



Lister Community School Year 6 Transition Information Booklet

April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are delighted that we will shortly be welcoming your child to Lister Community School and we are looking forward to them becoming a full member of our school community. Enclosed in the following booklet is information that we hope you will find useful in preparing your child for secondary school.

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The House System

Lister operates a “House” and vertical tutoring system, which we believe will benefit your child in many ways. Your child will be part of a tutor group which consists of children from years 7, 8, 9 and 10. Y11 have separate tutor groups due to allow them to prepare for the next steps in their education. Tutor groups at Lister are smaller than those in many schools and your child will spend more time with their tutor who will take a very particular interest in your child’s educational progress. They are going to become a strong link between home and school in supporting your child to achieve. Siblings are allocated to the same House but not to the same tutor group. Each house is also closely aligned with a curriculum area. You and your child will find out much more about our House system during an information event for Y6 parents on **Thursday 8th July, 4pm** but below are a few details.

Galileo House	Science Faculty
Da Vinci House	Creative Arts and Modern Foreign Languages
King House	Humanities
Hawking House	Maths and Computing
Shelley House	English, Media and Drama

The House leadership team will be the main point of contact for you regarding your child and their time at Lister. Each member of the House leadership team has a particular role which is set out below:

Role	House and key staff		Contact Details
Head of House: Will be focusing on your child’s achievement, developing their leadership ability and organising enrichment events for the House e.g. Inter-house debating competitions and Super Learning days.	Galileo	Tayo Akinrinlade	tayo.akinrinlade@lister.newham.sch.uk
	Da Vinci	Sophie Talbot	sophie.talbot@lister.newham.sch.uk
	King	Natasha Sivadasan	natasha.sivadasan@lister.newham.sch.uk
	Hawking	Majada Yasmin	majada.yasmin@lister.newham.sch.uk
	Shelley	Sara Voisey	sara.voisey@lister.newham.sch.uk
Pastoral Manager: Manages student behaviour and will be the first point of contact if you have concerns regarding issues like bullying or incidents that need to be followed up.	Galileo	Gurpreet Desai	gurpreet.desai@lister.newham.sch.uk
	Da Vinci	Mohammed Bolaji	mohammed.bolaji@lister.newham.sch.uk
	King	Albab Chowdhury	albab.chowdhury@lister.newham.sch.uk
	Hawking	Luke Illsley	luke.illsley@lister.newham.sch.uk
	Shelley	Segun Haughton	segun.haughton@lister.newham.sch.uk

Year 6 Induction - Monday 12th July 2021

On Induction Day on Monday 12th July, year 6 students will get to know their tutor groups and will have lessons across a range of secondary school subjects. Year 6 students always report they feel much more confident about coming to secondary school having an induction day. Further details regarding the induction programme will be sent to you nearer the time.

We will provide a hot lunch for all students on our Induction Day at Lister, students are also welcome to bring in their own healthy packed lunch. Please see the section on school lunches for further details on lunches at Lister.

Uniform for Induction

We do not expect families to have purchased the full school uniform for the induction programme but we do ask that students wear a white shirt with a collar, black trousers or skirt, sensible black shoes (no trainers) and their primary school jumper if needed.

The School Day

On Monday 12th of July your child will be expected to arrive at their allocated time, depending on their house they have been assigned to, see table below.

Galileo House	8.45
Da Vinci House	8.45
King House	8.30
Hawking House	8.30
Shelley House	8.30

Y6 students will finish at **2.45pm instead of 3pm** and parents/carers will have a designated area directly outside of the school to collect students from 2.45pm. This is to avoid congestion at the school gates. Normally, our school day begins at 8.25am and all students must be on site by that time.

Children follow a timetable of 6 x 50 minute periods per day. They have one break time and one lunch time.

Currently the timings of the school day are as follows:

Monday to Friday		
	Year 7 and Year 8	Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11
08.25	Students on site	Students on site
08.30 - 09.20	Period 1	Period 1
09.20 - 10.10	Period 2	Period 2
10.10 - 10.30	Break	Tutor Time
10.30 - 10.50	Tutor Time	Break
10.50 - 11.40	Period 3	Period 3
11.40 - 12.30	Lunch	Period 4
12.30 - 13.20	Period 5	Lunch

13.20 - 14.10	Period 6	Period 6
14.10 - 15.00	Period 7	Period 7

Attendance and Punctuality

It is vital that our students attend school regularly and on time every day to ensure that they gain the greatest benefit from their education. Any absence affects a child's schooling and regular absence will seriously affect their learning. Ensuring your child's attendance at school is YOUR legal responsibility and permitting absence without good reason is an offence in law and may result in legal action being taken, or a Penalty Notice being issued.

Research has shown that regular attendance is a key factor in students achieving their full potential at secondary school. For every drop in attendance of 10% there is an average drop of one grade at GCSE. We expect all Lister students to achieve at least 96% attendance.

Understanding absence percentages

Anyone with attendance below 90% is deemed a persistent absentee. The reason why we insist on good attendance may be explained by the following:

95% attendance equates to half a day off every two weeks over the course of a year.

90% attendance equates to a day off every two weeks over the course of a year.

85% attendance equates to one and a half days off every two weeks over the course of a year.

80% attendance equates to one day off every week over the course of a year.

A secondary age child whose attendance is 80% will have missed ONE WHOLE YEAR of education by the time they leave school.

