

KS3 reading list

All novels featured are YA novels aimed at teen readers. They are all cracking reads that Mrs Connor has loved and can recommend. Lots of them are available in the school library or via Norfolk library service for free.

Reading tips

If you are stuck on what to choose come and have a chat with Mrs Connor. She'll be able to recommend something you if you can give her an idea of the sort of history you are interested in.

If you start a book and don't enjoy it. It is OK to stop reading it and try something else. Life is too short to carry on with stuff you don't like.

If you find reading challenging try some of the Barrington Stoke novels. They are just as good as the other books on the list but are a lot shorter and printed in a dyslexia friendly font so are much easier to read.

Time period	Title and author	description
Medieval	The Seeing Stone by Kevin Crossley-Holland	Following the story of a young page to a knight. First in a series.
Medieval	Crusade by Elizabeth Laird	Story of two boys on the different sides of a crusade
Medieval	Crusade by Linda Press Wulf	Follows a girl and boy on the children's crusade
Medieval	Here lies Arthur by Philip Reeve	The story of king Arthur before he became king.
Medieval	Belle's song by KM Grant	Story of a girl on a pilgrimage
Medieval	Bloodline by Katy Moran	Set in the dark ages following a young boy after his father abandons him. First in a series
Medieval	Tilt by Mary Hoffman	Barrington Stoke based around the leaning tower of pisa
Medieval	The court painter's apprentice by Richard Knight	Story of a young apprentice to a painter. You won't see the end coming
Tudor	The other Countess by Eve Edwards	Story of a young women trying to make her way in the royal court First in a series.
Tudor	Tarnish by Katherine Longshore	Story of Anne Boleyn when she arrives at court
Tudor	Eliza Rose by Lucy Worsley	Main character is Katherine Howard's cousin.
Tudor	Lady Mary by Lucy Worsley	Story of Mary I before she became queen.
Tudor	The Raven master's boy by Mary Hoffman	Barrington Stoke Story of a boy in charge of the ravens at the tower of London.
Tudor and Stuart/ Georgian/ Victorian	The Next together by Lauren James	Time travelling story which is awesome
Tudor	Gilt by Katherine Longshore	Story of Katherine Howard

Tudor	Witchstruck by Victoria Lamb	A story of witches set during the rule of Mary I First in a series
Tudor	VIII by Harriet Castor	Looks at young Henry VIII
Tudor	Traitor's Kiss by Pauline Francis	Features young Elizabeth I
Tudor	The Fool's Girl by Celia Rees	Story of a young girl who meets William Shakespeare
Tudor	The Cabinet of Curiosities by Paul Dowsell	Story of a young apprentice of a physician
Stuart	Ring of Roses by Mary Hooper	Barrington Stoke Set during the great plague
Stuart	Newes from the Dead by Mary Hooper	Creepy story of a girl accused of infanticide.
Stuart	No shame, no fear by Ann Turnbull	Set in England after the civil war featuring a Quaker girl as the main character
Stuart	Witch Child by Celia Rees	A story of witches in the Stuart period
Georgian	Sawbones by Catherine Johnson	The story of an apprentice to a surgeon
Georgian	Evie's Ghost by Helen Peters	The story of a young girl working in a Georgian manor house
Georgian	Darkmere by Helen Maslin	A Georgian ghost story
Georgian	The disgrace of Kitty Grey by Mary Hooper	A girl who is forced to run away to London and has to make it there on her own.
Victorian	My name is Victoria by Lucy Worsley	A story of young Victoria
Victorian	Following Ophelia by Sophia Bennett	Set around the pre Raphaelite movement in London
Victorian	The Beloved by Alison Rattle	The story of a Victorian cult
Victorian	Constable and Toop by Gareth P Jones	A story of a Victorian undertaker
Victorian	The Madness by Alison Rattle	The story of a Victorian dipper
Victorian	Witchfinder by Ruth Warburton	Witches in Victorian London First in a series
Victorian	Wild Boy by Rob Lloyd Jones	A travelling circus story
Victorian	Frost Hollow Hall by Emma Carroll	A ghost story
Victorian	The Quietness by Alison Rattle	A story of Victorian baby farmers
Victorian	Velvet by Mary Hooper	Story of a poor girl who meets a medium and works for her.
Victorian	Haunting Violet by Alyxandra Harvey	A story of a Victorian medium
Victorian	Pastworld by Ian Beck	Jack the ripper in a Victorian theme park
Victorian	Fallen Grace by Mary Hooper	A story of Victorian baby farmers
Victorian	The Lie Tree by Frances Hardinge	A strange murder mystery which is fascinating
Victorian	A dark trade by Mary Hooper	Barrington Stoke A story of a poor Victorian girl struggling to survive in London
Victorian	Ruby in the Smoke by Philip Pullman	An awesome series following a young girl determined to find out what happened to her father. First in a series

