

# Reading List: Year 7

For students: What an opportunity! A week to lose yourself in a book, watch a documentary with your family on the sofa or pop a podcast in your ears while you go for a walk. Don't worry - the aim is not for you to read all of these! The aim is to enjoy a wide range of resources from a wide range of subjects, so don't limit yourself to your 'favourite' subjects or those in which you are strongest – reading should take you beyond your experience. See where the subjects can take you.

For parents: We want to promote intellectual curiosity and scholarship through independent reading, so please play your part in encouraging your child to read for pleasure. Departments have given you a wide range of resource formats, thus preventing the need to buy anything new (unless your child wants it as a special birthday gift!) – we highly recommend using your local library (you can order books in advance to collect for Reading Week): [Find me a Library!](#) Instructions on how to access our fantastic resources from the LRC are also included at the end.

## Art

Explore the department's virtual Art Library at: [rdgart.dropmark.com/768899](http://rdgart.dropmark.com/768899)

- *Picture This: How Pictures Work* by Molly Bang – available [here](#) (PDF)
- *Wreck This Journal* by Keri Smith
- Any of the *Draw 50* series by Lee J Ames – available [here](#) (PDF)

## Biology

- [Catalyst Magazine - Archive \(catalyst-magazine.org\)](http://catalyst-magazine.org) issue 30
- *Catalyst is an exciting science journal for young people aged 14-19. Covering scientific research and industrial developments, real life STEM stories, career journeys, STEM expeditions and adventure.*
- [catalyst-magazine-issue30.pdf](http://catalyst-magazine-issue30.pdf)

## Chemistry

- [Catching a cheat.pdf \(stem.org.uk\)](http://stem.org.uk)
- [Diamond more than just a gemstone.pdf \(stem.org.uk\)](http://stem.org.uk)
- [The science of melting chocolate | Feature | RSC Education](#)
- [When experiments don't go to plan | Feature | RSC Education](#)

## Classics

### Watch

- Rotten Romans Compilation
- [www.youtube.com/watch?v=6dohpfFPi6U&ab\\_channel=HorribleHistories](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6dohpfFPi6U&ab_channel=HorribleHistories)
- Caligula's Craziest Moments
- [www.youtube.com/watch?v=T15yLjfA\\_ec&ab\\_channel=HorribleHistories](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T15yLjfA_ec&ab_channel=HorribleHistories)
- The Evil Emperors Song
- [www.youtube.com/watch?v=qWwAC9dOTCE&ab\\_channel=HorribleHistories](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qWwAC9dOTCE&ab_channel=HorribleHistories)

#### Read:

- Rick Riordan: Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Heroes of Olympus, The Trials of Apollo
- Caroline Lawrence
- Homer's Iliad and Odyssey by Gillian Cross
- Extra mythology – youtube
- Home School History
- Youtube history

#### Listen

- Greeking out: a podcast for the whole family that retells stories from Ancient Greece and beyond! Featuring a narrator Kenny Curtis (a 30-year veteran in kids radio) and the Oracle of Wifi, who breaks in with facts and tidbits on Ancient Greek history and culture.  
[Greeking Out from National Geographic Kids Podcast | Listen on Amazon Music](#)  
[Greeking Out from National Geographic Kids | Podcast on Spotify](#)

## Computer Science

#### Learn Programming

- The LRC has a variety of books on programming. At Year 7 we recommend focusing on Python programming although other languages such as Javascript or web development in HTML are also appropriate.
- Students interested in learning Python programming can also refer to this video: [Python Full Course for Beginners \[2025\]](#)

#### Upcoming Competitions:

- November – **UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge**  
Students should prepare for this imminent challenge by practising the past challenges (listed as **UK Bebras Challenge**) available on their website <https://www.bebbras.uk/>
- April – **Bebras Coding Challenge**  
Students can also get ahead and practice for the Coding Challenge at an appropriate difficulty level. **Novices** should be accessible to all students; **Explorers** requires an in-depth knowledge of block programming; **Navigators** requires foundational knowledge in Python programming.
- The practice challenges are also available at <https://www.bebbras.uk/>

## Drama

- Given circumstances, Objectives, Inclusion, Radio technique
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0c0wkjf>
- The world of the folk tale
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000llpr>

## English

- Read your Book Buzz Book!
- Read one of the recommended books by M. G. Leonard ("Beetle Boy", "Highland Falcon Thief", "Twitch", "Spark", "Clutch", "Feather" etc)

- “Treasure Island”: Robert Louis Stevenson, available [here](#)
- “Ash Mistry and the Savage Fortress”: Sarwat Chadda
- “Pegasus and the Flame”: Kate O’Hearn
- “Children Of Blood and Bone”: Tomi Adeyemi
- “The Spook’s Apprentice”: Joseph Delaney
- “Artemis Fowl”: Eoin Colfer
- “Eragon”: Christopher Paolini
- “Lord Of The Rings”: J. R. R. Tolkien
- “The Ruins of Gorlan”: John Flanagan
- “Railhead”: Philip Reeve
- “The Lie Tree”; “A Skinful of Shadows”
- “Deeplight”: Frances Hardinge

## French

### Books

- Pick any book from the “French KS3” section in the LRC
- Pick a French comic book in its English translation (Astérix, Tintin, the Smurfs, Alone...)

