

KS4 List

Title and Author	Theme
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birdsong by Sebastian Faulkes 	<p>This is the story of Stephen, a young Englishman, who arrives in Amiens, France in 1910. His life goes through a series of traumatic experiences, from the clandestine love affair that tears apart the family he is living with, to the unprecedented experiences of the war itself.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misery by Stephen King 	<p>An author has written a series of books but wants to try something different so he kills off the main character. He is on his way to publish a new novel when he crashes his car and is rescued by a nurse who is his number one fan. When she finds out that the series she loved is finished she uses some very disturbing techniques to hold him hostage until he starts writing it again.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Book Thief by Markus Zusak 	<p>It is 1939. Nazi Germany. Death has never been busier. By her brother's graveside, Liesel's life is changed when she picks up The Gravedigger's Handbook. It is her first act of book thievery and, with the help of her foster father, she learns to read. Soon she is stealing books from Nazi book-burnings, the mayor's wife's library, wherever there are books to be found. But this is a dangerous time and set to get worse when her family hides a Jew in their basement.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perfume by Patrick Suskind 	<p>Jean-Baptiste is abandoned on the filthy streets of Paris as a child, but grows up to discover he has an extraordinary gift: a sense of smell more powerful than any other human's. Soon, he is creating the most sublime fragrances in all the city. Yet there is one odour he cannot capture. These are the memoirs of a Frenchman who becomes obsessed with the 'ultimate' smell – human blood!</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mister Pip by Lloyd Jones 	<p>Matilda lives on an island in the South Pacific that is succumbing to war. When the children are told by the island's only white man that he will introduce them to Mr Dickens they are excited and thinking this foreigner will bring them gifts. Instead Mr Watts recites Great Expectations to them which they devour with relish. But on an island at war, the power of fiction has dangerous consequences.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Touching the Void • The Beckoning Silence <p>by Joe Simpson (one book counts)</p>	<p>A true account of two men who climbed a remote mountain in treacherous conditions. A few days later Simon staggered into Base Camp exhausted and frost-bitten, with news that Joe was dead. This story reveals what happened to Joe on the mountain after Simon cut the rope holding his friend.</p> <p>The beckoning silence – Heart stopping rock-climbing stories</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life: An Exploded Diagram by Mal Peet 	<p>Clem lives in a modest house with his mother and grandmother. Frankie is the daughter of a wealthy farmer. They fall in love during the tense days of the Cuban missile crisis when the world is on tenterhooks about the possibility that everything will be destroyed in the blink of an eye.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal Farm by George Orwell 	<p>Mr Jones of Manor Farm is so lazy and drunken that one day he forgets to feed his livestock. The ensuing rebellion under the leadership of the pigs Napoleon and Wellington leads to the animals taking over the farm. But as time passes, the ideals of the rebellion are corrupted, then forgotten. And something new and unexpected emerges. "Animal Farm" - the history of a revolution that went wrong - is George Orwell's brilliant satire on the corrupting influence of power.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good Omens by Terry Pratchett (and Neil Gaiman) 	<p>People have been predicting the end of the world almost from its very beginning, so it's only natural to be sceptical when a new date is set for Judgement Day. But what if, for once, the predictions are right, and the apocalypse really is due to arrive next Saturday, just after tea? You could spend the time left drowning your sorrows, giving away all your possessions in preparation for the rapture, or laughing it off as (hopefully) just another hoax. Or you could just try to do something about it.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Expectations by Charles Dickens 	<p>As a small boy Pip meets two people who will affect his whole life - an escaped convict he is forced to help, and the eccentric Miss Havesham, who looks after a beautiful, cold girl who Pip adores. When a secret benefactor pays for him to go to London to become a gentleman, Pip dreams about a future with his Estelle. Unfortunately through a chain of events, his life follows an altogether more murderous path.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life of Pi by Yann Martel 	<p>After the tragic sinking of a cargo ship, a solitary lifeboat remains bobbing on the wild blue Pacific. The only survivors from the wreck are a sixteen-year-old boy named Pi, a hyena, a zebra (with a broken leg), a female orang-utan - and a 450-pound Royal Bengal tiger...</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nineteen Eighty-four by George Orwell 	<p>Winston works for the ruling party, rewriting old news so it makes the leaders seem perfect. However he rebels against the party which watches everyone and everything to ensure total obedience. He begins a love affair with Julia but it must be kept completely secret as all relationships are illegal. A bleak future is set in this classic novel where everything you say and do is contrived and censored.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cider With Rosie • As I Walked Out One Midsummer Morning • A Moment of War <p>by Laurie Lee (one book counts)</p>	<p>Auto-biographical stories of growing up in England, travelling through Europe and getting caught up in the Spanish Civil War. Laurie depicts a world that is both tangibly real yet belonging to a now distant past.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Kite Runner by Khalid Hosseini 	<p>The Kite runner - Amir is desperate to win the local kite-fighting tournament and his loyal friend Hassan promises to help him. But something soul-destroying happens to Hassan that afternoon. Amir witnesses it, but consumed with fear he does nothing to help. After the Russians invade and the family is forced to flee to America, Amir realises that one day he must return to Afghanistan under Taliban rule to find the one thing that his new world cannot grant him: redemption.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wild Swans by Jung Chang 	<p>A true and amazing account of three generations of Chinese women - grandmother, mother and daughter – from the ancient tradition of foot binding to the Long March and Cultural Revolution.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult 	<p>Anna was only born to keep her sister alive. She is genetically engineered to be a biological match for her sister who has leukaemia. She has spent her life giving blood and bone marrow to Kate and is under pressure to give a kidney. But, Anna wants her own life – and who can blame her?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Time Traveler's Wife by Audrey Niffenegger 	<p>This is the story of Clare and Henry who have known each other since Clare was six and Henry was thirty-six. They were married when Clare was twenty-two and Henry thirty. Impossible but true, because Henry has a disorder where his genetic clock resets and he gets pulled suddenly into the past or future – alternately harrowing and amusing.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WE by John Dickinson 	<p>Paul is sent away from his family across the solar system to a human base on a moon near Pluto to supposedly fix a mechanical problem. He has no way of ever going home</p>

