

The Headmaster's Reading List

God has given us His written word in the Bible, and in the Gospel of John, Jesus is described as the λόγος – the 'logos', or Word. Of all people, Christians should be literary people: reading, writing, speaking and listening. The Bible is like no other book, and is our most important reading. Alongside that, the Bible itself talks of Daniel and his friends being learned and well-trained in the language and literature of the Babylonians. They were powerful and effective as God's servants as a result. Educational research has shown that the single most important thing you can do to boost academic outcomes in all subjects is to read for pleasure, but there are nobler motives for reading even than that. As C.S. Lewis (my favourite author) said, "In reading I become a thousand men and yet remain myself". Some suggestions for this selection:

- Don't take the age guidelines as hard and fast rules. I still enjoy Aesop and the mythology books in my fifties. Some children may have very advanced tastes at a young age.
- Don't read great books just once for the plot or to "get through" them. C.S. Lewis said that a defining mark of a true literary reader is their willingness to revisit and re-read books, finding new layers of meaning, beauty and insight each time: "The first reading of some books is, for the literary, an experience so momentous that only experiences of love, religion, or bereavement can furnish a standard of comparison. But such books are reread". I remember first reading *The Lord of the Rings* aged about 11, finding the first few chapters quite boring, and giving up. I picked it up again aged 15 and had exactly the experience that Lewis describes. My favourite chapters to come back to thereafter were the first few chapters, because of the deep 'flavour' of the Shire and Tolkien's descriptions of it.
- Don't read books electronically if you can help it at all. Brain science has shown that reading a physical text is up to six times more effective for comprehension than from a screen. I also think that real, physical books give an aesthetic experience that electronic books can't. C.S. Lewis said, "You can't get a cup of tea big enough or a book long enough to suit me." It's hard to think of a more literary person than he was, and that captures something of the magic of reading which we want for every ICS student.

KG to Grade 2 – For parents to read aloud to children

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| 1. Andersen, H.C. | Fairy Tales |
| 2. Blake, Q. | Zagazoo |
| 3. Belloc, H. | The Bad Child's Book of Beasts |
| 4. Carle, E. | The Very Hungry Caterpillar |
| 5. Carroll, L. | Alice in Wonderland |
| 6. Carroll, L. | Through the looking glass |
| 7. Collodi, C. | Pinocchio |
| 8. De La Mare, W | Come Hither |
| 9. Dr Seuss | Green Eggs and Ham |

10. Dr Seuss	The Cat in the Hat
11. Brothers Grimm	Children's and Household Tales
12. Kingsley, C.	Water Babies
13. Kipling, R.	Jungle Book
14. Kipling, R.	Just So Stories
15. Lamb, C.	Beauty and the Beast
16. Lamb, C.	Tales from Shakespeare
17. Lane, E.	Arabian Nights
18. Lear, E.	ABC
19. Lear, E.	The Pobble Who Has No Toes
20. Lear, E.	The Quangle Wangles Hat
21. L'Estrange, R.	Aesop's Fables
22. Lionni, L.	Frederick
23. Milne, A.A.	Now We Are Six
24. Milne, A.A.	The House at Pooh Corner
25. Milne, A.A.	Winnie the Pooh
26. Potter, B.	23 Volumes
27. Sendak, M.	Where the Wild Things Are

