



AUTUMN

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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!



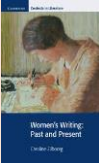
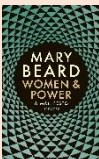
Choose Women Wednesday

National Women Support Women Day is meant to remind women that they don't have to face life's challenges alone and that supporting one another is powerful and necessary. The idea connects to a long history of women standing up for their rights, starting with the first U.S. observance of National Woman's Day on February 28, 1909, when 15,000 women marched in New York City for fair working hours and better pay. By 1911, women were also demanding voting rights and an end to violence against women, and these marches eventually helped shape the global women's movement. In 1975, the United Nations officially began celebrating International Women's Day on March 8, and by 2014 it had become a recognised holiday in nearly 100 countries. Building on this growing tradition of honouring women's rights and achievements, Amy O'Donnell created National Women Support Women Day in 2018 to celebrate women's

Accomplishments in fields like politics, business, and the arts and to inspire women everywhere to lift each other up. This also ties into Choose Women Wednesday being a global movement started in 2014 by the Women's Entrepreneurship Day Organisation to support and celebrate women in business, especially because female entrepreneurs still receive far less funding and fewer opportunities than men. Held on the Wednesday after Thanksgiving in America, it was inspired by other post-holiday events like Small Business Saturday and Giving Tuesday, and it encourages people to shop from and uplift women-owned businesses. The day's larger goal is to help reduce poverty, close the gender gap, and challenge the idea that men should automatically receive more support or recognition. By choosing to support women, the movement pushes for a fairer, more equal world where women's achievements and leadership are fully valued.

Women and Power: A Manifesto by Mary Beard

Why the popular resonance of 'mansplaining' (despite the intense dislike of the term felt by many men)? It hits home for us because it points straight to what it feels like not to be taken seriously: a bit like when I get lectured on Roman history on Twitter. Britain's best known classicist Mary Beard is also a committed and vocal feminist. With wry wit she shows how history has treated powerful women. With examples ranging from Medusa and Athena to Theresa May and Elizabeth Warren, Beard explores the cultural underpinnings of misogyny, considering the public voice of women, how we look at women who exercise power, our cultural assumptions about women's relationship with power, and how powerful women resist being packaged into a male template.



Women's Writing: Past and Present by Caroline Zilboorg

Critical introductions to a range of literary topics and genres. Focusing on texts written in English and emphasising writing by women from the beginning of the Renaissance period in the 1300s to the 21st century, this book illustrates not only the richness and diversity of female literary voices, but also the many changing and different contexts in which writing by women can be read.



On This Day... James Baldwin Died 1st December, 1987

James Baldwin, born in 1924 in Harlem, became one of the most powerful American writers of the 20th century, known for his clear, passionate, and fearless writing about race, identity, and the struggles of being Black and queer in the United States. Growing up poor and often clashing with his strict stepfather, Baldwin found escape in books and began writing early, later spending his teenage years preaching in a church—an experience that shaped the emotional intensity of his writing. After high school, he worked odd jobs, met famous writer Richard Wright, and eventually moved to Paris in 1948 to escape racism and homophobia in America. There he wrote major works like *Go Tell It on the Mountain* and *Giovanni's Room*, the latter one of the American novels to openly explore queer relationships. Baldwin returned to



the U.S. during the Civil Rights Movement and became deeply involved, marching with leaders like Martin Luther King Jr., writing passionate essays such as *The Fire Next Time*, and speaking out against injustice with unmatched eloquence. His debate performances, activism, novels, plays, and essays challenged Americans to face the truth about racism, violence, and inequality. Although later writers criticised him and his later books received less attention, Baldwin spent his life teaching, speaking, and writing with courage. He earned major awards, influenced countless people, and remains a central figure in American literature for his honesty, empathy, and fierce commitment to justice.



Giovanni's room by James Baldwin

(recommended for older readers)

When David meets the sensual Giovanni in a bohemian bar, he is swept into a passionate love affair. But his girlfriend's return to Paris destroys everything. Unable to admit to the truth, David pretends the liaison never happened - while Giovanni's life descends into tragedy.