	and must make his new life with the only other people already at the base, two women and one man. But, in a cruel twist he realises he shouldn't be there at all.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Fellowship of the Ring • The Two Towers • The Return of the King • Silmarillion by J. R. R. Tolkien (one book counts)	Frodo, a hobbit, finds himself in possession of an all-powerful ring. Lord Sauron forms an evil army and wages war on the land to get hold of the ring that will lead to complete domination. The ring must be destroyed in the mountain it was created in and Frodo, together with a group of friends including dwarves, elves and a wizard, set out on an epic journey to the mountain, but it's a journey fraught with dangers beyond their wildest beliefs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee	Set in America's Deep South during the 1930s – this is a story that explores racism and prejudice through the account of a black man's fight for justice when he is charged with the rape of a white girl.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just Henry by Michelle Magorian	The Second World War has ended, but Henry (15) is fighting his own battles...He misses his father who died a war hero, and his only distraction is the cinema. But everything is about to change... when Henry develops and old camera film he uncovers a mystery and events spiral until his life resembles the drama of the big screen. Like a bomb waiting to explode, Henry's discovery will shatter his world...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tamar by Mal Peet	When her grandfather dies, Tamar inherits a box containing a series of clues and coded messages. Out of the past another Tamar emerges, someone involved in the terrifying world of resistance fighters in Nazi-occupied Holland half a century earlier. His story is one of passionate love, jealousy and tragedy set against the daily fear and casual horror of the Second World War. Unravelling it will transform the younger Tamar's life.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Act of Love by Alan Gibbons	Explores the consequences of the war on terror on two friends, both as boys and as older teenagers. Chris and Imran (7) are sworn blood brothers. Ten years on they are treading very separate paths. Rioting, fighting, maiming and killing – terrorism - are happening here, on our doorstep, and it has wrecked their friendship.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You Against Me by Jenny Downham	Ellie's brother is charged with sexual assault. Mikey's sister was the alleged victim. But, what would you do if you had already fallen for each other? This story shows the difficulties encountered by two young people who are in love but are forced to decide where their loyalties lie.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Romeo and Juliet • Macbeth • A Midsummer Night's Dream • Hamlet by William Shakespeare (one book counts)	<p>Romeo and Juliet – the story of two lovers whose families are bitter rivals. In a cruel twist the young lovers suffer the consequences of their families hatred.</p> <p>Macbeth – Three witches tell Macbeth that he will become king of Scotland. He murders the reigning king and rules by fear, leading to civil war. This story gets inside the mind of a murderer and tyrant as madness takes hold.</p> <p>A Midsummer night's dream - portrays the events surrounding the marriage of the Duke of Athens and the Queen of the Amazons including the adventures of four young Athenian lovers and a group of six amateur actors, who are controlled and manipulated by the fairies who inhabit the forest.</p> <p>Hamlet - dramatizes the revenge Prince Hamlet exacts on his uncle Claudius for murdering his father and then succeeding to the throne and taking Hamlet's mother as his wife.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pride and Prejudice • Sense and Sensibility 	Dramatic stories written over a century ago which depict strong female characters trying to overcome their feeble