Upper Elementary and Middle School

1. Alcott, L.M.	Little Women
2. Aldrich, T.B.	An Old Town by the Sea
3. Babbitt, N.	Tuck Everlasting
4. Barrie, J.M.	Peter Pan
5. Baum, L.F.	The Wizard of Oz
6. Belloc, H.	Cautionary Tales for Children
7. Blyton, E.	Five go Adventuring Again
8. Blyton, E.	Five go off in a Caravan
9. Blyton, E.	Five go off to camp
10. Blyton, E.	Five go to Mystery Moor
11. Blyton, E.	Five go to Smuggler's Top
12. Blyton, E.	Five have Plenty of Fun
13. Blyton, E.	Five on a Secret Trail
14. Blyton, E.	Five on a Treasure Island
15. Blyton, E.	Five on Kirrin Island Again
16. Blyton, E.	Five run away together
17. Blyton, E.	The Malory Towers series (6 books)
18. Branston, B.	Gods and Heroes from Viking Mythology
19. Browning, R.	The Pied Piper of Hamelin
20. Burnett, F.H.	Little Lord Fauntleroy
21. Burnett, F.H.	The Secret Garden
22. Burroughs, E.R.	Apache Devil
23. Burroughs, E.R.	Tarzan
24. Cowper, W.	John Gilpin's Ride

25. Dahl, R.	Fantastic Mr Fox
26. Dahl, R.	James and the Giant Peach
27. Defoe, D.	Robinson Crusoe
28. Dickens, C.	Oliver Twist
29. Gibson, M.	Gods, Men and Monsters from the Greek Myths
30. Goscinny & Uderzo	The Adventures of Asterix (23 albums to 1977)
31. Grahame, K.	The Wind in the Willows
32. Hawthorne, N.	Tanglewood Tales
33. Herge	The Adventures of Tintin (24 albums)
34. Johns, W.E.	Biggles and the Black Raider
35. Johns, W.E.	Biggles Defies the Swastika
36. Johns, W.E.	Biggles Flies East
37. Johns, W.E.	Biggles Hunts Big Game
38. Johns, W.E.	Biggles in the Orient
39. Johns, W.E.	The Camels are Coming
40. Juster, N.	The Phantom Tollbooth
41. Kingsley, C.	Westward Ho
42. Kipling, R.	Kim
43. Lancelyn Green, R.	The Adventures of Robin Hood
44. Lewis, C.S.	The Magician's Nephew
45. Lewis, C.S.	The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
46. Lewis, C.S.	The Horse and His Boy
47. Lewis, C.S.	Prince Caspian
48. Lewis, C.S.	The Voyage of the Dawn Treader
49. Lewis, C.S.	The Silver Chair
50. Lewis, C.S.	The Last Battle
51. Longfellow, H.W.	Evangeline
52. Longfellow, H.W.	Hiawatha
53. MacDonald, G.	The Princess and Curdie
54. MacDonald, G.	The Princess and the Goblin
55. Marshall, H.E.	Stories of Beowulf told to Children
56. Naylor, P.R.	Shiloh
57. Nesbit, E.	Five Children and It
58. Nesbit, E.	The Railway Children
59. Norton, M.	The Borrowers
60. Ransome, A.	Swallows and Amazons
61. Sewall, A.	Black Beauty
62. Spyri, J.	Heidi
63. Stevenson, R.L.	Treasure Island
64. Stowe, H.B.	Uncle Tom's Cabin
65. Tolkien, J.R.R.	The Hobbit
66. Verne, J.	20,000 Leagues Under the Sea
67. Verne, J.	Around the world in 80 days
68. Warner, G.C.	The Boxcar Children

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| 69. White, E.B. | Charlotte's Web |
| 70. Wilder, L.I. | Little House on the Prairie |
| 71. Wyss, J.D. | Swiss Family Robinson |

