

Read All Over

Newstead Wood School

Library

Bulletin



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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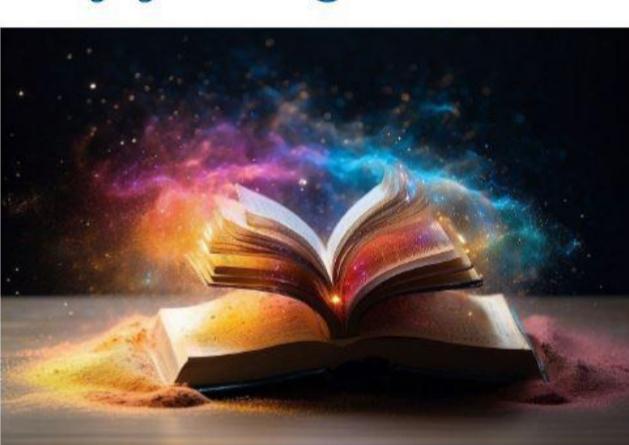
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Orpington Library's Younger Teens Reading Group

Do you enjoy reading?
Enjoy talking about books?



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

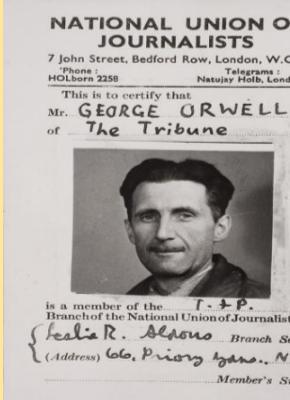
If you would like to join, please contact us by email: orpington.library@gll.org

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!

On This Day... George Orwell Passed Away on 21st January 1950

George Orwell was a British writer and journalist born as Eric Arthur Blair on June 25, 1903, in India, which was then part of the British Empire, and he grew up between India and England. He was educated at elite schools in England but became very aware of class differences and social inequality, which later influenced his writing. After school, Orwell worked as a police officer in Burma, where he witnessed the harsh realities of British imperial rule, leading him to strongly oppose imperialism and eventually leave the job. Wanting to understand the lives of ordinary people, he lived among the poor in England and London. Orwell also fought in the Spanish Civil War, where he was wounded in the neck and became deeply disillusioned after seeing political betrayal and propaganda on all sides, shaping his lifelong hatred of totalitarianism. These experiences inspired his most famous works, *Animal Farm*, an allegory about the Russian Revolution, and *1984*, a dystopian novel warning about government surveillance, censorship, and loss of freedom. Throughout his life, Orwell suffered from poor health, especially tuberculosis, but continued writing despite his illness. He died on January 21, 1950, at the age of 46, shortly after *1984* was published, leaving behind a lasting legacy as one of the most important writers of the 20th century, whose ideas about power, truth, and freedom remain relevant today.



1984 by George Orwell (recommended for older readers)

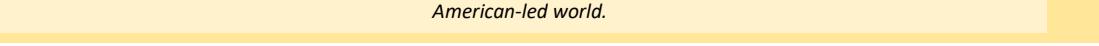
Winston Smith rewrites history. It's his job. Hidden away in the Record Department of the sprawling Ministry of Truth, he helps the Party, and the omnipresent Big Brother, control the people of Oceania. The new notebook he's begun to write in is against the rules -- in fact, the Thought Police could arrest him simply for having it. Yet, as Winston begins to write his own history, a seed of rebellion begins to grow in his heart -- one that could have devastating consequences.

Animal Farm by George Orwell (recommended for older readers)

The animals at Manor Farm have had enough of Farmer Jones – he's drunk, he's reckless and he cares little for the welfare of his animals. When Old Major, the old boar, calls a meeting, the animals are enthralled by his revolutionary plans, convinced that with the despotic Jones overthrown, they can thrive on their own. However, soon after the former is banished from Manor Farm, the pigs begin to vie for control amongst themselves; the promised comforts never appear, no matter how hard they work; and their leaders begin to bear an uncanny resemblance to the very men they said they despised.

