

Reading beyond the classroom

Geography, Years 10 & 11.

BYRCHALL
HIGH SCHOOL

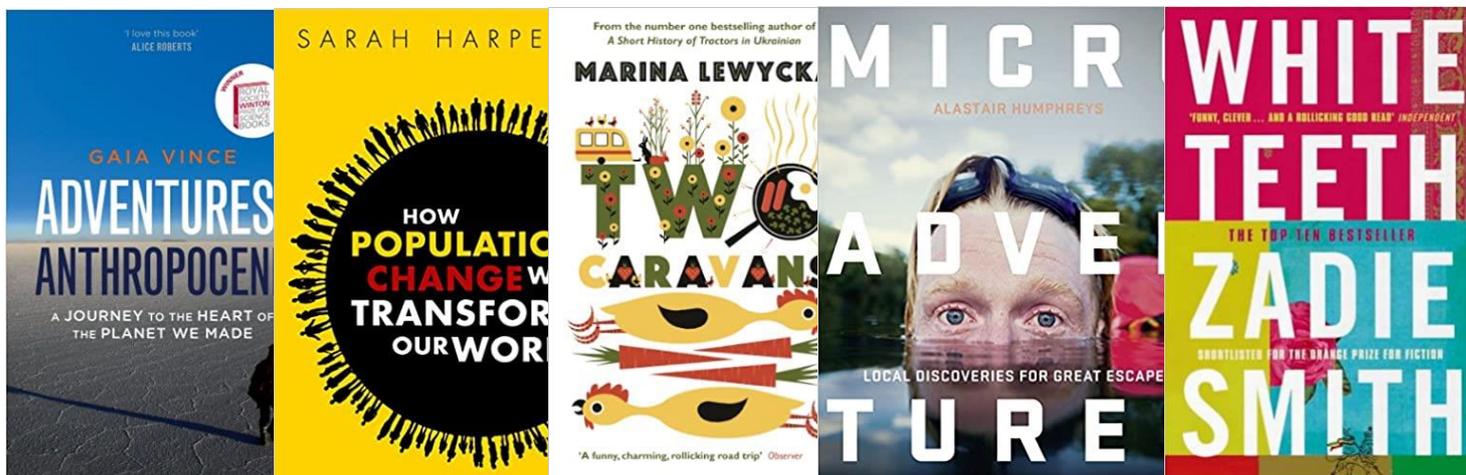
While in Years 10 and 11 students should try and read a wide variety of books. Learning about the world that we live can make us appreciate Earth as the homeland of humankind and provide insight for wise management decisions about how the planet's resources should be used. It's fascinating learning about basic physical systems that affect everyday life (e.g. earth-sun relationships, water cycles, wind and ocean currents). Let's face it Geography impacts on all of our lives.

You may find the following websites useful in helping to choose suitable reading material for your child:

<https://www.geosociety.org/>
<https://www.rgs.org>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zkw76sg>
<http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/>
<https://www.s-cool.co.uk/gcse/geography>
<https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk>
<https://www.natgeokids.com>

These websites will provide you with recommendations from students, parents and critics across the country.

In addition to this, our recommendations follow below. These texts do not form part of our schemes of work so reading them will not spoil students' enjoyment of future lessons. They will most likely complement the work we do.



Upper School

Non – Fiction

Gaia Vince *Adventures in the Anthropocene: A Journey to the Heart of the Planet We Made*
We live in epoch-making times. The changes we humans have made in recent decades have altered our world beyond anything it has experienced in its 4.6 billion-year history. As a result, our planet is said to be crossing into the Anthropocene – the Age of Humans.

Gaia Vince decided to travel the world at the start of this new age to see what life is really like for the people on the frontline of the planet we've made. From artificial glaciers in the Himalayas to painted mountains in Peru, electrified reefs in the Maldives to garbage islands in the Caribbean, Gaia found people doing the most extraordinary things to solve the problems that we ourselves have created.

These stories show what the Anthropocene means for all of us – and they illuminate how we might engineer Earth for our future.