Middle and High School

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| 1. Adams, D. | The Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy |
| 2. Adams, D. | The Restaurant at the end of the Universe |
| 3. Austen, J. | Emma |
| 4. Austen, J. | Pride and Prejudice |
| 5. Bellamy, E. | Looking Backward |
| 6. Bennett, W.J. | The Book of Virtues |
| 7. Beowulf | (J.R.R. Tolkien translation) |
| 8. Blackmore, R.D. | Lorna Doone |
| 9. Bunyan, J. | The Pilgrim's Progress |
| 10. Butler, S. | Erewhon |
| 11. Christopher, J. | The City of Gold and Lead |
| 12. Christopher, J. | The Pool of Fire |
| 13. Christopher, J. | The White Mountains |
| 14. Conan-Doyle, Sir A. | The Lost World |
| 15. Conan-Doyle, Sir A. | Sherlock Holmes (novels and short stories) |
| 16. Crompton, R. | Just William |
| 17. Dickens, C. | A Christmas Carol |
| 18. Dickens, C. | Hard Times |
| 19. Dickens, C. | Nicholas Nickleby |
| 20. Dickens, C. | A Tale of Two Cities |
| 21. Dickens, C. | Great Expectations |
| 22. Dumas, A. | Three Musketeers |
| 23. Elisha | (L.W. King translation) |
| 24. Fielding, H. | Tom Jones |
| 25. Forrester, C.S. | The Hornblower Series (11 novels) |
| 26. Forster, E.M. | The Machine Stops |
| 27. Forster, E.M. | A Room with a View |
| 28. Gibbons, S. | Cold Comfort Farm |
| 29. Giono, J. | The Man Who Planted Trees |
| 30. Guareschi, G. | The Little World of Don Camillo |
| 31. Haggard, R. | King Solomon's Mines |
| 32. Henry, G.H. | St George for England |
| 33. Herbert, F. | Dune |
| 34. Homer | The Iliad |
| 35. Homer | The Odyssey |
| 36. Hughes, T. | Tom Brown's School Days |
| 37. Hugo, V. | Les Miserables |
| 38. Hugo, V. | The Hunchback of Notre-Dame |
| 39. Irving, W. | Rip Van Winkle |

40. James, H.	Daisy Miller
41. James, H.	The American
42. Jerome, J.K.	Three Men in a Boat
43. Lancelyn Green, R.	King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table
44. Lansing, A.	Endurance
45. Le Guin, U.	A Wizard of Earthsea
46. Le Guin, U.	The Tombs of Atuan
47. Le Guin, U.	The Farthest Shore
48. Lewis, C.S.	The Screwtape Letters
49. Lewis, C.S.	The Great Divorce
50. Lewis, C.S.	Out of the Silent Planet
51. Lewis, C.S.	Perelandra
52. Lewis, C.S.	That Hideous Strength
53. MacDonald, G.	Lilith
54. Melville, H.	Moby Dick
55. Melville, H.	Billy Budd
56. Montgomery, L.M.	Anne of Green Gables
57. More, T.	Utopia
58. Morris, W.	News from Nowhere
59. Morris, W.	Sigurd the Volsung and the Fall of the Niblungs
60. Orwell, G.	Animal Farm
61. Pomiane, E. de	Cooking with Pomiane
62. Saga of the Volsungs	(J.L. Byock translation)
63. Sayers, D.L.	Lord Peter Wimsey series (15 novels)
64. Scott, W.	Ivanhoe
65. Swift, J.	Gulliver's Travels
66. The Epic of Gilgamesh	(A. George translation)
67. The Great Hymn to the Aten	(J.L. Foster translation)
68. Thoreau, H.D.	Walden
69. Tolkien, J.R.R.	The Lord of the Rings
70. Tolkien, J.R.R.	The Silmarillion
71. Twain, M.	Huckleberry Finn
72. Twain, M.	The Adventures of Tom Sawyer
73. Virgil	The Aeneid
74. Washington, I.	Tales of the Alhambra
75. Wells, H.G.	The Time Machine
76. Wells, H.G.	The War of the Worlds
77. White, T.H.	Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
78. White, T.H.	The Once and Future King
79. Wodehouse, P.G.	Jeeves and Wooster (11 novels)
80. Wyndham, J.	The Chrysalids
81. Wyndham, J.	The Day of the Triffids
82. Wyndham, J.	The Kraken Wakes
83. Wyndham, J.	The Midwich Cuckoos

High School (more mature themes: fiction and non-fiction)