We ask that parents do the following to avoid unnecessary school absence:

- Make non-urgent medical appointments before or after school hours
- If your child must attend a medical appointment in the morning, they will be expected to return to school for the afternoon session
- Always bring in evidence of your child's absence e.g. appointment card, on their return to school

Reporting your child's absence

If your child is absent you must:

- Contact your child's House Support Officer as early as possible on the first day of absence either by telephone or in person AND contact on every subsequent day of absence.
- Send a note in on the day they return explaining the absence.

Applications for leave of absence in term time

This school will not authorise holidays during term time. Any application for leave during term time must be made in writing to the Headteacher. There is no automatic right to term time leave of absence, and your request is likely to be declined except in the most exceptional of circumstances. Each application will be considered on its own merit, and the attendance record of the child or children will be taken into account when making the decision. Unauthorised holidays will automatically incur a penalty notice.

Punctuality

Poor punctuality is not acceptable. Late arrival students disrupt lessons and this will affect their overall attendance score as well as the overall attendance for their House.

Our school day starts at **8.25am** and we will expect your child to be in school before this time. At 8.25am the front gate will be locked and any student arriving after 8.25am will be lined up outside the main entrance with members of the House Leadership Team. **Students who are late for school will be given a 'same day' detention after school for 30 minutes.** Failure to attend the detention will result in a one hour 'School detention' which will be logged on their student file.



School Uniform

Blazer

School Blazer with House Colours worn at all times in the school building. Removed with permission from class teacher during lessons.

Tie

House Coloured Tie, long enough to reach the top of school trousers or skirt with a thin knot.

Hijab (if worn)

Plain black.

Shirt

Plain white, tucked in, all buttons done up. A short sleeved shirt can be worn in summer.

Jumper

Option plain black V-neck jumper with Lister Logo.



Trousers

Black tailored trousers (with plain black belt if required.)

Skirt

Black tailored skirt, knee length or longer.

Shoes

Plain black shoes with black laces. No coloured laces or stitching or plimsolls.

Outdoor Clothing

Coats and other outdoor clothing to be worn outside only. Black woollen hats can be worn outdoor.

Jewellery and Make-Up

Only small plain studs or sleepers may be worn by those with pierced ears. No other jewellery at all. Make-up should be minimal and discreet. No nail varnish.

The following uniform is compulsory for all students:

Compulsory Black Blazer

- The blazer must have the school logo and applicable house colour piping at the lapel.
- This is the only jacket that can be worn around the school and on school trips (weather permitting).

Compulsory White Shirt

- The shirt collar must be seen at all times.
- Polo-shirts cannot be worn, other than in PE.

Compulsory House Coloured Tie

- Ties in House colours, with school logo, must be tied and worn *properly* at all times.
- Students must not behave inappropriately with ties or without regard for their or other students' safety.

Compulsory Black Trousers and Skirts

- Smart skirts and trousers must be plain black and must not have excessively visible buckles, studs, logos, embroidery etc.
- Trousers must be smart and suite style i.e. they must not be tight or overly loose/baggy.
- Skirts must be knee length or longer, but must not be too long (i.e., past the ankle).
- Skirts must be one layer only.
- Jeans, jogging bottoms, leggings or shorts must not be worn as part of, or underneath, the school uniform.
- Any belt worn with skirts and trousers must be black.

Compulsory Plain Black Shoes

- Shoes must be sensible and safe for school. Heels should not exceed 3cm.
- Footwear must have closed in toes and should not be backless.
- Footwear must not have excessive decoration (jewels, buckles, tassels, logos etc) or have coloured laces.
- Trainers are not permitted and will be confiscated by the school if they are worn in school.

Optional V-Neck Black Jumper with School Logo

- Sweatshirts, cardigans, hooded tops or tops with writing will not be acceptable.
- The school uniform can be worn without the jumper in warm weather.

Hijab/Headscarf

- If worn, headscarves must be in the compulsory style of black, plain with no embroidery, tassels or other decoration.

Socks and tights

- Socks must be plain black.
- Black knitted tights may be worn; they must not be patterned, lacy, sheer or different colours.

Outdoor wear

- Coats/jackets must be plain black.
- Students must not wear coats indoors.
- Hats and caps must not be worn inside the school at any time. Black woollen hats can be worn in the playground at break times.

Jewellery

- Students may wear one pair of small discreet earrings (in pierced ears) and a watch. Earrings must not exceed the size of a 5p piece
- Bracelets and ankle chains should not be worn to school
- The school will not take responsibility for jewellery worn to school

School Bags

- Black school bags must be large and practical enough to hold required equipment and school books (including A4 size).
- Purses and wallets should be stored securely.

PE Uniform

Unisex compulsory items:

- Lister logo white polo top (or plain if not available)
- Lister logo black shorts (or plain if not available)
- Plain black football socks
- Running/gym style trainers which are appropriate for all sports and weathers, including mud (no vans, converse or pumps)
- Dance is bare feet, no socks allowed
- Football boots moulded (no metal tipped studs allowed)
- Gum shield
- Shin pads
- Water bottle (to be brought to every lesson as students cannot leave venues to get water)

Unisex optional items:

- Plain black sports leggings without any logos larger than a matchbox size, no writing or embellishments/zips

Girls optional items:

- Lister logo black fleece (or plain if not available)
- Lister black tracksuit trousers (or plain if not available)

If students wear a hijab, a sports one is recommended but not compulsory.

