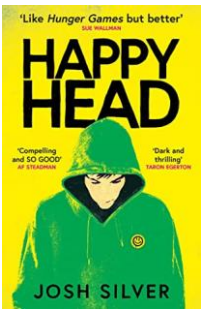


Recommended Reads: Year 10/11

Any reading you do outside of lessons will benefit you not only in English, but in all of your GCSEs.

If you are stuck for what to read, here are some suggestions (all of which are in the Earls library!):

'Happy Head' by Josh Silver



When Seb is offered a place on a radical retreat designed to solve the national crisis of teenage unhappiness, he is determined to change how people see him and make his parents proud. But as he finds himself drawn to the enigmatic Finn, Seb starts to question the true nature of the challenges they must undergo. The deeper into the programme the boys get, the more disturbing the assessments become, until it's clear there may be no escape...

The sequel, 'Dead Happy', is also highly recommended!

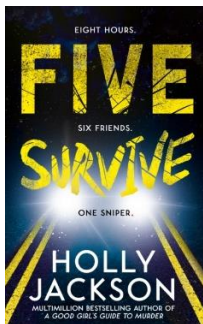
'Crossing the Line' by Tia Fisher



This verse novel explores how teenagers can be swept up into criminal activity and the so-called 'county lines'.

Erik's mum is juggling the challenge of two small babies, plus the recent death of her husband due to COVID-19. Both these factors affect teenage Erik too, struggling with homework as the babies continually cry or his mum needs help. When the difficulties at home affect Erik's behaviour at school and he gets in with the wrong crowd, Erik is tempted to earn some easy money. . . However, this kind of money is never truly easy to earn and inevitably comes with a potentially terrible cost.

'Five Survive' by Holly Jackson

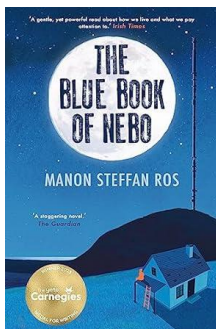


Eighteen year old Red and her friends are on a road trip in an RV, heading to the beach for Spring Break. It's a long drive but spirits are high. Until the RV breaks down in the middle of nowhere. And as the wheels are shot out, one by one, the friends realise that this is no accident.

There's a sniper out there. He's watching them and he knows exactly who they are. One of the group has a secret that the sniper is willing to kill for.

As a game of cat-and-mouse plays out, the group desperately tries to get help. Buried secrets are forced to light and tensions within the group reach deadly levels. Only one thing is for sure. Not everyone will survive the night . . .

'The Blue Book of Nebo' by Manon Steffan Ross



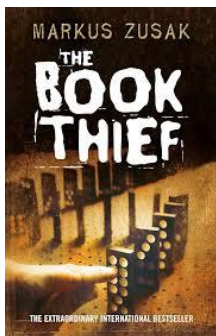
Dylan was six when The End came, back in 2018: when the electricity went off for good, and the normal 21st-century world he knew disappeared. Now 14, he and his mam have survived in their isolated hilltop house above the village of Nebo in north-west Wales by learning new skills and returning to old ways of living. However, despite their close understanding, the relationship between mother and son changes subtly as Dylan has to take on adult responsibilities. And they each have their own secrets - which emerge as they take it in turns to jot down their thoughts and memories in a found notebook – the Blue Book of Nebo.

'Never Let Me Go' by Kazuo Ishiguro



Told as a series of flashbacks, Kathy tries to make sense of her childhood at the seemingly perfect Hailsham school. The story slowly reveals a shocking dystopia that forces the reader to confront the horrors of modern society. A more challenging read for Year 10 students.

'The Book Thief' by Markus Zusak

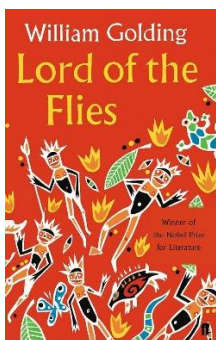


1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier.

Liesel, a nine-year-old girl, is living with a foster family on Himmel Street. Her parents have been taken away to a concentration camp. Liesel steals books. This is her story and the story of the inhabitants of her street when the bombs begin to fall.

SOME IMPORTANT INFORMATION - THIS NOVEL IS NARRATED BY DEATH.

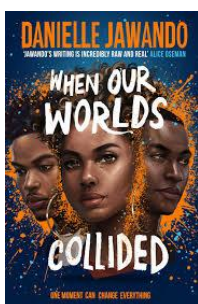
'Lord of the Flies' by William Golding



When a group of schoolboys are stranded on a desert island, what could go wrong?

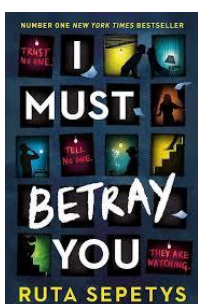
A plane crashes on a desert island. The only survivors are a group of schoolboys. By day, they discover fantastic wildlife and dazzling beaches, learning to survive; at night, they are haunted by nightmares of a primitive beast. Orphaned by society, it isn't long before their innocent childhood games devolve into a savage, murderous hunt ...

'When Our Worlds Collided' by Danielle Jawando



After fourteen-year-old Shaq is stabbed, three teenagers from different walks of life are thrown together and their lives are turned upside down. This novel explores the deep-rooted prejudice and racism which exists in society, and is a raw, unflinching narrative.

'I Must Betray You' by Ruta Sepetys



Trapped by an evil dictatorship, will Cristian be forced to betray his family or will he risk everything he loves to resist? A powerful, heart-breaking thriller based on real events.

This is another good book list:

<https://www.stewardsacademy.org/attachments/download.asp?file=4130&type=pdf>