Life and Times: Orwell by Scott Lucas

In this controversial new biography, Scott Lucas argues that we now need to be rescued from Orwell. Orwell was never really a socialist, Lucas argues, and, in spite of his interest in "clear writing", he remained as confused in his politics as he was talented and prolific in prose. Most strikingly, soon after the publication of *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, Orwell passed a list of 'suspect' individuals, from Charlie Chaplin to Michael Redgrave, to British Intelligence. Since his death, Lucas suggests, Orwell has become a talisman for the neoliberal right, for "little England", and even for an American-led world.



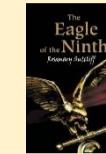
SPRING

"If you are making mistakes, then you are making new things... pushing yourself... changing the world." – Neil Gaiman

NEW

Crave #1 by Tracy Wolff

My whole world changed when I stepped inside the academy. Nothing is right about this place or the other students in it. Here I am, a mere mortal among gods... or monsters. I still can't decide which of these warring factions I belong to, if I belong at all. I only know the one thing that unites them is their hatred of me. Then there's Jaxon Vega. A vampire with deadly secrets who hasn't felt anything for a hundred years. But there's something about him that calls to me, something broken in him that somehow fits with what's broken in me.

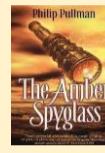


The Eagle of the Ninth #1 by Rosemary Sutcliff

The Ninth Legion marched into the mists of northern Britain - and they were never seen again. Four thousand men disappeared and their eagle standard was lost. It's a mystery that's never been solved, until now . . . Marcus has to find out what happened to his father, who led the legion. So he sets out into the unknown, on a quest so dangerous that nobody expects him to return.

The Amber Spyglass #3 by Philip Pullman

Will is the bearer of the knife. Now, accompanied by angels, his task is to deliver that powerful, dangerous weapon to Lord Asriel - by the command of his dying father. But how can he go looking for Lord Asriel when Lyra is gone? Only with her help can he fathom the myriad plots and intrigues that beset him. The two great powers of the many worlds are lining up for war, and Will must find Lyra, for together they are on their way to battle, an inevitable journey that will even take them to the world of the dead...

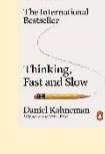


The Big Short: A True Story by Michael Lewis

*From the jungles of the trading floor to the casinos of Las Vegas, *The Big Short*, Michael Lewis's No.1 bestseller, tells the outrageous story of the misfits, renegades and visionaries who saw that the biggest credit bubble of all time was about to burst, bet against the banking system - and made a killing.*

Thinking Fast and Slow by Daniel Kahneman

*Engaging the reader in a lively conversation about how we think, Kahneman reveals where we can and cannot trust our intuitions and how we can tap into the benefits of slow thinking. He offers practical and enlightening insights into how choices are made in both our business and our personal lives—and how we can use different techniques to guard against the mental glitches that often get us into trouble. *Thinking, Fast and Slow* will transform the way you think about thinking.*



The Final Year by Matt GoodFellow

Life can be tough in your last year of primary school. Tests to take, preparing for the change to high school. Nate is ready for it all, knowing his best friend PS at his side - they've been inseparable since Nursery. But when they are put in two different classes and PS finds a new friend in Turner, the school bully, his world turns upside-down. As he struggles to make sense of this and forge new friendships, he's dealt another blow when his youngest brother, Dylan is rushed into hospital. His new teacher, Mr Joshua, sees a spark inside of Nate that's lit by his love of reading and writing and shows him how to use this to make sense of what's going on. But with so much working against him, and anger rising inside him, will this be enough?

Front Desk #1 by Kelly Yang

Mia Tang has a lot of secrets: 1. She lives in a motel, not a big house. 2. Her parents hide immigrants. 3. She wants to be a writer. It will take all of Mia's courage, kindness, and hard work to get through this year. Will she be able to hold on to her job, help the immigrants and guests, and go for her dreams?



Room to Dream #3 by Kelly Yang

Mia Tang is going for her dreams: 1. She's finally going on holiday to see her family - in China! 2. She's taking on the big motel next door. 3. She is sure that her plans to be a big writer are about to reach the next level. But, things around Mia are changing; in the town and even in her friendships... Can she and her motel survive?