Go Tell It On the Mountain by James Baldwin

(recommended for older readers)

Johnny is destined to become a preacher like his father, Gabriel, at the Temple of the Fire Baptized, where the church swells with song and it is as if 'the Holy Ghost were riding on the air'. But he feels only scalding hatred for Gabriel, whose fear and fanaticism lead him to abuse his family. Johnny vows that, for him, things will be different. This blazing tale is full of passion and guilt, of secret sinners and prayers singing on the wind.



The Fire Next Time by James Baldwin

(recommended for older readers)

Two letters, written on the occasion of the centennial of the Emancipation Proclamation, that exhort Americans, both black and white, to attack the terrible legacy of racism.

“How did it get so late so soon?” – Dr. Seuss

NEW

They Both Die at the End #1 by Adam Silvera

Mateo and Rufus are total strangers, but, for different reasons, they're both looking to make a new friend on their End Day. The good news: There's an app for that. It's called the Last Friend, and through it, Rufus and Mateo are about to meet up for one last great adventure—to live a lifetime in a single day.

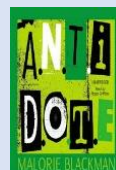


The Complete Encyclopaedia of Greek Mythology by Guus Houtzager

These indispensable references are handy and thorough guides with knowledgeable text and hundreds of full colour photographs.

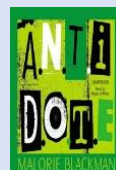
Ramona Blue by Julie Murphy

Ramona was only five years old when Hurricane Katrina changed her life forever. Since then, it's been Ramona and her family against the world. Standing over six feet tall with unmistakable blue hair, Ramona is sure of three things: she likes girls, she's fiercely devoted to her family, and she knows she's destined for something bigger than the trailer she calls home in Eulogy, Mississippi. But juggling multiple jobs, her flaky mom, and her well-meaning but ineffectual dad forces her to be the adult of the family. Now, with her sister, Hattie, pregnant, responsibility weighs more heavily than ever.



A.N.T.I.D.O.T.E. by Malorie Blackman

It's a normal Friday evening for Elliot — until the police knock on the door and tell him his mum's in serious trouble! A security video clearly shows her breaking into a giant pharmaceutical company on behalf of the environmental action group A.N.T.I.D.O.T.E. Elliot can hardly believe it. His mom's a secretary, isn't she? Not a SPY! And even worse — now she's gone on the run.



Begin Again by Emma Lord

As usual, Andie Rose has a plan: transfer to the hyper competitive Blue Ridge State and chase her lifelong goal of becoming an iconic self-help figure. All it will take is ruthless organization, hard work, and her trademark unrelenting enthusiasm to pull it all together. But the moment Andie arrives, her plans go off the rails. Her rocky relationship with her boyfriend Connor only gets more complicated and she meets Milo who disrupts all her ideas about love and relationships. Sometimes, when all your plans are rubble at your feet, you find out what you're made of.



The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie by Muriel Spark

Sparks most celebrated novel, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*, tells the story of a charismatic schoolteacher's catastrophic effect on her pupils. *The Girls of Slender Means* is a beautifully drawn portrait of young women living in a hostel in London in the giddy postwar days of 1945. *The Drivers Seat* follows the final haunted hours of a woman descending into madness. And *The Only Problem* is a witty fable about suffering that brings the Book of Job to bear on contemporary terrorism. All four novels give evidence of one of the most original and unmistakable voices in contemporary fiction.



Out of My Mind by Sharon M. Draper

Melody is not like most people. She cannot walk or talk, but she has a photographic memory; she can remember every detail of everything she has ever experienced. She is smarter than most of the adults who try to diagnose her and smarter than her classmates in her integrated classroom—the very same classmates who dismiss her as mentally challenged because she cannot tell them otherwise. But Melody refuses to be defined by cerebral palsy. And she's determined to let everyone know it—somehow.