Sarah Harper *How Population Change Will Transform Our World*

Predicting the shape of our future populations is vital for installing the infrastructure, welfare, and provisions necessary for society to survive. There are many opportunities and challenges that will come with the changes in our populations over the 21st century. In this new addition to the 21st Century Challenges series, Sarah Harper works to dispel myths such as the fear of unstoppable global growth resulting in a population explosion, or that climate change will lead to the mass movement of environmental refugees; and instead considers the future shape of our populations in light of demographic trends in fertility, mortality, and migration, and their national and global impact.

Mike Berners-Lee *There Is No Planet B: A Handbook for the Make or Break Years*

Feeding the world, climate change, biodiversity, antibiotics, plastics - the list of concerns seems endless. But what is most pressing, what are the knock-on effects of our actions, and what should we do first? Do we all need to become vegetarian? How can we fly in a low-carbon world? Should we frack? How can we take control of technology? Does it all come down to population? And, given the global nature of the challenges we now face, what on Earth can any of us do? Fortunately, Mike Berners-Lee has crunched the numbers and plotted a course of action that is practical and even enjoyable. *There is No Planet B* maps it out in an accessible and entertaining way, filled with astonishing facts and analysis. For the first time you'll find big-picture perspective on the environmental and economic challenges of the day laid out in one place, and traced through to the underlying roots - questions of how we live and think. This book will shock you, surprise you - and then make you laugh. And you'll find practical and even inspiring ideas for what you can actually do to help humanity thrive on this – our only – planet

Greta Thunberg *No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference*

In August 2018 a fifteen-year-old Swedish girl, Greta Thunberg, decided not to go to school one day. Her actions ended up sparking a global movement for action against the climate crisis, inspiring millions of pupils to go on strike for our planet, forcing governments to listen, and earning her a Nobel Peace Prize nomination.

This book brings you Greta in her own words, for the first time. Collecting her speeches that have made history across Europe, from the UN to mass street protests, *No One Is Too Small to Make A Difference* is a rallying cry for why we must all wake up and fight to protect the living planet, no matter how powerless we feel. Our future depends upon it.

Danny Dorling & Carl Lee *Geography: Ideas in Profile*

Geography gives shape to our innate curiosity; cartography is older than writing. Channelling our twin urges to explore and understand, geographers uncover the hidden connections of human existence, from infant mortality in inner cities to the decision-makers who fly overhead in executive jets, from natural disasters to over-use of fossil fuels.

In this incisive introduction to the subject, Danny Dorling and Carl Lee reveal geography as a science which tackles all of the biggest issues that face us today, from globalisation to equality, from sustainability to population growth, from climate change to changing technology - and the complex interactions between them all.

Illustrated by a series of award-winning maps created by Benjamin D. Hennig, this is a book for anyone who wants to know more about why our world is the way it is today, and where it might be heading next.

Sian Anna Lewis *The Girl Outdoors: The Wild Girl's Guide to Adventure, Travel and Wellbeing*

An adventurous best mate in book form, *The Girl Outdoors* is a rip-roaring guide to the wider, wilder world. Whether you're going on a physically demanding expedition or making cordial from foraged berries, this beautiful book is packed with inspiring and attainable ideas and advice.

Follow Sian's guide to getting active outdoors, from mountain biking to climbing, surfing, kayaking and more. Planning a wild adventure? You'll find chapters on everything from wild camping and cycle touring to holding mini festivals and scrumptious campfire recipes. Then we're off round the

world with trip-planning advice, essential kit lists and tips on long-term backpacking and working abroad. Scattered throughout are enticing ideas for global adventures, from swimming on Scottish islands to canoe camping in Canada.

The Girl Outdoors warmly welcomes you to a wilder way of life and ensures you'll never again have to experience FOMA (Fear Of Missing Adventures).

Christopher Somerville *The Times: Britain's Best Walks*

Christopher Somerville has covered the length and breadth of the UK on foot, and has written and broadcast about its history, landscape, wildlife and people for over 25 years. Now, in this extensive new volume, he selects his top 200 routes from his hugely popular Times column, A Good Walk. More than just a basic guidebook, this is a meditation on our relationship with the landscape and a celebration of all that Britain has to offer. From Cornwall to Shetland via Pembrokeshire and Barrowdale, this is the most comprehensive collection of walks in the United Kingdom available in one book, and features trails to suit all skill levels and references, whether you want a gentle ramble to the pub or something much more challenging.