Boys optional items for winter:

- Lister black rugby shirt with house colour stripe

Swimming for Year 7:

Boys:

- Swimming trunks black (must be fitted and streamline, not baggy shorts)

Girls:

- One piece black swimming costume

Unisex:

- Swimming hat black (compulsory)
- Towel
- Swimming goggles are recommended

- White polo shirt with the Lister logo
- Plain black jogging bottoms or plain black shorts (boys and girls)
- Optional winter uniform: black rugby shirt with House colour stripe, black Lister logo fleece (both boys and girls)

Uniform Stockist:

Fashion Stop
138 High Street North
East Ham
London
E6 2HT
Telephone: 020 8552 3200

Other Important Information

- The school will make a judgement about the appropriateness of any items worn, the style they are worn in, and/or students' general appearance that are not detailed above.
- Students in incorrect uniform will be required to change. If necessary, they will be sent home to change into, or purchase, missing items. Students who are not in correct uniform will not be allowed to attend their usual lessons, but will work separately from other students.
- Non-uniform items will be confiscated.
- We strongly advise that parents should equip students with two pairs of suitable school shoes at the start of the school year, as the majority of uniform problems are around students' footwear.

Equipment

Students are expected to come to school fully equipped and ready to learn. They are expected to arrive at school every day with the following equipment

Essential Basic Equipment

Writing Pens (Blue or black)
Ruler
Eraser
Pencil
Pencil Sharpener
Reading book
School planner with timetable
Glue stick
Green writing pen
Green highlighter
Pink highlighter
Scientific calculator (Casio FX-83GT Plus Scientific Calculator)
Mini-Whiteboard pen

Students might like to bring:

A dictionary
Thesaurus
Colouring pencils

Arriving at school with the correct equipment is very important; failure to bring the correct equipment means that your child loses valuable learning time.



Mobile phones and other electronic devices must not be seen in school. If a pupil brings their phone to school it must be **switched off all day and kept safely out of sight.**

If a member of staff sees a pupil using a phone on the school site, or if a phone causes a distraction e.g. by ringing inside a bag, they will ask the pupil to hand it over. **It must then be handed over straight away without argument.** Phones may only be collected from the School Reception on Thursdays from 3.00 – 4.00 pm by a parent/carer. Phones cannot be collected on the same day that they are confiscated.

If a parent needs to contact a pupil during the school day they may do so by calling the reception and a message will be passed on for you. If a pupil needs to call home they can ask permission from the Head of House, Pastoral Manager or Admin team.

Other portable electronic devices and headphones will also be confiscated if staff members see them in school or if they cause a distraction.

School Lunches

As a parent, you have the responsibility either to apply for free school meals OR to sign up to ParentPay so that your child can buy a school lunch (we operate cashless systems), OR to provide a packed lunch. The cost of a main meal deal at Lister is £2.30.

Packed Lunches

We operate a Healthy Eating policy at Lister, given the clear link between nourishment and achievement. If you decide that your child should have a packed lunch at any time, we would like to remind you that the following items are banned in the school:

- Sweets
- Large bags of crisps
- Large chocolate bars
- Junk food
- Energy drinks (caffeinated)
- Sweet or fizzy drinks (there is a school compliant option available to buy in school)

Packed lunches may include a small chocolate bar, cake or biscuits.

Accent Catering

Our catering provider, Accent Catering, offers a range of delicious dishes to our students throughout the week with a range of hot and cold options on offer.

Main courses such as chicken coconut and lime curry, homemade pea and potato samosa and lasagne sit alongside light and contemporary on-the-go choices such as wraps, sandwiches and jacket potatoes.

Accent Catering hosts various promotional days as well as competitions and themed months during the school year so there are lots of fun things to look out for.

Further details of what is currently on offer can be found on our website which promotes the menu and prices.

Cashless Catering

Lister Community School uses a Cashless Catering system for all students who wish to buy a meal in the school canteen. Students must have money on their ParentPay account, which is linked to their school ID card. This is the only way for students to use the school canteen, cash is not accepted at the tills, and reception cannot top up accounts if students bring in cash.

ParentPay

You can either load money via a very secure website called ParentPay or pay in cash at local stores where you see the PayPoint logo.

ParentPay holds an electronic record of your payments to view at a later date. Once you have activated your account, you can make online payments straight away.

New to ParentPay?

You have a secure online account, activated using a unique activation username and password; you will be prompted to change these and to keep them safe and secure as your Username and Password for future logins.

If you have two or more children at a ParentPay school, you only need to activate one account to create your 'main account' and then add your other children via the 'Add a child' tab on your home page.

Already have a ParentPay account?

If you already have a ParentPay account, either with our school or another ParentPay school, you can simply login to that account and add your other children via the 'Add a child' tab on your home page. You will need the username and password to do this.

Free School Meals

Newham Council has provided all primary school age children free school meals. **This service does not continue into Secondary School.**

If you are eligible for free school meals it is essential that you apply by completing an application form and submitting this to the Local Authority online at:

<https://www.newham.gov.uk/schools-education/free-school-meals/2>

If you do not have access to the internet at home you can access this via your local library.

Please note: You can only apply for free school meals once your child has left primary school.

The national rules mean that your children are entitled to free school meals if you receive the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If you live outside Newham and claim housing benefit in your home area, you should have applied to your home Council for free school meals. Please inform your child's House Office and provide a copy of any letter you have approving free school meals or housing benefit.