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mansfield Park • Emma by Jane Austen (one book counts)	stereotype and male prejudice.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte	Cathy is a beautiful and wilful young woman torn between her soft-hearted husband and Heathcliff, the passionate and resentful man who has loved her since childhood. The power of their bond creates a maelstrom of cruelty and violence which will leave one of them dead and cast a shadow over the lives of their children.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte	Orphaned Jane Eyre endures an unhappy childhood, hated by her aunt and cousins she is sent to a cold, comfortless School. Eventually she takes a job as a governess at Mr Rochester's house, where she hopes to find friendship, or even love, until she learns the terrible secret of the attic.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebecca • Jamaica Inn by Daphne du Maurier (one book counts)	Rebecca - The story follows a young woman who, after accepting the sudden proposal of marriage to a much older man must contend with his stunningly beautiful late first wife, Rebecca, as she takes her place. Jamaica Inn - Feisty Mary goes to live with her aunt at the desolate Jamaica Inn. Her aunt's husband turns out to be a dangerous man, and Mary gets involved in a violent series of events. Both help and danger come from unexpected quarters.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Killing Honour by Bali Rai	A husband believes his wife has run off with another man – his conscience says he should reap revenge.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boys Don't Cry By Malorie Blackman	You're about to receive your A-level results and then a future of university and journalism awaits. But the day they're due to arrive your old girlfriend Melanie turns up unexpectedly ... with a baby... You assume Melanie's helping a friend, until she nips out to buy some essentials, leaving you literally holding the baby...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code Name Verity By Elizabeth Wein	The story of a female British spy in WWII who gets captured and is then subjected to torture to retrieve information.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junk By Melvin Burgess	Multi-award winning novel of how relationships evolve with drug abusers.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horseradish By Lemony Snicket	Amusing snippets of life.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little Soldier By Bernard Ashley	A teenage boy survives a brutal attack on his East African village. He joins the rebel army to fight back but is 'rescued' by aid workers and brought to London where he enrolls in a high school. With his past haunting him he ends up embroiled in a dangerous conflict between local gangs.

FXR KS4 Award

Title and author	Theme
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girl on the Platform By Josephine Cox 	Pete becomes obsessed with a girl he sees often sitting on the platform. One day she disappears and he is desperate to know what has happened to her.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last Night Another Soldier... By Andy McNab 	An action-packed account of soldiers on duty in Afghanistan.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Time Machine By H. G. Wells 	A scientist sends himself 800,000 years into the future and finds an elfin species descended from man, and the sinister Morlocks. When his time machine vanishes he will have to brave the Morlocks to return to his own era.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Good Turn By Chris Ryan 	A severely injured soldier is tried for cowardice in WWI and sentenced to death. He begins to remember the events that led him here - and that he is not the man who is guilty.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cleverness of Ladies By Alexander McCall Smith 	A collection of five short stories about love, heartbreak, hope and the cleverness of ladies.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jack and Jill By Lucy Cavendish 	A disturbing tale of a boy who won't speak and his sister who understands what he's thinking - until she unearths the shocking reason.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hell Island By Matthew Reilly 	Special Force units are sent to an island to investigate the deaths of 600 US marines. Once there they discover the shocking truth.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humble Pie By Gordon Ramsay 	Autobiography by the man himself; rude, loud, driven, stubborn. Shocking and inspiring at the same time.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kung Fu Trip By Benjamin Zephaniah 	The true story of Benjamin on his travels to China. A little bit daft and a whole lot of fun.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Cool Head By Ian Rankin 	Gravy worked in a graveyard. Benjy turns up in a car with a bullet hole in his chest, a balaclava and a bag full of money. Gravy then has to deal with a woman who witnessed the murder and some very unpleasant men who will do anything to get the money back.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Danny Wallace and the Centre of the Universe By Danny Wallace 	Apparently a manhole cover in a small town in Idaho, America has been proven to be the centre of the universe. Danny decides to pay it a visit as he shares his surname with the name of the town – Wallace. A weird and whacky travelogue.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traitors of the Tower By Alison Weir 	Over 400 years ago, seven people were beheaded in the Tower of London. From someone betrayed by their friend to a young girl killed after just nine days on the throne, find out why these people suffered such a cruel destiny.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My Dad's a Policeman By Cathy Glass 	12 year old Ryan is on the run after being told he will be separated from his family and put into foster care. Inspired by a true story, this is a gritty and heart-rending tale.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackling Life By Charlie Oatway 	True story of Charlie who has been a fighter all his life. Starting with scraps on the streets of London, being expelled from school and then landing in prison, he eventually becomes a professional footballer.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to Change Your Life in 7 Steps By John Bird 	Want to improve your life but don't know where to start? This book is for you. Written by the founder of the Big Issue, it explains seven simple rules that could help you change your life.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team Calzaghe By Michael Pearlman 	Never beaten in 46 fights, Joe Calzaghe became recognised as one of the greatest sportsmen in British history. This is his story.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peak Performance By Tori James 	In 2007 Tori James became the youngest British woman to climb Everest. Her mantra 'if you fall you're dead'.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grand Slam Man By Dan Lydiate 	Heroic Welsh flanker Dan Lydiate reflects on his comeback from a broken neck in 2008 to become the hero