Alistair Humphreys *Microadventures: Local Discoveries for Great Escapes*

So what's a microadventure? It's close to home, cheap, simple, short and 100% guaranteed to refresh your life. A microadventure takes the spirit of a big adventure and squeezes it into a day or even a few hours.

The point of a microadventure is that you don't need lots of time and money to meet a new challenge. This practical guide is filled with ideas for microadventures – for you to experience on your own or with friends and family – and over 150 stunning photographs, plus tips and advice on safety and kit.

Phoebe Smith *Best Small Hills: A Guide to Short Adventures and Wild Walks with Great Views*

Hot on the success of Wilderness Weekends, one of the top selling guides in 2015, award-winning travel writer Phoebe Smith returns with more great outdoor experiences tailored not just for the hard-core wilderness enthusiast but for novices and newbie hillwalkers alike. Take a friend, or take the kids - or both! - and climb one of Phoebe's favourite hills. There are 60 of them detailed in this easy-to-follow guide which champions a new easy-access approach to hillwalking. With 20 hills each in England, Wales and Scotland, from just 120 metres to a manageable 609 metres, and from Cornwall to the Scottish Highlands, there's bound to be a hill for you. 'When it comes to mountains society seems to be obsessed with height' says Phoebe Smith. 'But those who shun peaks based on measurement are truly missing out. Following on from the success of Wilderness Weekends, people are always asking me where they can take a friend, partner or young child that will help convince them that the outdoors - and hills - are worth the effort.

Adam Fletcher *Don't Go There: From Chernobyl to North Korea*

In this unusual, hilarious travel memoir, Adam and his eccentric German girlfriend, Annett, visit ten of the strangest places in the world. There's something they want to know and to get the answer they'll enter a Chinese blizzard armed with only a pack of biscuits; pretend to be scientists to sneak into Chernobyl; get chased by a Croatian police boat on a dinghy floating towards the newest country in the world (Liberland); have a run in with the secret police of Soviet-breakaway, Transnistria; are shouted at by the Devil incarnate on a night bus in Moldova; meet the most depressed atheist in Palestine; are strip-searched in Israel; and come face-to-face with two (dead) dictators in North Korea.

Don't Go There is packed full of interesting characters, surreal moments, unusual destinations, and British humour from one of the most promising new travel writers of his generation

Fiction

Andrea Levy *Small Island*

It is 1948, and England is recovering from a war. But at 21 Nevern Street, London, the conflict has only just begun. Queenie Bligh's neighbours do not approve when she agrees to take in Jamaican

lodgers, but Queenie doesn't know when her husband will return, or if he will come back at all. What else can she do?

Gilbert Joseph was one of the several thousand Jamaican men who joined the RAF to fight against Hitler. Returning to England as a civilian he finds himself treated very differently. It's desperation that makes him remember a wartime friendship with Queenie and knock at her door.

Gilbert's wife Hortense, too, had longed to leave Jamaica and start a better life in England. But when she joins him she is shocked to find London shabby, decrepit, and far from the golden city of her dreams. Even Gilbert is not the man she thought he was...

Chimamanda Ngozi *Half of a Yellow Sun*

Ugwu, a boy from a poor village, works as a houseboy for a university professor. Olanna, a young woman, has abandoned her life of privilege in Lagos to live with her charismatic new lover, the professor. And Richard, a shy English writer, is in thrall to Olanna's enigmatic twin sister. As the horrific Biafran War engulfs them, they are thrown together and pulled apart in ways they had never imagined.

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's masterpiece, winner of the Orange Prize for Fiction, is a novel about Africa in a wider sense: about the end of colonialism, ethnic allegiances, class and race – and about the ways in which love can complicate all of these things.

Marina Lewycka *Two Caravans*

A field of strawberries in Kent...

And sitting in it are two caravans - one for the men and one for the women. The residents are from all over: miner's son Andriy is from the old Ukraine, while sexy young Irina is from the new: they each other warily. There are the Poles, Tomasz and Yola; two Chinese girls; and Emauel from Malawi. They're all here to pick strawberries in England's green and pleasant land.