Literature

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| 1. Asimov, I. | Foundation |
| 2. Asimov, I. | I, Robot |
| 3. Bronte, C. | Jane Eyre |
| 4. Bronte, E. | Wuthering Heights |
| 5. Camus, A. | The Stranger |
| 6. Cervantes, M | Don Quixote |
| 7. Chaucer, G. | Troilus and Criseyde |
| 8. Chaucer, G. | The Canterbury Tales |
| 9. Conrad, J. | Heart of Darkness |
| 10. Dante | The Inferno |
| 11. Dostoevsky, F | Brothers Karamazov |
| 12. Dostoevsky, F | Crime and Punishment |
| 13. Eliot, G. | Middlemarch |
| 14. Gogol | Dead Souls |
| 15. Golding, W. | Lord of the Flies |
| 16. Hardy, T. | The Return of the Native |
| 17. Hawthorne, N. | The Scarlet Letter |
| 18. Hemingway, E. | Death in the Afternoon |
| 19. Hemingway, E. | The Old Man and the Sea |
| 20. Huxley, A. | Brave New World |
| 21. Kafka, F. | Amerika |
| 22. Kafka, F. | The Metamorphosis |
| 23. Kafka, F. | The Penal Colony |
| 24. Lee, H. | To Kill a Mockingbird |
| 25. Lermontov, M. | A Hero of our Time |
| 26. Lewis, C.S. | Till We Have Faces |
| 27. Malory, T. | Le Morte d'Arthur |
| 28. Orwell, G. | 1984 |
| 29. Remarque, E.M. | All Quiet on the Western Front |
| 30. Saki | The Westminster Alice |
| 31. Scott Fitzgerald, F. | The Great Gatsby |
| 32. Shelley, M. | Frankenstein |
| 33. Solzhenitsyn, A. | One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich |
| 34. Spark, M. | The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie |
| 35. Steinbeck, J. | The Grapes of Wrath |
| 36. Stendhal | The Red and the Black |
| 37. Stevenson, R.L. | The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde |
| 38. Thackeray, W.M. | Vanity Fair |
| 39. Tolstoy, L. | Anna Karenina |
| 40. Tolstoy, L. | War and Peace |

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| 41. Voltaire | Candide |
| 42. Zamyatin, Y. | We |

Drama and Poetry

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| 1. Aeschylus | The Persians |
| 2. Aeschylus | Seven Against Thebes |
| 3. Aristophanes | The Clouds |
| 4. Coleridge, S.T. | Rhyme of the Ancient Mariner |
| 5. Euripides | Medea |
| 6. Euripides | The Bacchae |
| 7. Goethe | Faust |
| 8. Hesiod | Theogony |
| 9. Langland, W. | Piers Plowman |
| 10. Milton, J. | Paradise Lost |
| 11. Navritil, C. | Poems of the Great War (anthology) |
| 12. Ovid | Metamorphoses |
| 13. Shakespeare | The Plays |
| 14. Shakespeare | Sonnets |
| 15. Sophocles | Antigone |
| 16. Sophocles | Oedipus at Colonus |
| 17. Sophocles | Oedipus the King |
| 18. Spenser, E. | The Faerie Queene |
| 19. Whitman, W. | Song of Myself |
| 20. Whitman, W. | Specimen Days |
| 21. Wordsworth, W. | The Prelude, books IX, X, XI |

History, Economics and Political Philosophy

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| 1. Bullock, A. | Hitler: A Study in Tyranny |
| 2. Burke, E. | Reflections on the Revolution in France |
| 3. Burke, E. | Speech on Conciliation with the Colonies |
| 4. Churchill, W. | The Age of Revolution |
| 5. Churchill, W. | The Birth of Britain |
| 6. Churchill, W. | The Great Democracies |
| 7. Churchill, W.. | The New World, part I |
| 8. Churchill, W. | The New World, part II |
| 9. Churchill, W. | The New World, part III |
| 10. De Toqueville, A. | Democracy in America |
| 11. Engels, F. | The Communist Manifesto |
| 12. Gibbon, E. | The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire |
| 13. Hamilton, A. | The Federalist Papers |
| 14. Hayek, F. | The Road to Serfdom |
| 15. Hume, D. | Of the Original Contract |
| 16. Jefferson, T. | Declaration of Independence |
| 17. Keynes, J.M. | The General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money |

