



# NTS READING MATTERS

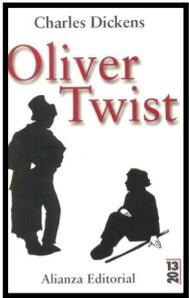
The English Department's termly newsletter dedicated to reading

Autumn Term 2022

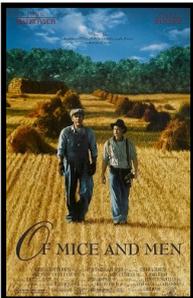
## What we're reading in English lessons...

The texts pictured below represent just some of the texts we're exploring in our English lessons this term. All have been chosen because of the richness of their ideas, themes, and language and the interesting conversations about society and humanity we hope they'll generate both in and out of class.

### Year 7



### Year 8



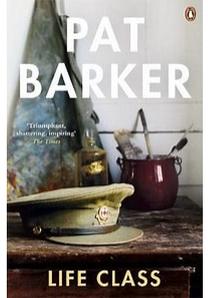
### Year 9



### Key Stage 4



### Year 13 Lit



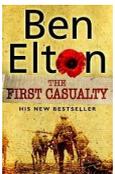
## Reading Events this term:

All pupils in years 7 and 8 have been given the opportunity to choose a book this half term via the Bookbuzz scheme, run by the Book Trust. There are 17 titles on offer this year including Marcus Rashford's "You are a Champion", the prize winning "When the Sky Falls" by Phil Earle and "The Astonishing Future of Alex Nobody" by Kate Gilby Smith. The school's involvement in the scheme means we receive 2 copies of each of the 7 titles for our school library. Pupils' choices will arrive in school and be distributed to them during autumn 2. Our thanks to Miss Morley for co-ordinating text selections, orders and the imminent distribution of choices to pupils. To view the full selection of texts on offer this year visit the Bookbuzz website at [Bookbuzz school reading programme for Year 7 and Year 8 | BookTrust](#)

## Reading Recommendations:

As Armistice Day falls during this term, our reading recommendations centre around the Literature of war and conflict.

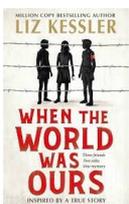
### Key Stage 5



### The First Casualty—Ben Elton

Flanders, June 1917: a British officer and celebrated poet, is shot dead, killed not by German fire, but while recuperating from shell shock well behind the lines. A young English soldier is ar-

### Key Stage 4



### When the World was Ours - Liz Kessler

When The World Was Ours: A book about finding hope in the darkest of times. One moment can change a life forever. A powerful and heart-breaking novel about three childhood

### Key Stage 3



### When the Storm Rages—Phil Earle

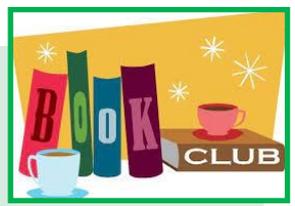
September 1939. The world is on the brink of war. As his dad marches off to fight, Noah makes him a promise, to keep their beloved family dog safe. When the government advises people

## Reading Clubs

Our reading clubs continue to run this year,. These include:

- Sixth Form Cake , Coffee and Literature Club—Monday Lunchtimes
- KS4 Creative Readers and Writers' Club—Thursday Lunchtimes
- KS4 Critical Reading and Thinking Club - Fridays after school 3.30-4.15pm

New members are always welcome; see Miss Holmes in E5 for further details, if interested,



## Teachers Reading

The English team are unsurprisingly, avid readers and keen to share what they are reading with their pupils. Every newsletter will put an English teacher and what they are reading in the spotlight. This term it's the turn of Miss Holmes!

Miss Holmes is reading "The Marriage Portrait" by Maggie O'Farrell:

Florence, the 1560s. Lucrezia, third daughter of Cosimo de' Medici, is comfortable with her obscure place in the palazzo: free to wonder at its treasures, observe its clandestine workings, and to devote herself to her own artistic pursuits. But when her older sister dies on the eve of marriage to Alfonso d'Este, ruler of Ferrara, Modena and Reggio, Lucrezia is thrust unwittingly into the limelight: the duke is quick to request her hand in marriage, and her father to accept on her behalf.

Having barely left girlhood behind, Lucrezia must now make her way in a troubled court whose customs are opaque and where her arrival is not universally welcomed. Perhaps most mystifying of all is her husband himself, Alfonso. Is he the playful sophisticate she appears before their wedding, the aesthete happiest in the company of artists and musicians, or the ruthless politician before whom even his formidable sisters seem to tremble?



## The Importance of Reading

See below for the DFE's ten tips to encourage your child to read for pleasure. Research shows that reading for pleasure has a strong positive impact on young people's vocabulary, spelling, attainment and all round academic success.

1. Encourage your child to read
2. Read aloud regularly
3. Encourage reading choice
4. Read together
5. Create a comfortable environment
6. Make use of your local library
7. Talk about books
8. Bring reading to life
9. Make reading active
10. Engage your child in reading in a way that suits them

Future department plans...

We plan to hold our first Book Swap Café event during autumn 2. Pupils will be given the opportunity to bring in a book they have already read, which they do not want to keep but would like to share with another keen reader. The event will take place in the library: pupils will be encouraged to swap their book for one new to them with the added bonus of a drink and a slice of cake as they choose: date and time to be decide. Watch this space!

