

# **Summer Recommended Reading List**

# Christina Symeonidis (LIV), Reading Champion.

# The No1 Ladies' Detective Agency - Alexander McCall Smith

This series is a perfect beach read about Precious Ramotswe, proud daughter of Obed Ramotswe. The series follows her adventures in running the first ladies' detective agency in Botswana. Her stories are very heart-warming and humorous at times.

# British People, You Don't Know How Kind You Are - WRITTEN BY AN ABBEY TEACHER - Eunyoung Mallet

An exciting read, following the unpredictable life of a seemingly "ordinary" maths teacher! This book gave fascinating insights into life in Korea, as well as tackling universal themes such as family, loss, school pressures and even unemployment. This autobiography reinforces a few key messages that are all too easily forgotten: never judge a book (or teacher!) by their cover!

## **Oranges in No-Man's Land - Elizabeth Laird**

The story is heart-breaking at times and a good reminder of the many innocent people, young and old, who still are deeply affected by devastating conflicts.

#### The Thirty-Nine Steps - John Buchan

A short but captivating book following the story of Richard Hannay, who gets mixed up in a perilous crime which threatens the safety of his country. The book is written with a good level of detail and is well-paced and the plot is not too complicated, yet still gripping.

#### The Book Thief - Marcus Zusak

Prepare to become wholly invested in this heart-wrenching novel following the story of a fostered girl in Nazi Germany. Death narrates the book, which creates a unique and slightly disquieting atmosphere.

## Salt to the Sea - Ruta Sepetys

A beautifully crafted novel set in Eastern Europe during WWII - the story unfolds from the perspectives of several characters, some which are on opposing sides of the conflict tearing through Europe.

## The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time - Mark Haddon

A very interesting read about an autistic boy who takes on the murder case of his neighbour's dog and ends up uncovering some disturbing secrets about his family. The book is a real eye-opener to how life is for some autistic people and how they perceive things.

## The Eternal Return of Clara Hart - (This is recommended for LV and above).

Shortlisted for the 2023 Carnegie prize, this book uses a time loop to replay the same disastrous day several times, and each iteration allows Spence, the main character, to learn more about his fellow students, and himself.

#### The Lord of the Rings - J.R.R Tolkien

The Lord of the Rings is a great trilogy to last all summer long. A must-read classic.

# Everybody Dies Famous in a Small Town - Bonnie-Sue Hitchcock (recommended for UIV and above)

A collection of short stories about teenagers living in several different remote parts of America. All of these stories are cleverly linked together with some common themes.. The ending is immensely satisfying.