also figuring out her own place - and her own power.



Marry Poppins by P.L. Travers

When the East Wind blows Mary Poppins into the home of the banks children, their lives go topsy-turvy and are changed forever..

Melissa by Alex Gino

When people look at Melissa, they think they see a boy named George. But she knows she's not a boy. She knows she's a girl. Melissa thinks she'll have to keep this a secret forever. Then her teacher announces that their class play is going to be Charlotte's Web. Melissa really, really, really wants to play Charlotte. But the teacher says she can't even try out for the part because she's a boy. With the help of her best friend, Kelly, Melissa comes up with a plan. Not just so she can be Charlotte - but so everyone can know who she is, once and for all.



The Metamorphoses by Ovid

(recommended for older readers)

Bringing together a series of ingeniously linked myths and legends, Ovid's deliciously witty and poignant Metamorphoses describes a magical world in which men and women are transformed - often by love - into flowers, trees, animals, stones and stars. First published in 1567, this landmark translation by Arthur Golding was the first major English edition of the epic, which includes such tales as the legend of Narcissus; the parable of Icarus; and the passion held by the witch-queen Circe for the great Aeneas. A compelling adaptation that used imagery familiar to English sixteenth-century society, it powerfully influenced Spenser, Shakespeare and the character of Elizabethan literature.



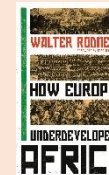
The Outlander by Gil Adamson

On a moonlit night in 1903, a mysterious young woman flees alone across the Canadian wilderness, one quick step ahead of her pursuers. Mary Baulton is nineteen years old, half mad, and widowed - by her own hand. Tearing through the forest with dogs howling in the distance, she is desperate, her nerves burning, and she is certain of one thing only - that her every move is being traced. As she plunges further and further away from civilization, her path from retribution to redemption slowly unfurls.



Loki: A Bad God's Guide to Being Good by Louie Stowell

Loki, the mighty trickster god, has been banished by Odin to live on Earth as an eleven-year-old boy. To get back home he must... 1) Do good deeds (so tedious). 2) Go to school (so cruel). 3) Put up with Thor (so many farts).



How Europe Underdeveloped Africa by Walter Rodney

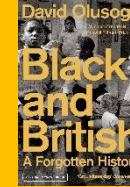
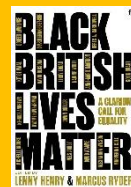
How Europe Underdeveloped Africa is an ambitious masterwork of political economy, detailing the impact of slavery and colonialism on the history of international capitalism. In this classic book, Rodney makes the unflinching case that African maldevelopment is not a natural feature of geography, but a direct product of imperial extraction from the continent, a practice that continues up into the present. Meticulously researched, How Europe Underdeveloped Africa remains an unshakably relevant study of the so-called "great divergence" between Africa and Europe, just as it remains a prescient resource for grasping the multiplication of global inequality today.

Black History Month 2025

Across the UK this October, communities are celebrating Black History Month with events that highlight Black culture, art, and education. In Bristol, the exhibition *Beyond the Bassline: 500 Years of Black British Music* explores the impact of Black music on British culture. Other local events include the Bristol Bus Boycott X exhibition, Somali Week Festival, and poetry workshops. In Somerset, visual activist Wayne Campbell's photo exhibition and events like the Caribbean Experience and Yeovil Literary Festival aim to educate and inspire. Community leaders like Glen Crooks and Florence Nyasamo emphasise the importance of learning from the past while recognising the contributions of Black people in the present and future. Throughout October, a wide range of events take place across the UK to mark the occasion and promote awareness. These include educational activities like historical walking tours, lectures, and panel discussions, as well as creative performances from Black poets, actors, musicians, and artists. Some of this year's highlights include the 1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair at Somerset House, the leading global event dedicated to modern African art; the Black Culture Market in Brixton, a pop-up supporting Black-owned businesses and showcasing unique products, food, and culture; and the Classically Black Festival at Kings Place, which celebrates Black excellence in classical music through live performances and discussions. Literature also plays a major role in the celebrations, with the Black British Book Festival—Europe's largest event of its kind—being held at the Barbican Centre. This year's festival features author talks, writing workshops, and family-friendly events. Notable sessions include conversations with public figures such as June Sarpong OBE, Dame Denise Lewis DBE, Sir Lenny Henry, Marcus Ryder, and Eric Collins, discussing topics like legacy, justice, and reparations. Another major event is the *Black Atlantic: power, people, resistance* exhibition, originally shown at the University of Cambridge and now being hosted at the London School of Economics. The exhibition uses art, objects, and historical archives to reveal lesser-known stories of colonialism, exploitation, and Black resistance.