Edwardian, Suffragettes and World War One	Things a Bright Girl can do by Sally Nichols	Story of three suffragettes
Edwardian	The Mystery of the Clockwork Sparrow	Girls solving mysteries set in and around a department store. First in a series
Edwardian	Secrets and Sapphires by Lelia Rasheed	A YA Downton Abbey First in a series
Edwardian	Wentworth Hall by Abby Grahame	Another YA Downton Abbey
Edwardian	Twelve minutes to midnight by Chris Edge	Fun story of a girl who takes over a paper and writes stories under a pen name whilst investigating mysteries.
Edwardian	Until we win by Linda Newberry	Barrington Stoke story of the suffragettes
Edwardian	Opal Plumstead by Jacqueline Wilson	
Edwardian	Peril in Paris by Katherine Woodfine	Girl spies in pre war Paris First in a series
Edwardian	Girls for the vote by Linda Newbery	Girls discover the suffragettes
Edwardian	The Making of Mollie	Story of Irish Suffragettes
Edwardian and others	Make more noise	Stories of girls in history being awesome linked to the vote.
World War One		
World War One	Loyal Creatures by Morris Gleitzman	An Australian War Horse
World War One	Across the divide by Anne Booth	A story about conscientious objectors
World War One	Dusk by Eve Edwards	Story of a nurse during WWI
World War One	Valentine Joe by Rebecca Stevens	Story of a teen soldier
World War One	Anzac Boys	Barrington Stoke Story of Australia's contribution to WWI
World War One	Poppy by Mary Hooper	Story of a young nurse during WWI
World War One	Stay where you are and then leave by John Boyne	Looks at conscientious objectors and shell shock
World War One	Private Peaceful by Michael Morpurgo	Story of soldiers in the trenches
World War One	The Foreshadowing by Marcus Sedgwick	Set at the start of WWI following a girl who serves as a nurse looking for her brother.
Interwar years		
Interwar years	Wild Lily by KM Peyton	1920s sky diving
Interwar years	Murder most unladylike by Robin Stevens	Murder mystery at a girl's boarding school First in a series
Interwar years	Trouble on Cable Street by Joan Lingard	Story of the cable street riots
Interwar years	A world between us by Lydia Syson	Story of the Spanish Civil War
Interwar years	Debutantes by Cora Harrison	Story of 1920s glamour
Interwar years	The Double Shadow by Sally Gardner	A creepy story of new technology
Interwar years	Black Dove, White Raven by Elizabeth Wein	Story of Ethiopia facing Italian invasion
Interwar years	Rowan the Strange by Julie Hearn	
Interwar years	A sky painted gold by Laura Wood	A dreamy story of a ordinary girl drawn into the glamour of 1920s society
Interwar years	Star by Star by Sheena Wilkinson	Set after WWI featuring Spanish flu and what the suffragettes did next after winning the vote in 1918.

World War Two	Letters from the Lighthouse by Emma Carroll	Homefront story
World War Two	Eloise undercover by Sarah Baker	Story of the resistance
World War Two	Front lines by Michael Grant	WW2 told as if girls could serve
World War Two	Goodnight Mister Tom by Michelle Magorian	Story of an evacuee
World War Two	Girl with a white dog by Anne Booth	Looks at Nazi Germany and the discrimination people faced
World War Two	That Burning summer by Lydia Syson	Story of British pilots during the battle of Britain
World War Two	Code name Verity by Elizabeth Wein	Story of two female British pilots in a Nazi camp during the war First in a series
World War Two	Cross my heart by Carmen Reid	Story of the resistance during WWII in Brussels
World War Two	Paradise Barn by Victor Watson	Evacuees in East Anglia First in a series
World War Two	Margot and Me	Story of a girl who discovers her grandma's war diaries
World War Two	Operation Blackout by Victor Watson	Set during the Blitz
World War Two	Dunkirk by James Holland	Story of Dunkirk
World War Two	Run rabbit Run by Barbara Mitchelhill	Conscientious objectors on the homefront
World War Two / Holocaust	The Book Thief by Markus Zusak	Story of a young girl during WWII in Germany who loves books
World War Two / Holocaust	The Earth is singing by Vanessa Curtis	Story of a girl in a concentration camp
Holocaust	Maus by Art Spiegelman	An awesome graphic novel about the holocaust
Holocaust	Annexed by Sharon Dogar	Anne Frank's story from Peter's perspective.
Russian History	The Rasputin Dagger by Theresa Breslin	A story of the Russian royal family
Russian History	Between Shades of Gray by Ruta Sepetys	Story of the soviet treatment of Lithuanians.
Russian History	Blood Red Snow White by Marcus Sedgwick	Set in the aftermath of the Russian Revolution
Slave Trade	My Name's not Friday by Jon Walter	A story of a young slave who tries to escape
Slave Trade	Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson	A story of the slave trade First in a series
Slave Trade	Freedom by Catherine Johnson	A story of a slave boy sent to England hoping to gain his freedom.
Civil Rights in USA	Lies we tell ourselves by Robin Talley	Story of two girls during the civil rights movement in America.
Post War Britain	V for Violet by Alison Rattle	Story set in 1960s Britain
Cold War	Going Over by Beth Kephart	Story set in cold war berlin

Cold War	Life: An exploded diagram by Mal Peet	Story set during the Cuban Missile Crisis in North Norfolk.
Cold War	The voices of silence by Bel Mooney	Set in Romania during the cold war
various	Daughters of time by Mary Hoffman and others	Short stories based around Queen Boudicca, Aethelfled, Eleanor of Aquitaine, Julian of Norwich, Lady Jane Grey, Elizabeth Stuart, Aphra Behn, Mary Wollestonecraft, Mary Anning, Mary Seacole, Emily Davison, Amy Johnson and the Greenham Common women.
French Revolution	The Red Necklace by Sally Gardner	Awesome story set during the French revolution First in a series
French Revolution	Liberty's Fire by Lydia Syson	Set in the aftermath of the French revolution and looking at the commune in paris.
French Revolution	A little in love by Susan Fletcher	A love story set during the French revolution.
French Revolution	Belle Epoque by Elizabeth Ross	Set in the aftermath of the French revolution. The story is of a girl employed because she makes the girls around her look prettier because she is apparently ugly.
French Revolution	Revolution by Jennifer Donnelly	A modern day girl finds the diary of one living in revolutionary France and finds out about her life.