Target Setting

Students in Yr 7 and 8 will have targets set based on:

- Average of Maths and English reading KS2 SATs data
- Baseline External Progress Test Series in English, Maths and Science sat in the autumn term of Yr 7

Lower School levels

Target grades will be on a scale of 1 to 9, with 9 being the highest. A student's target grade will be the same across all subjects. The level a student receives after each assessment cycle is called their forecast grade. This shows the level they are currently achieving and will indicate the grade they are on track for achieving at GCSE.

- A student achieving a 9 is performing at the highest level that could be expected from a student in that year group
- A student achieving a 6 is performing at a level which means they are on track for a Grade 6 at GCSE

Parental access to Go4Schools

Parents are able to view, track and monitor their child's progress and home learning assignments via Go4Schools. They are given a personalised login which allows them access to their child's profile. After every data collection point, data is published. Parents with registered accounts receive an email informing them of the latest summative report available to view on Go4Schools. Every week, parents can login to see home learning tasks which have been assigned to their child and teachers will log completion when it is handed in.

Specialist Curriculum

Specialist subjects in Y7, 8 and 9 are designed to give students an opportunity to pursue a particular subject they are interested in in more depth for 2 hours per week. Usually this is in preparation for pursuing this subject at GCSE.

This year, the following subjects were available for students to select as a specialism.

Theatre School	Textiles	Photography	PE
Music	Hospitality and Catering	Film Studies	Computer Science
Art	3D Design		

Behaviour Policy

Lister Community School seeks to provide the highest possible standard of education for all our pupils and to provide a world class education for young people in Newham. We attach the highest importance to ensuring a safe environment and the safety of all members of the school community.

Lister Community School is committed to creating a calm and orderly environment where exemplary behaviour is at the heart of productive learning. Everyone is expected to maintain the highest standards of personal conduct by adhering to the three core values:

1. **always aiming for excellence;**
2. **treating others with kindness, politeness and consideration;**
3. **accepting responsibility for their own conduct and not making excuses.**

Tracking Behaviour and student planners

At Lister, behaviour is tracked through the use of the school's behaviour tracking system (Go4Schools) upon which all members of staff are able to log behaviour - both positive and negative. Parents can sign up for Go4Schools account at any time, this will allow you to monitor positive as well as negative behaviour. You should also check and sign your child's planner regularly, this is an effective way for parents/carers and teachers to communicate with each other.

Behaviour tracking means that incidents of positive and negative behaviour are logged on a database so that:

- the school is able to monitor more effectively patterns of behaviour by individual pupils and across the school, thus enabling more effective intervention;
- parents are able to keep track of their child's behaviour record and support their child and the school by reinforcing expectations at home.

Rewards

Rewards are a key element of our Behaviour strategy. Rewards will include postcards and letters home, badges, vouchers and privileges such as membership of the Always Club group.

The system of rewards at Lister is not only important to recognise the achievements and efforts of individuals but also to foster a sense of belonging and healthy competition. **The House system** encourages this through:

- all behaviour points, merits and commendations generating house points for the relevant house;
- pupil attendance generates house points for the relevant house; and,
- inter house competitions generate house points.

Lister Character Award

At Lister, we not only recognise academic efforts but also encourage students to become an empathetic, resilient, autonomous and innovative member of our society. These are known as character traits.

Throughout the year, we will provide students with plentiful opportunities to participate in learning beyond the classroom through a variety of enrichment activities. Active engagement in these opportunities will support in developing character traits reflective of a good leader in society.

At the end of the year, students who have met key character milestones will be awarded with either a bronze, silver or gold character award. To achieve this award, students must meet certain expectations in the following areas:

1. Attendance and punctuality
2. Behaviour points
3. Participation in competitions and clubs
4. Participation in citizenship
5. Personal skills reflections

We also have a selection of rewards to provide to celebrate the achievements of everyone who receives the award including a fantastic rewards day in July! Parents/carers are able to track their child's progress via the Character Award pages in the green sections in their planner and on Go4Schools.

The Importance of Reading

We place huge importance on our students reading regularly. Independent reading improves academic results in all subjects and can have a significant positive impact on a child's well-being. Your child must have a reading book with them every day, and we expect all our students to read for a minimum of 20 minutes a day. Students in years 7, 8 and 9 have one lesson per fortnight in the library, where our librarians are able to give guidance on choosing books. All students take part in DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) and tutor time reading.

YEAR 7 READING LIST

For further information about the books listed below follow this link to the Lister Library Catalogue:

<https://uk.accessit.online:443/!st00?serviceld=ExternalEvent&rlSn=83&rlKey=2038357485>

Click on the picture of the book you are interested in.

Adeyemi, Tomi. *Children of Blood and Bone*.

FANTASY

They killed my mother. They took our magic. They tried to bury us. NOW WE RISE. Zelig remembers when the soil of Orisha hummed with magic. When different clans ruled - Burners igniting flames, Tiders beckoning waves, and Zelig's Reaper mother summoning forth souls. But everything changed the night magic disappeared.

Alexander, Kwame. *Booked*.

SPORT

Twelve-year-old Nick is a football-mad boy who absolutely hates books. Football, family, love, and friendship take centre stage as Nick tries to figure out how to navigate his parents' break-up, stand up to bullies, and impress the girl of his dreams. These challenges which seem even harder than scoring a tie-breaking, game-winning goal change his life, as well as his best friend's. This energetic novel-in-verse by the poet Kwame Alexander captures all the thrills and setbacks, the action and emotion of a World Cup match.

Anderson, Sophie. *The house with chicken legs*.