### Music

- [French hits playlist](#)

### Films

- [Belle et Sébastien](#) & [Belle et Sébastien: the new generation](#)
- Cartoon series on Netflix
- [Wakfu](#)
- [Astérix et Obélix](#)

## Geography

- Horizon - 2020: 1. Chris Packham: 7.7 Billion People and Counting
- What challenges does the planet face with an ever growing population?
- <https://readingschool.planetstream.com/View.aspx?id=5095~4t~V0JjEBG>
- BBC - Volcano Live, Iceland Erupts: A Volcano Live Special
- [BBC - Volcano Live, Iceland Erupts: A Volcano Live Special - YouTube](#)
- [The global effort to improve the world's slums - Geographical](#)
- [Shifting shores: UK coastal erosion hotspots | National Trust](#)
- [Global Climate Change, Melting Glaciers \(nationalgeographic.com\)](#)

## German

- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbxb2fqe9oNggIAoYqsYOtQ>: People are being interviewed on the street. You will get German and English subtitles so you can understand everything that is said.
- Go on: [Reading School Videos - Documents - MFL - Videos](#) and enjoy a German film

# History

## Read

- Think about why it is difficult for us to know about the medieval period [Lost Literature: Why Most English Texts Didn't Survive the Middle Ages | History Hit](#)
- Think about the legacy of William the Conqueror [Reassessing William the Conqueror | HistoryExtra](#)

## Watch

- Look more deeply into the Bayeux Tapestry we have been studying at school. [BBC iPlayer - Mysteries of the Bayeux Tapestry](#)
- See also the historical fiction list here: [Year 7 and 8 Historical fiction reading list from the LRC.docx](#)

# Mathematics

- [Divisibility Tests \(maths.org\)](#)
- [The Random World \(maths.org\)](#)
- [The Best Card Trick? \(maths.org\)](#)
- [Thanks, Math! Four Times Numbers Changed the World | HowStuffWorks](#)
- [Egyptian Multiplication \(cut-the-knot.org\)](#)
- [How Pi Works | HowStuffWorks](#)
- 17 equations that changed the world – Ian Stewart
- Alex's Adventures in Numberland – Alex Bellos

# Mandarin

## 舒克贝塔和五角飞碟

- Shuke, Beta and the Flying Disk
- [https://www.amazon.co.uk/%E8%88%92%E5%85%8B%E8%B4%9D%E5%A1%94%E5%92%8C%E4%BA%94%E8%A7%92%E9%A3%9E%E7%A2%9F-%E8%88%92%E5%85%8B%E8%B4%9D%E5%A1%94%E4%BC%A0%E6%B3%A8%E9%9F%B3%E7%89%88%E6%A1%A5%E6%A2%81%E4%B9%A6-ZONG-DONG-ZHENG/dp/752171699X/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?crid=LE80A4M027VO&keywords=%E8%88%92%E5%85%8B%E5%92%8C%E8%B4%9D%E5%A1%94&qid=1650979393&s=books&sprefix=%E8%88%92%E5%85%8B%E5%92%8C%E8%B4%9D%E5%A1%94%2Cstripbooks%2C57&sr=1-2](https://www.amazon.co.uk/%E8%88%92%E5%85%8B%E8%B4%9D%E5%A1%94%E5%92%8C%E4%BA%94%E8%A7%92%E9%A3%9E%E7%A2%9F-%E8%88%92%E5%85%8B%E8%B4%9D%E5%A1%94%E4%BC%A0%E6%B3%A8%E9%9F%B3%E7%89%88%E6%A1%A5%E6%A2%81%E4%B9%A6-ZONG-DONG-ZHENG/dp/752171699X/ref=sr_1_2?crid=LE80A4M027VO&keywords=%E8%88%92%E5%85%8B%E5%92%8C%E8%B4%9D%E5%A1%94&qid=1650979393&s=books&sprefix=%E8%88%92%E5%85%8B%E5%92%8C%E8%B4%9D%E5%A1%94%2Cstripbooks%2C57&sr=1-2)
- Chinese edition (This is one chapter of a fairy tale series, very good for younger children, Year 7 and 8s for example)

## 西游记

- [https://www.amazon.co.uk/Monkey-King-Penguin-Clothbound-Classics/dp/0141393440/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crid=24D8TYUBOZA2Q&keywords=journey+to+the+west&qid=1650979278&s=books&sprefix=%2Cstripbooks%2C186&sr=1-1](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Monkey-King-Penguin-Clothbound-Classics/dp/0141393440/ref=sr_1_1?crid=24D8TYUBOZA2Q&keywords=journey+to+the+west&qid=1650979278&s=books&sprefix=%2Cstripbooks%2C186&sr=1-1)
- English edition