Museum Selfie Day, 21st January

Museum Selfie Day is a worldwide trend started by London blogger Mar Dixon that encourages people to take creative selfies in museums and share them on social media to increase interest and engagement with museums. Traditionally, museums were slow to allow photography because flash cameras could damage valuable artworks, which is why "no photography" signs were common. However, as smartphone cameras improved and no longer required flash, many museums began relaxing their rules to connect better with modern audiences. Celebrated each



year on January 21, Museum Selfie Day invites people to explore museums in fun and creative ways, especially those they may not normally visit, highlighting the huge growth of museums in the United States over recent decades. The trend also connects to the history of selfies, from the first self-portrait taken in 1839 to the introduction of front-facing cameras on phones in the early 2000s. On this day, visitors are encouraged to take thoughtful, well-lit selfies with museum exhibits, share them online using hashtags, and view selfies from museums around the world, some of which even gain attention from major media. Overall, Museum Selfie Day blends art, history, and modern technology to make museums feel more accessible, interactive, and relevant to younger generations. Why not spend the weekend exploring different museums across London and see what new favourites you can find!



On This Day... Edgar Allan Poe was Born 19th January 1949

Edgar Allan Poe was a famous American writer and poet known for his dark and mysterious stories and poems that still fascinate readers today. He was born on January 19, 1809, in Boston, Massachusetts, and had an older brother and a younger sister, but his early life was very difficult because his father left the family orphaned. Poe was taken in by John and Francis Allan in Richmond, although he was never officially adopted. Poe was well educated but later cut out of Allan's will, forcing him to support himself. He attended the University of Virginia in 1826, where gambling debts damaged his relationship with Allan even more, and he later joined the U.S. Army, publishing his first book of poems, *Tamerlane and Other Poems*, in 1827. Determined to be a writer, Poe worked hard and gained recognition through editing jobs and writing for magazines, including the *Southern Literary Messenger*, *Burton's Gentleman's Magazine*, and *Graham's Magazine*.

Poe became famous in 1845 after publishing "The Raven," and he also helped create the detective fiction genre with stories like "The Purloined Letter." Despite his success, Poe's life was filled with hardship, and in 1849 he was found unconscious in Baltimore and died a few days later under mysterious circumstances, leaving behind a powerful literary legacy that continues to influence writers today.

Tales of Mystery and Imagination by Edgar Allan Poe

Spiral into a dimly lit world, down streets lined with madmen and their black deeds, through the cold twists of the catacombs, and into rooms where secrets dwell.

Tales of Terror and Fantasy by Edgar Allan Poe

The best of Edgar Allan Poe's stories hold a unique place in literature. Not only was he one of the few great masters of the difficult art of the short story; he was also a truly astonishing originator of styles of fiction which have since developed and become important branches of literature.



Let's Celebrate... Just Do It Day on the 24th January

"Just Do It" Day is celebrated on January 24 and is meant to inspire people to stop procrastinating and finally take action on things they have been putting off, whether it is trying something new, starting a goal, or completing a small but important task. First celebrated in 2015, the day encourages the idea that even one small step—like sending an email, cleaning a space, or reaching out to a loved one—can lead to positive change. The phrase "Just Do It" is famously known as Nike's slogan, first introduced in 1988 by advertiser Dan Wieden and inspired by the final words of Gary Gilmore, "Let's do it." Over time, the slogan has come to represent motivation, focus, and success, and it reflects a mindset often associated with American culture: taking initiative and acting on ideas.

Because of this meaning, the slogan fits perfectly with the purpose of the day, which is about overcoming fear, hesitation, or laziness and choosing action instead. "Just Do It" Day reminds people that waiting for the perfect moment often holds them back, and that taking action—no matter how small—can help them grow, gain confidence, and move closer to becoming their best selves.

Feel Good Club: A Guide to Feeling Good and Being Okay when You're Not by Aimie Lawlor-Skillet

Successful entrepreneurs Aimie and Kiera share their trademark of inspiring quotes alongside the wisdom that enabled them to overcome tough moments. Continuing their mission of wanting to make people feel good through positivity, love and normalising the way that we share how we feel. They want to make people feel good in a positive way, and also help us all open about how we're truly feeling.

Fearless! How to be Your True, Confident Self! By Liam Hackett

In *Fearless*, Liam Hackett aims to help young people be themselves, explaining how they can break free from labels and stereotypes to fear less and truly realize their full potential.

Includes interviews with inspirational people who defy stereotypes, such as female politicians and male dancers. Plus, activities to get young people thinking outside the box.



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