FANTASY

Marinka dreams of a normal life, but her house has chicken legs and moves on without warning. For Marinka's grandmother is Baba Yaga, who guides spirits between this world and the next. Marinka longs to change her destiny and sets out to break free from her grandmother's footsteps, but her house has other ideas...

Badoe, Yaba. *A jigsaw of fire and stars*.

FANTASY

Sante was a baby when she was washed ashore in a sea-chest laden with treasure. It seems she is the sole survivor of the tragic sinking of a ship carrying migrants and refugees. Her people. Fourteen years on she's a member of Mama Rose's unique and dazzling circus. But, from their watery grave, the unquiet dead are calling Sante to avenge them: A bamboo flute. A golden bangle. A ripening mango which must not fall... are these the missing pieces of the jigsaw which will tell Sante's story?

Colfer, Eoin. *Artemis Fowl*.

ADVENTURE

Rumour has it Artemis Fowl is responsible for every major crime of the new century. Just twelve years old and already he's a criminal genius, plotting to restore his family's fortune with a spot of corruption and kidnapping. Kidnapping a fairy for ransom, to be precise. Artemis Fowl has discovered a world below ground of armed and dangerous - and extremely high-tech - fairies. But he may have underestimated their powers. They will fight back. Is the boy about to trigger a cross-species war? Let the misadventure begin

Fountain, Ele. *Boy 87*.

REAL LIFE STORIES

Shif is just an ordinary boy who likes chess, maths and racing his best friend home from school. But one day, soldiers with guns come to his door - and he knows that he is no longer safe. Shif is forced to leave his mother and little sister, and embark on a dangerous journey; a journey through imprisonment and escape, new lands and strange voices, and a perilous crossing by land and sea.

Frailon, Zana. *Bone Sparrow*.

REAL LIFE STORIES

Born in a refugee camp, all Subhi knows of the world is that he's at least 19 fence diamonds high, the nice Jackets never stay long, and at night he dreams that the sea finds its way to his tent, bringing with it unusual treasures. And one day it brings him Jimmie. Carrying a notebook that she's unable to read and wearing a sparrow made out of bone around her neck - both talismans of her family's past and the mother she's lost - Jimmie strikes up an unlikely friendship with Subhi beyond the fence. As he reads aloud the tale of how Jimmie's family came to be, both children discover the importance of their own stories in writing their futures

Hiaasen, Carl. *Hoot*.

HUMOUR

Everybody loves Mother Paula's pancakes. Everybody, that is, except the colony of cute but endangered owls that live on the building site of the new restaurant. Can the awkward new kid and his feral friend prank the pancake people out of town? Or is the owls' fate cemented in pancake batter?

Higson, Charlie. *Silverfin*.

ADVENTURE

This is the first explosive book in Charlie Higson's bestselling "Young Bond" series. The dark waters around a remote Scottish castle hold a sinister secret. One man with a thirst for power will use it - whatever the cost. SilverFin is dangerous, SilverFin is the future, SilverFin must be destroyed. Bond. James Bond. The legend begins with SilverFin.

Hill, Stuart. *Cry of the Icemark*.

FANTASY

When her father dies nobly in battle, fourteen-year-old Thirrin becomes Queen of the Icemark, a tiny kingdom forever caught between dangerous neighbours. Thirrin must raise an army to protect her people from seemingly invincible Imperial invaders. Her search for allies takes her beyond her northern borders, to former enemies in the Land-of-the-Ghosts and onwards to the frozen Hub of the World. But can she save her kingdom.

Hitchcock, Fleur. *Dear Scarlett*.

FAMILY STORIES

A funny, moving and absorbing story about a young girl's attempts to learn more about her dead father through the objects she finds in a cardboard box he's left her. Scarlett and her friend, Ellie, go on a sometimes hilarious, sometimes scary, journey of discovery, following the clues and always remembering to 'keep looking up'. Was Scarlett's dad a thief? Was he a spy? And what does it mean to be his daughter?

Horowitz, Anthony. *Stormbreaker*.

ADVENTURE

When his guardian dies in suspicious circumstances, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider finds his world turned upside down. Forcibly recruited into MI6, Alex has to take part in gruelling SAS training exercises. Then, armed with his own special set of secret gadgets, he's off on his first mission to Cornwall, where Middle-Eastern multi-billionaire Herod Sayle is producing his state-of-the-art Stormbreaker computers. Sayle has offered to give one free to every school in the country - but there's more to the gift than meets the eye.

Jacobs, Jaco. *A good day for climbing trees*.

ADVENTURE

How two unlikely heroes inspire a whole town by fighting to save a tree. Sometimes, in the blink of an eye, you do something that changes your life forever. Like climbing a tree with a girl you don't know. Marnus is tired of feeling invisible, living in the shadow of his two brothers. His older brother is good at breaking swimming records and girls' hearts. His younger brother is already a crafty entrepreneur who has tricked him into doing the dishes all summer. But when a girl called Leila turns up on their doorstep one morning with a petition, it's the start of an unexpected adventure. And finally, Marnus gets the chance to be noticed...

Ibbotson, Eva. *Journey To The River Sea*.

ADVENTURE

It is 1910 and Maia, tragically orphaned at 13, has been sent from England to start a new life with distant relatives in Manaus, hundreds of miles up the Amazon. She is accompanied by an eccentric and mysterious governess who has secret reasons of her own for making the journey. Both soon discover an exotic world bursting with new experiences in this highly colourful, joyous and award-winning adventure.

Jarvis, Robin. *The Whitby witches*.