Star Borrowers of November

Year 7

Lucy D. 7F
Pracheeta N. 7F
Kavya Y. 7F
Minaal F. 7G
Anaisha J. 7G
Advika D. 7N
Elizabeth L. 7N
Manasvi M. 7N
Prisha S. 7N
Amelia N. 7S
Emily L. 7W
Alekyia P. 7W
Ranya S. 7W
Elsie Y. 7W

Year 8

Rosie D. 8G
Saaya R. 8G
Anyia B.M. 8N
Eleanor B. 8N
Hashikha C. 8N
Phoebe E. 8N
Aaradhya H. 8N
Ishita A. 8P
Nyra K. 8P
Greta L. 8P
Rowan W. 8P

Mayuka A. 8S
Bade B. 8S
Elana B-O. 8S
Kayley K. 8S
Ellise Q. 8S
Rithu P. 8W
Jiya V. 8W
Wenjun Z. 8W
Year 9
Tara G. 9G
Kinjal K. 9G

Year 9

Neevh G. 9N
Florence I. 9N
April B. 9P
Elizabeth B 9P
Avni A. 10F
Cameron H. 10N
Maya M. 10N
Ipin P. 10N
Avni S. 10N
Diyansa A, 10S

Amy H. 9S
Ananya A. 9W
Simran K. 9W
Nidhi K. 9W
Charlotte L. 10S
Reika L. 10S
Senumi V. 10S
Erin W. 10S
Farrah M. 10W
Akshara S. 10W

Year 11

Siti Q. 11F

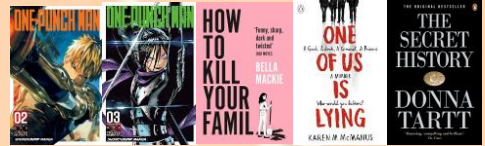
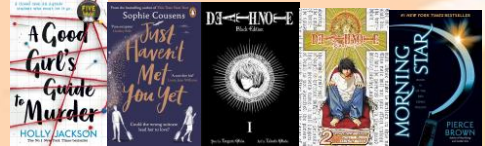
Year 12

Valen W. 12P

Year 13

Archaga S. 13P
Paula R. 13S

10 Most Popular Books This November



What is “Day Without Art” All About?



Day Without Art began on December 1, 1989, as a powerful response to the AIDS crisis, created by Visual AIDS—an organisation formed a year earlier by writer Robert Atkins and three curators who wanted to connect the art world with the urgent fight against AIDS. On the first Day Without Art, more than 800 museums and galleries across the U.S. covered their artworks and replaced them with posters that taught people about HIV, safe sex, and the growing impact of the epidemic. Artists held memorials, readings, performances, and special exhibits to honour the many friends and colleagues they had lost, while also pushing for more compassion, better patient care, and stronger support for finding a cure. Visual AIDS used posters and memorial quilts to involve the public at a time when many Americans avoided talking about AIDS because of fear and stigma, making the arts community one of the few groups openly

confronting the crisis. Over the years, Day Without Art has grown into a global movement that now includes film screenings and special international art projects, all designed to keep people informed and spark conversations about HIV/AIDS. The day matters because it uses the power of art to inspire empathy, fight discrimination, and motivate advocacy for better healthcare, equality, and awareness—reminding us every year that the fight against AIDS isn't over and that remembering those lost can drive us to support those still affected today.

All The Young Men by Ruth Coker Burks and Kevin O'Leary

(recommended for older readers)

Tells the true story of a young single mother who finds herself driven to the forefront of the AIDS crisis, and who risks everything to give victims back their humanity.



Women's rights: Small Guides to Big Issues by Geraldine B. Terry

(recommended for older readers)

All over the world, women and girls are being denied their social, economic, political and civil rights. The aim of this book is to expose this systematic discrimination wherever it occurs—in education, access to public services, in reaping benefits from trade, and elsewhere. The book also explores violence against women and looks at how the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa is linked to the denial of women's rights. Geraldine Terry looks at positive examples of women acting to transform inequalities and oppression by asserting their rights. Terry argues that promoting women's rights is not only a moral issue but also a very effective way to pursue poverty reduction goals worldwide.