But these days England's not so pleasant for immigrants. Not with Russian gangster-wannabes like Vulk, who's taken a shine to Irina and thinks kidnapping is a wooing strategy. And so Andriy - who really doesn't fancy Irina, honest - must set off in search of that girl he's not in love with.

Marina Lewycka *Strawberry Fields*

The follow up to her hugely popular first novel presents a Canterbury Tales–inspired picaresque that is also a biting satire of economic exploitation. When a ragtag international crew of migrant workers is forced to flee the strawberry fields they have been working in, they set off across England looking for employment. Displaying the same sense of compassion, social outrage, and gift for hilarity that she showed in *A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian*, Marina Lewycka chronicles their bumpy road trip with a tender affection for her downtrodden characters and their search for a taste of the good life.

Marina Lewycka *A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian*

'Two years after my mother died, my father fell in love with a glamorous blonde Ukrainian divorcée. He was eighty-four and she was thirty-six. She exploded into our lives like a fluffy pink grenade, churning up the murky water, bringing to the surface a sludge of sloughed-off memories, giving the family ghosts a kick up the backside.'

Sisters Vera and Nadezhda must aside a lifetime of feuding to save their émigré engineer father from voluptuous gold-digger Valentina. With her proclivity for green satin underwear and boil-in-the-bag cuisine, she will stop at nothing in her pursuit of Western wealth.

But the sisters' campaign to oust Valentina unearths family secrets, uncovers fifty years of Europe's darkest history and sends them back to roots they'd much rather forget . . .

Zadie Smith *White Teeth*

The international bestseller and modern classic of multicultural Britain - an unforgettable portrait of London.

One of the most talked about debut novels of all time, *White Teeth* is a funny, generous, big-hearted novel, adored by critics and readers alike. Dealing - among many other things - with friendship, love, war, three cultures and three families over three generations, one brown mouse, and the tricky way

the past has of coming back and biting you on the ankle, it is a life-affirming, riotous must-read of a book.

Monica Ali

Brick Lane

Still in her teenage years, Nazneen finds herself in an arranged marriage with a disappointed older man. Away from her Bangladeshi village, home is now a cramped flat in a high-rise block in London's East End. Nazneen knows not a word of English, and is forced to depend on her husband. Confined in her tiny flat, Nazneen sews furiously for a living, shut away with her buttons and linings - until the radical Karim steps unexpectedly into her life. On a background of racial conflict and tension, they embark on a love affair that forces Nazneen finally to take control of her fate.

Graham Greene

Brighton Rock

A gang war is raging through the dark underworld of Brighton. Seventeen-year-old Pinkie, malign and ruthless, has killed a man. Believing he can escape retribution, he is unprepared for the courageous, life-embracing Ida Arnold. Greene's gripping thriller, exposes a world of loneliness and fear, of life lived on the 'dangerous edge of things'.

Charlie Connelly

Attention All Shipping

This solemn, rhythmic intonation of the shipping forecast on BBC radio is as familiar as the sound of Big Ben chiming the hour. Since its first broadcast in the 1920s it has inspired poems, songs and novels in addition to its intended objective of warning generations of seafarers of impending storms and gales.

Sitting at home listening to the shipping forecast can be a cosily reassuring experience. There's no danger of a westerly gale eight, veering southwesterly increasing nine later (visibility poor) gusting through your average suburban living room, blowing the Sunday papers all over the place and startling the cat.

Arundhati Roy

The God of Small Things

'They all broke the rules. They all crossed into forbidden territory. They all tampered with the laws that lay down who should be loved, and how. And how much.'

This is the story of Rahel and Estha, twins growing up among the banana vats and peppercorns of their blind grandmother's factory, and amid scenes of political turbulence in Kerala. Armed only with the innocence of youth, they fashion a childhood in the shade of the wreck that is their family: their lonely, lovely mother, their beloved Uncle Chacko (pickle baron, radical Marxist, bottom-pincher) and their sworn enemy, Baby Kochamma (ex-nun, incumbent grand-aunt).

'Anyone who has read my books will know that I don't tend to use guides when I am travelling. It's not a pride thing, but it is certainly a fact.'

Bill Bryson (Author)