FANTASY

When orphans Ben and Jennet arrive in the seaside town of Whitby to stay with Alice Boston, they have no idea what to expect. A lively 92-year-old, Miss Boston is unlike any other foster mother they've known. Ben is gifted with 'the sight', which gives him the power to see things invisible to other mortals. He soon encounters the mysterious fisher folk who live under the cliffs and discovers that Alice and her friends are not quite what they seem. But a darkness is stalking the streets of Whitby, bringing with it fear and death. Could it be a ghost from the Abbey? Or a beast from hell? Unless the truth is uncovered, the town and all its inhabitants is doomed.

Kerr, Judith. *When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit*.

REAL LIFE STORIES

Suppose your country began to change. Suppose that without your noticing, it became dangerous for some people to live in Germany any longer. Suppose you found, to your complete surprise, that your own father was one of those people. That is what happened to Anna in 1933. She was nine years old when it began, too busy with her schoolwork and tobogganning to take much notice of political posters, but out of them glared the face of Adolf Hitler, the man who would soon change the whole of Europe - starting with her own small life.

Laird, Elizabeth. *Oranges in No Man's Land*.

REAL LIFE STORIES

Since her father left Lebanon to find work and her mother tragically died in a shell attack, ten-year-old Ayesha has been living in the bomb-ravaged city of Beirut with her granny and her two younger brothers. The city has been torn in half by civil war and a desolate, dangerous no man's land divides the two sides. Only militiamen and tanks dare enter this deadly zone, but when Granny falls desperately ill Ayesha sets off on a terrifying journey to reach a doctor living in enemy territory.

Landy, Derek. *Skulduggery Pleasant*.

FANTASY

Meet the great Skulduggery Pleasant: wise-cracking detective, powerful magician, master of dirty tricks and burglary (in the name of the greater good, of course). Oh yeah. And dead. Then there's his sidekick, Stephanie. She's...well, she's a twelve-year-old girl. With a pair like this on the case, evil had better watch out.

Lawrence, Caroline. *The Twelve Tasks of Flavia Gemina*.

HISTORICAL

It is December AD 79. In the Roman port of Ostia braziers are lit, hot spiced wine is brewed and soft fur covers are brought out from cedarwood storage chests. It's the season of Saturnalia, a pagan festival where anything can happen. When a Roman widow begins to show a keen interest in Captain Geminus, his daughter Flavia and her friends have to find out if she really loves him or is just after his money. To do that, Flavia has to undertake the twelve labours of Hercules. And there is a lion on the loose!

Lewis, Gill. *Sky dancer*.

NATURE

Joe has always loved the moorlands above his home: the wildness, the freedom, the peace. But since his father died, everything has changed, and the moors are no longer a place of refuge. Now the whole community is divided over the fate of the hen harriers that nest up there in the heather - and Joe is stuck right in the middle, with a choice to make, and a huge secret to keep. Joe can't do what's right for everyone. But can he find the strength to fight for what he really believes in?

Lowry, Lois. *Number the Stars*.

REAL LIFE STORIES

In Nazi-occupied Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie Johansen is called upon for a selfless act of bravery to help save her best friend from a terrible fate. It is 1943 and life in Copenhagen is becoming complicated for Annemarie. There are food shortages and curfews, and soldiers on every corner. But it is even worse for her Jewish best friend, Ellen, as the Nazis continue their brutal campaign. With Ellen's life in danger, Annemarie must summon all her courage to help stage a daring escape.

MacKenzie, Ross. *Shadowsmith*.

FANTASY

Are you brave? When the mysterious Amelia Pigeon turns up at Kirby's bedroom window in the dead of night, this is the question she asks him – right before they tumble into a world of ancient malevolent spirits who have torn their way into Kirby's quiet seaside village.

McCaughrean, Geraldine. *Where the world ends*.

ADVENTURE

In the summer of 1727, a group of men and boys from St Kilda are put ashore on a remote sea stac to harvest birds for food. No one returns to collect them. Why? Surely nothing but the end of the world can explain why they have been abandoned to endure storms, starvation and terror. And how can they survive, imprisoned on every side by the ocean? Inspired by a true event, this is a breathtaking story of nine boys and the courage it takes to survive against the odds.

McNally, John. *Infinity Drake, The Sons of Scarlatti.*

ADVENTURE

Infinity Drake and his scientist uncle are summoned to a crisis meeting. A power-mad villain has released a doomsday bio-weapon - the mutant Scarlatti wasp. Millions of lives are in danger, but Uncle Al has a crazy plan that just might work... Soon he's shrinking a crack military team to take down the wasps. But a double agent throws the mission and now Finn is 9mm tall and has the weight of the world's survival on his tiny shoulders. Killer bugs: It's time to pick on someone your own size!

Morpurgo, Michael. *Private Peaceful.*

HISTORICAL

Told in the voice of Private Tommo Peaceful, the story follows twenty-four hours at the front, and captures his memories of his family and his village life - by no means as tranquil as it appeared. Full of vivid detail and engrossing atmosphere, leading to a dramatic and moving conclusion, *Private Peaceful* is both a compelling love story and a deeply moving account of the First World War.

Nesbit, E., Wilson, Jacqueline. *The Railway Children.*

CLASSIC

When Father is taken away unexpectedly, Roberta, Peter, Phyllis and their mother have to leave their comfortable life in London to go and live in a small cottage in the country. The children seek solace in the nearby railway station, and make friends with Perks the Porter and the Station Master himself. Each day, Roberta, Peter and Phyllis run down the field to the railway track and wave at the passing London train, sending their love to Father. Little do they know that the kindly old gentleman passenger who waves back holds the key to their father's disappearance.