## 罗小黑战记

- [\[HD\]The Legend of Luoxiaohei Cat.1-Meow \[En Sub New Edition\]羅小黑戰記](#)
- Anima series with English subtitles, short and very good for beginners

## Music

- <https://blackwells.co.uk/bookshop/product/1001-Albums-You-Must-Hear-Before-You-Die-by-Robert-Dimery-editor-Michael-Lydon-writer-of-preface/9781788403474>
- <http://marvellousmusicalpodcast.com/>
- [Music Matters - YouTube](#); Beginners music theory course

## Physical Education

- Land of Second Chances: The Impossible Rise of Rwanda's Cycling Team
- Tim Lewis

## Physics

- Storm in a Teacup: The Physics of Everyday Life - Helen Czerski (2017)
- Stories from Physics (assorted from IOP) - [IOP Stories from Physics](#)

## PSHE

- Bullies, Cyberbullies and Frenemies, Michelle Elliott
- [Financial Education | Value of Money - HSBC UK](#)
- [\(43\) PSHE4you- Episode 6- Nutrition and Physical Activity - YouTube](#)

## Spanish

- Short stories to learn vocabulary and to practice listening skills
- [Turtle's Flute: Learn Spanish with subtitles - Story for Children "BookBox.com" - YouTube](#)
- [The Greatest Treasure: Learn Spanish with subtitles - Story for Children "BookBox.com" - YouTube](#)
- [The Wind and the Sun: Learn Spanish with subtitles - Story for Children "BookBox.com" - YouTube](#)
- [El Pájaro y la Ballena - 'The Bird and the Whale' in Spanish \(with English subtitles\) - YouTube](#)

## Theology & Philosophy

1. [Religion: Natural Law](#) - The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion
2. [Introduction to the study of world religions](#)

# Accessing resources from the LRC

## Using the LRC Before Reading Week

- By the start of October half-term, all year 7, year 9 and year 12 pupils will have been invited to the LRC to discover the range of resources available to them both within school and from home.
- New students should have received a Guide to Using the LRC.
- All pupils can borrow books from the LRC for Reading Week.

**E-Resources Available From Home 24/7** The LRC subscribes to a range of high quality e-resources that can be accessed from home. An alphabetical list, complete with links and login details can be found on here <https://readingschoolco.sharepoint.com/SitePages/LRC%20E-Resources.aspx> This includes two **ebook** platforms. Both platforms can be accessed using pupil Office 365 logins:

**VLeBooks** is a small ebook library and provides access to both fiction and non-fiction ebooks. Books can be read online. You can access VLeBooks via this link [www.vlebooks.com](http://www.vlebooks.com). This includes 6<sup>th</sup> form wider reader titles. You can also preview books we do not own.

**ePlatform** by Wheeler's is our new ebook and audiobook platform found here: <https://readingschool.eplatform.co>

The ePlatform library catalogue is full of bestselling, popular fiction titles. Students can have 2 books out on loan at any one time, and they will automatically return after 2 weeks, or students can return them early in order to loan a new book. The eBooks can be read on a computer, laptop, or through the free App on your tablets or smartphones.

### Reading through your web browser on a laptop or computer

Students can browse the collection or search for a specific book title, author or publisher and loan the book they choose. It is then assigned to them for the 2-week period.

### Reading through the App

To download the App, search "ePlatform" in the App store and download. Click on the app and you will then need to search for the library which will be **Reading School**. Once you start typing, it will bring up the school on the list. Click the 3 little lines in the top left corner and select sign in. Using the App, the books will be temporarily downloaded to the device so students will not need internet connections once the book has been loaned to read, great for travelling!

To access these resources, visit the LRC (Learning Resources) area of SharePoint and navigate to the eResources section. You can also click this [link](#).

Some of these resources require passwords, which are available from the LRC eResources page on SharePoint.

<b>British Medical Journal</b>	Online version of the weekly medical journal
<b>The Economist Online</b>	Provides insight and opinion on international news, politics, business, finance, science and technology.
<b>Hachett/Hodder Magazine Online Archive (Review Magazines)</b>	Written by board examiners, so is great for A-Level students. Ten titles accessible online, including Economic Review.
<b>Issues Online</b>	Excellent source of information, including statistics, on a wide range of social issues.
<b>Complete Issues</b>	Useful for articles on a wide range of current social issues.
<b>JSTOR</b>	JSTOR is an online archive of core scholarly journals in a wide variety of disciplines.

<https://reading-school.oliverasp.co.uk/library/home/search?search=%5B%5D&facets=%5B%7B%22field%22%3A%22topiclist%22%2C%22terms%22%3A%5B%22Reading%20Week%20Year%207%22%5D%7D>

[%5D&useListInput=false&isReloadFacets=true&isFromMainSearchBox=false&isFederated=false&searchField=KEYWORD&searchTerm=&origin=readingLists](#)