	of Wales's 2012 Grand Slam success.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magic of the Angels By Jacqueline Rayner 	The Doctor and his friends find themselves face to face with a deadly weeping angel. Whatever you do – don't blink!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of the Krillitanes By Justin Richards 	Can eating a bag of crisps really make you more clever? The company that makes them claims they can – but why would they want to? The Doctor sets out to learn the truth behind this global phenomenon.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Silurian Gift By Mike Tucker 	As fuel runs out one man seems to have the answer. Concerned by these claims the Doctor visits an oil refinery near the South Pole and soon discovers something huge and terrifying lurking within.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sontaran Games By Jacqueline Rayner 	Doctor Who...every time the lights go out, someone dies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am a Dalek By Gareth Roberts 	Classic Doctor Who story.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hello Mum By Bernardine Evaristo 	A teenager is stabbed and his mum wants to find out why... until she learns the upsetting and shocking truth.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trouble on the Heath By Terry Jones 	This weird comedy, written by the ex-Python, is about a man who forms a protest against the council and ends up upside down with a gun in his mouth.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amy's Diary By Maureen Lee 	Amy lives in Liverpool and is 18 when WWII broke out. Her diary portrays her fear and angst as her brother and boyfriend fight in the war.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bloody Valentine By James Patterson 	A gory murder mystery about a rich man who is the victim of a violent murder, and the suspects of this sick crime.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Dreadful Murder: The Mysterious Death of Caroline Luard By Minette Walters 	A true story of the murder of a young lady and of the difficulty that was faced 100 years ago of proving innocence and guilt in a time when forensic science had not yet been invented.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Today Everything Changes By Andy McNab 	The author's own account of how his life started tough, with his being eventually sent to a juvenile detention centre, but changed one day when he joined the Army.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raw Voices By Vanessa Feltz 	True stories of people who have overcome very difficult starts in life and gone on to become very successful.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Sea Change By Veronica Henry 	Jenna sells ice cream. Craig spends his summer's surfing on the beach. One day Craig notices Jenna for all the wrong reasons...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life's New Hurdles By Colin Jackson 	Autobiography about a champion athlete and what he faces when he moves on from his sport.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty Tales from the War Zone By John Simpson 	20 short true stories of a television journalist's experiences of war – powerful, shocking and sometimes hilarious.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screw It, Let's Do It By Richard Branson 	Richard Branson lets you into the secrets of his billion pound success.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Star Sullivan By Maeve Binchy 	Star Sullivan wanted everyone to be happy – her father to stop gambling, her brother to stay out of trouble, her sister to stop worrying about diets. Then Laddy moved in and Star was no longer the sweet sensitive girl she once was.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vinyl Demand By Hayley Long 	The story of two girls who are plucked from their debt-ridden student life to become superstar DJs.