Ness, Patrick. *And the ocean was our sky.*

FANTASY

The whales of Bathsheba's pod live for the hunt. Led by the formidable Captain Alexandra, they fight a never-ending war against men. Then the whales attack a man ship, and instead of easy prey they find the trail of a myth, a monster, perhaps the devil himself... With their relentless Captain leading the chase, they embark on the final hunt, one that will forever change the worlds of whales and men.

Oppel, Kenneth. *The Boundless.*

ADVENTURE

After a murder is committed, Will finds himself in possession of a key that has the potential to unlock the train's hidden treasures. Together with Maren, a gifted escape artist, and Mr Dorian, a circus ringmaster with amazing abilities, Will must save the Boundless before someone else winds up dead. With villains fast on his heels and strange creatures lurking outside the windows, the train hurtles across the country as Will flees for his life. His adventure may have begun without his knowing...but how it ends is now entirely up to Will.

Palacio, R. J. *Wonder.*

REAL LIFE STORIES

'My name is August. I won't describe what I look like. Whatever you're thinking, it's probably worse.' Auggie wants to be an ordinary ten-year-old. He does ordinary things - eating ice cream, playing on his Xbox. He feels ordinary - inside. But ordinary kids don't make other ordinary kids run away screaming in playgrounds. Ordinary kids aren't stared at wherever they go. Born with a terrible facial abnormality, Auggie has been home-schooled by his parents his whole life. Now, for the first time, he's being sent to a real school - and he's dreading it. All he wants is to be accepted - but can he convince his new classmates that he's just like them, underneath it all?

Pennypacker, Sara. *Pax.*

NATURE

Pax and Peter have been inseparable ever since Peter rescued him as a cub. But when Peter is forced to return his fox to the wild his world is torn apart. Despite the encroaching was, and the three hundred miles between them, Peter sets out to find his fox. Meanwhile Pax waits hopefully for his boy.

Priestley, Chris. *Uncle Montague's tales of terror.*

HORROR

Uncle Montague lives alone in a big house and his regular visits from his nephew give him the opportunity to relive some of the most frightening stories he knows. But as the stories unfold, a newer and more surprising narrative emerges, one that is perhaps the most frightening of all.

Pullman, Philip. *Northern Lights*.

FANTASY

Lyra Belacqua and her animal daemon live half-wild and carefree among scholars of Jordan College, Oxford. The destiny that awaits her will take her to the frozen lands of the Arctic, where witch-clans reign and ice-bears fight. Her extraordinary journey will have immeasurable consequences far beyond her own world...

Reeve, Philip. *Mortal Engines*.

FANTASY

Tom and Hester have been thrown together. Truly-thrown out of a city on wheels that's left them stranded and starving in the middle of nowhere while it hares off after its prey. Hester is desperate for revenge, and Tom is only desperate to get back on board his beloved London. This is a stunning literary debut from Philip Reeve. A novel that defies easy categorisation, it is a gripping adventure story set in an inspired fantasy world, where moving cities trawl the globe.

Riordan, Rick. *Percy Jackson And The Battle Of The Labyrinth*.

FANTASY

Honestly, blowing up another school was the last thing I wanted to do. As the son of a Greek god, I've had my share of near-death disaster. This summer, I didn't choose to battle the cheerleading squad, but when two hissing she-devils with fangs are heading straight for you, what's a half-blood meant to do? That was just the beginning. This is the one where my arch-enemy, Luke, is looking for a way to invade our camp via an ancient labyrinth. If he succeeds, thousands of bloodthirsty monsters will attack. So it's goodbye sunshine, hello darkness as four of us descend into the terrifying underground and beyond...

Rowling, J. K. *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*.

FANTASY

When the Knight Bus crashes through the darkness and screeches to a halt in front of him, it's the start of another far from ordinary year at Hogwarts for Harry Potter. Sirius Black, escaped mass-murderer and follower of Lord Voldemort, is on the run - and they say he is coming after Harry. In his first ever Divination class, Professor Trelawney sees an omen of death in Harry's tea leaves. But perhaps most terrifying of all are the Dementors patrolling the school grounds, with their soul-sucking kiss.

Rundell, Katherine. *The Wolf Wilder*.

ADVENTURE

Feodora and her mother live in the snowbound woods of Russia, in a house full of food and fireplaces. Ten minutes away, in a ruined chapel, lives a pack of wolves. Feodora's mother is a wolf wilder, and Feo is a wolf wilder in training. A wolf wilder is the opposite of an animal tamer: it is a person who teaches tamed animals to fend for themselves, and to fight and to run, and to be wary of humans. When the murderous hostility of the Russian Army threatens her very existence, Feo is left with no option but to go on the run. What follows is a story of revolution and adventure, about standing up for the things you love and fighting back. And, of course, wolves.

Sage, Angie. *Magyk*.

FANTASY

Enter the world of Septimus Heap, Wizard Apprentice. Magyk is his destiny. A powerful necromancer plans to seize control of all things Magykal. He has killed the Queen and locked up the Extraordinary Wizard. Now with Darke Magyk he will create a world filled with Darke creatures. But the Necromancer made one mistake. A vital detail he has overlooked means there is a boy who can stop him - the only problem is, the boy doesn't know it yet. For the Heap family, life as they know it is about to change, and the most fantastically fast-paced adventure of confused identities, magyk and mayhem, begin.