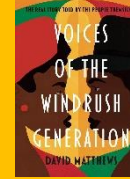
Black British Lives Matter by Sir Lenny Henry and Marcus Ryder

In response to the international outcry at George Floyd's death, Lenny Henry and Marcus Ryder have commissioned this collection of essays to discuss how and why we need to fight for Black lives to matter - not just for Black people but for society. Recognising Black British experience within the Black Lives Matter movement, seventeen prominent Black figures explain why Black lives should be celebrated when too often they are undervalued. Drawing from personal experience, they stress how Black British people have unique perspectives and experiences that enrich British society and the world; how Black lives are far more interesting and important than the forces that try to limit it.



100 Great Black Britons by Patrick Vernon

Now, with this book, Vernon and Osborne have relaunched the campaign with an updated list of names and accompanying portraits - including new role models and previously little-known historical figures. Each entry explores in depth the individual's contribution to British history - a contribution that too often has been either overlooked or dismissed.



Black and British: A Forgotten History by David Olusoga

A Black History of Britain is a rich and revealing exploration of the extraordinarily long relationship between the British Isles and the people of Africa. Drawing on new genetic and genealogical research, original records, expert testimony and contemporary interviews, A Black History of Britain reaches back to Roman Britain, the medieval imagination and Shakespeare's Othello. Unflinching, confronting taboos and revealing hitherto unknown scandals, Olusoga describes how black and white Britons have been intimately entwined for centuries.

Voices of the Windrush Generation by David Matthews

Voices of the Windrush Generation is a powerful collection of stories from the men, women and children of the Windrush generation - West Indians who emigrated to Britain between 1948 and 1971 in response to labour shortages, and in search of a better life. Edited by journalist and bestselling author David Matthews, this book paints a vivid portrait of what it meant for those who left the Caribbean for Britain during the early days of mass migration. Through his own, and many other stories, Matthews explores why and how so many people came to Britain after World War II, their hopes and dreams.

Star Borrowers of the Month

Year 7

Arpita 7F

Kavya 7F

Manasvi 7N

Yaashvi 7S

Ramya 7W

Year 8

Rosie 8G

Anya 8N

Eleanor 8N

Phoebe 8N

Rowan 8P

Bade 8S

Katie 8S

Maria 8S

Miruthviga 8W

Wenjun 8W

Year 9

April 9P

Neevh 9N

Florence 9N

Year 10

Avni 10F

Avni 10N

Reika 10S

Senumi 10S

Erin 10S

Anwitha 10W

Farrah 10W

Year 11

Beth 11F

Year 12

Defne 12F

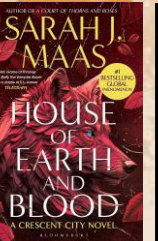
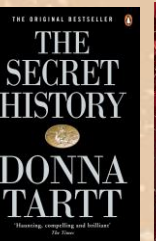
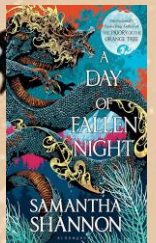
Valen 12P

Anthiya 12S

Year 13

Archaga 13P

Most Popular Books This Month



World Humanitarian Action Day, observed every year on October 19th, is a day to honour the courage, sacrifice, and dedication of humanitarian workers around the world. These individuals, often working in dangerous and challenging conditions such as war zones, natural disasters, or refugee crises, put their lives at risk to help others in need. The day serves as a reminder of their bravery and the importance of global support for humanitarian efforts. Organisations like UNICEF, the Red Cross, and many others step in to help when governments are unable to, offering food, shelter, medical care, and hope to millions. World Humanitarian Action Day also encourages people—especially young people—to get involved by volunteering, spreading awareness, and supporting humanitarian causes online and in their communities. Themes from past years, like "Charter for Compassion" and "Eradicating Extreme Hunger," show the wide range of global issues these groups tackle. While we celebrate the work being done, the day also reminds us that the goal is to build a kinder, more peaceful world where such aid is no longer needed.



100 Things to Know about Saving the Planet by Rose Hall and Parko Polo

How could plastic-eating bacteria help reduce waste? Can a river be given human rights? Could we generate all the power we need from the sun and the wind? How do woolly sweaters help penguins in peril? Would building a giant sunshade in space stop the world from overheating? Find the answers to these questions and more in this book, full of big, small and unexpected ways to save the planet. Covers a wide range of topics from everyday ways individuals can help save the planet, to massive international missions and ambitious plans for the future. Includes links to websites to discover more about the dangers facing our planet and how to help protect it.

A Brief History of Globalisation: The Untold Story of Our Shrinking Planet by Alex MacGillivray

By identifying successive waves of globalization - from 15th century explorations to the European trading empires of the 19th century, from the construction of the Great Wall of China to the fall of the Berlin Wall - the author opens the lid on the complex economics behind the controversies of globalisation.

If The World Were a Village by David J. Smith

Aiming to provoke thought and elicit questions, this book explains facts about the world's population simply. Instead of unimaginable billions, it presents the whole world as a village of just 100 people. We find out that 22 speak a Chinese dialect and that 17 can't read or write.