18. Locke, J.	The End of Civil Government
19. Machiavelli, N.	The Prince
20. Marx, K.	Das Kapital
21. Niebuhr, R.	The Irony of American History
22. Plato	The Republic
23. Rousseau, J.J.	The Social Contract
24. Smith, A.	The Wealth of Nations
25. Sowell, T.	Basic Economics
26. Tacitus	Annals
27. Taylor, A.J.P.	Bismarck
28. The Constitution of the United States	
29. Washington, B.T.	Up from Slavery
30. Wiesel, E.	Night

Mathematics and Natural Sciences

1. Bacon, F.	The Great Instauration
2. Behe, M.	Darwin's Black Box
3. Collins, F.	The Language of God
4. Copernicus, N.	On the Revolutions
5. Darwin, C.	On the Origin of the Species
6. Dawkins, R.	The Blind Watchmaker
7. Dembski, W.A.	The Design Revolution
8. Einstein, A.	Relativity: The Special and the General Theory
9. Euclid	Elements
10. Faraday, M.	The Forces of Matter
11. Flew, A.	There is a God
12. Fourier, J.	The Analytical Theory of Heat
13. Gilbert, W.	De Magnete
14. Kepler, J.	The New Astronomy
15. Lennox, J.	God's Undertaker: Has Science buried God?
16. Lennox, J.	Seven Days that Divide the World
17. Newton, I.	The Principia
18. Ptolemy	Almagest
19. Watson, J.D.	DNA; The Secret of Life

Theology and Philosophy

1. Athanasius	On the Incarnation
2. Aurelius, Emperor	Meditations
3. Aristotle	Nichomachean Ethics
4. Augustine	Confessions
5. Boethius	The Consolation of Philosophy
6. Bonhoeffer, D.	The Cost of Discipleship
7. Calvin, J.	Institutes
8. Chesterton, G.K.	The Everlasting Man

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| 9. Craig, W.L. | The Kalam Cosmological Argument |
| 10. Edwards, J. | Sinners in the hands of an angry God |
| 11. Kant, I. | What is Enlightenment? |
| 12. Kierkegaard, S. | Fear and Trembling |
| 13. Kierkegaard, S. | Gospel of Sufferings |
| 14. Law, W. | A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life |
| 15. Lewis, C.S. | Fern-seed and Elephants and other Essays |
| 16. Lewis, C.S. | The Weight of Glory and other Essays |
| 17. Lewis, C.S. | The World's Last Night and other Essays |
| 18. Lewis, C.S. | Screwtape Proposes a Toast and other Essays |
| 19. Lewis, C.S. | God in the Dock |
| 20. Lewis, C.S. | Letters |
| 21. Lewis, C.S. | Mere Christianity |
| 22. Lewis, C.S. | Miracles |
| 23. Lewis, C.S. | A Preface to Paradise Lost |
| 24. Lewis, C.S. | Reflections on the Psalms |
| 25. Lewis, C.S. | The Problem of Pain |
| 26. Lewis, C.S. | The Abolition of Man |
| 27. Lewis, C.S. | The Four Loves |
| 28. Lewis, C.S. | The Pilgrim's Regress |
| 29. Owen, J. | The Mortification of Sin |
| 30. Packer, J.I. | A Quest for Godliness |
| 31. Packer, J.I. | Fundamentalism and the Word of God |
| 32. Pascal, B. | Pensees |
| 33. Plato | Apology |
| 34. Plato | Meno |
| 35. Sibbes, R. | The Bruised Reed |
| 36. The Westminster Confession of Faith | |
| 37. Truman, C. | The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self |