Sewell, Anna. *Black Beauty*.

CLASSIC

Black Beauty is a handsome, sweet-tempered colt with a strong spirit. As a young colt he is free to gallop in the fresh green meadows with his beloved mother, Duchess, and their kind master. But when his owners are forced to sell him, Black Beauty goes from a life of comfort and kindness to one of hard labour and cruelty. Bravely he works as hard as he can, suffering at the hands of men who treat animals badly. But Black Beauty has an unbreakable spirit and will, and is determined to survive.

Shan, Darren. *Cirque Du Freak*.

HORROR

Darren goes to a banned freak show with his best mate Steve. It's the wonderfully gothic Cirque Du Freak where weird, frightening half human/half animals appear who interact terrifyingly with the audience. Darren - a spider freak - 'falls in love' with Madam Octa - an enormous tarantula owned by Mr Crepsley. Darren determines to steal the spider so that he can train it to perform amazing deeds. But his daring theft goes horribly wrong and Darren finds himself having to make a bargain with a creature of the night.

Smale, Holly. *Geek Girl*.

HUMOUR

Harriet Manners knows that a cat has 32 muscles in each ear, a "jiffy" lasts 1/100th of a second, and the average person laughs 15 times per day. She knows that bats always turn left when exiting a cave and that peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite. But she doesn't know why nobody at school seems to like her. So when Harriet is spotted by a top model agent, she grabs the chance to reinvent herself. Even if it means stealing her best friend's dream, incurring the wrath of her arch enemy Alexa, and repeatedly humiliating herself in front of impossibly handsome model Nick. Even if it means lying to the people she loves. Veering from one couture disaster to the next with the help of her overly enthusiastic father and her uber-geeky stalker, Toby, Harriet begins to realise that the world of fashion doesn't seem to like her any more than the real world did. As her old life starts to fall apart, will Harriet be able to transform herself before she ruins everything?

Sparkes, Ali. *Frozen in Time*.

ADVENTURE

1956 Freddy and Polly have always known their father is a genius. So they've never minded helping him with his experiments. Even when that means being put into cryonic suspension-having their hearts frozen until their father wakes them up again. They know it will only be for an hour or two, so there's nothing to worry about...2009 Ben and Rachel have resigned themselves to a long, boring summer. Then they find the hidden underground vault in the garden-and inside it two frozen figures, a boy and a girl. And as if that isn't spooky enough, when Rachel accidentally presses a button, something unbelievable happens...Can Polly and Freddy adapt to the twenty-first century? Will their bodies survive having been in suspension for so long? And most important of all, what happened to their father-and why did he leave them frozen in time?

Stevens, Robin. *The Guggenheim Mystery*.

MYSTERY

My name is Ted Spark. I am 12 years and 281 days old. I have seven friends. Three months ago, I solved the mystery of how my cousin Salim disappeared from a pod on the London Eye. This is the story of my second mystery. This summer, I went on holiday to New York, to visit Aunt Gloria and Salim. While I was there, a painting was stolen from the Guggenheim Museum, where Aunt Gloria works. Everyone was very worried and upset. I did not see what the problem was. I do not see the point of paintings, even if they are worth GBP9.8 million. Perhaps that's because of my very unusual brain, which works on a different operating system to everyone else's. But then Aunt Gloria was blamed for the theft - and Aunt Gloria is family. And I realised just how important it was to find the painting, and discover who really had taken it.

Stroud, Jonathan. *Lockwood & Co: The Screaming Staircase*.

FANTASY

When the dead come back to haunt the living, Lockwood & Co. step in . . . For more than fifty years, the country has been affected by a horrifying epidemic of ghosts. A number of Psychic Investigations Agencies have sprung up to destroy the dangerous apparitions. Lucy Carlyle, a talented young agent, arrives in London hoping for a notable career. Instead she finds herself joining the smallest most ramshackle agency in the city, run by the charismatic Anthony Lockwood. When one of their cases goes horribly wrong, Lockwood & Co. have one last chance of redemption.

Tolkien, J. R. R. *The Hobbit*.

FANTASY

Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit who enjoys a comfortable, unambitious life, rarely travelling further than the pantry of his hobbit-hole in Bag End. But his contentment is disturbed when the wizard, Gandalf, and a company of thirteen dwarves arrive on his doorstep one day to whisk him away on an unexpected journey 'there and back again'. They have a plot to raid the treasure hoard of Smaug the Magnificent, a large and very dangerous dragon.

Walden, Mark. *H.I.V.E.: Higher Institute of Villainous Education*.

ADVENTURE

H.I.V.E. (Higher Institute of Villainous Education) is a top-secret school of applied villainy where children with a precocious gift for wrongdoing are sent to develop their talents into criminal mastermind. After all, 'villains have the best lines and wear the best costumes'. One small catch is that the children cannot leave until training is complete, six years later. With villainy comes a certain freedom of thought, and every year one student in particular will show exceptional talent - after all, it takes the best to produce the worst. This year there are two students: Otto Malpense and his new friend Wing Fanchu are both exceptionally bad, and they are definitely not keen on being held against their will for six long years...

Wilkinson, Sheena. *Star By Star*.

HISTORICAL

It's 1918 and Stella has lost her suffragette mother to the terrible flu pandemic that is sweeping Europe. The Great War is finally coming to a close, and women are going to be able to vote for the first time. Stella wants to change the world - but she can't do it all by herself. Just as stars come one by one to brighten the night sky, so history is made person by person, girl by girl, vote by vote.