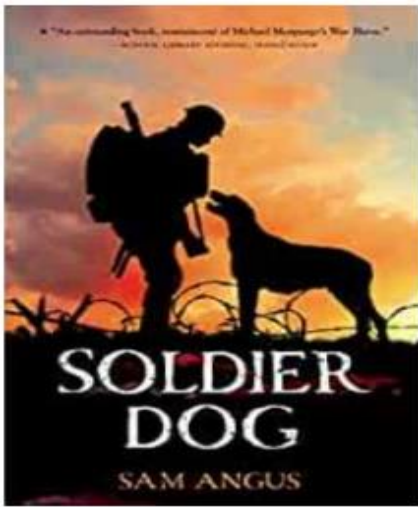
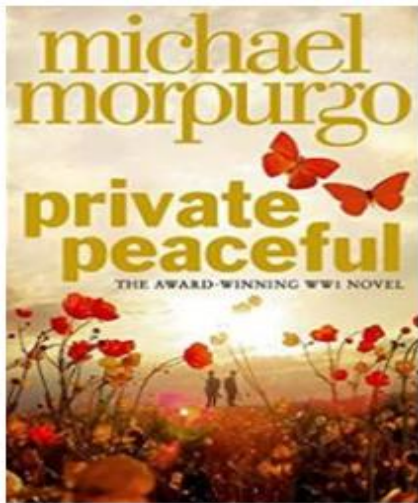
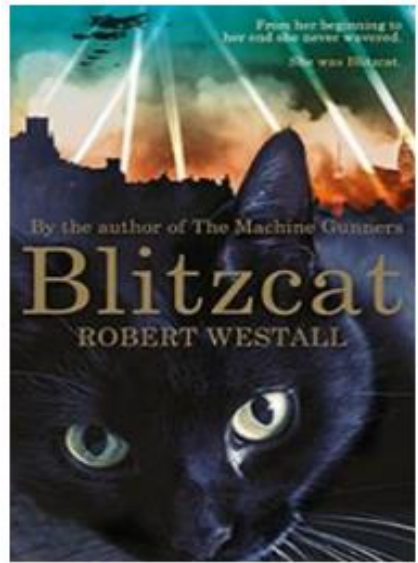
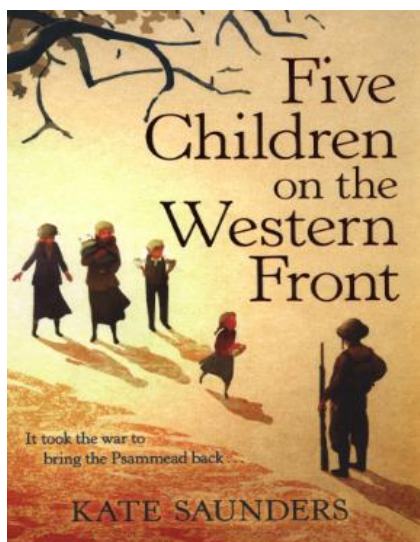


## Year 9 Class Readers

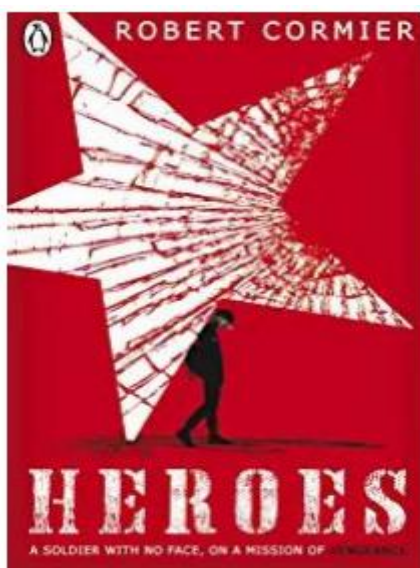
Novel	Description
	<p><b>Soldier Dog ...</b> It's 1917 and Stanley Ryder is one of many young boys enlisting in the army in spite of the fact that he is underage. Leaving his difficult family life behind him, he is soon assigned to working with messenger dogs and is drafted to the Western Front. Here, amidst the shelling and gas attacks of the front line, the deep bond between Stanley and his dogs is tested to the limit. But will their loyalty extend to making the ultimate sacrifice in order to save countless lives? This touching and harrowing story is based on real events, and explores a little-known but vital aspect of communication during World War I.</p> <p><b>Clear links to the War unit of Term 1</b></p>
	<p><b>Private Peaceful ...</b> Thomas - 'Tommo' - Peaceful recalls his young life to date: growing up on the country estate owned by the Colonel; family life with his spirited mother and older brothers Charlie and Big Joe; love for Molly; enlisting in the army at the outbreak of war. Then military training, fighting alongside Charlie in the trenches of the Western Front and the events that will bring his narrative to its final painful conclusion.</p> <p><b>Clear links to the War unit of Term 1</b></p>
	<p><b>Blitzcat</b> is a 1989 novel by Robert Westall, and recipient of the Nestlé Smarties Book Prize. Plot Blitzcat is told through the point of view of a black domestic cat, called Lord Gort, as she travels across England during the Blitz in search of her owner, who is serving with the RAF.</p> <p><b>Clear links to the War unit of Term 1</b></p>

## Year 9 Class Readers



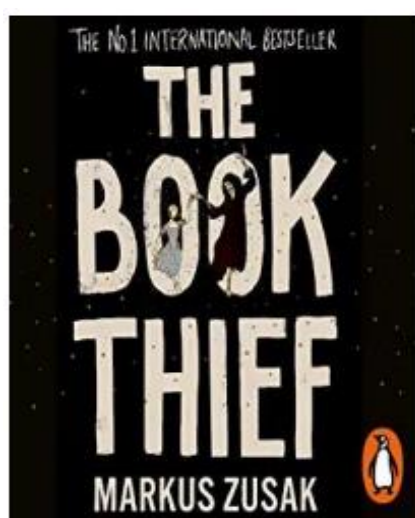
In Kate Saunders award-winning sequel to E Nesbit's **Five Children and It**, the First World War is breaking out and, while Anthea is at Art School, Cyril is heading off to war. With the original protagonists all grown up, the action falls to their younger siblings, Lamb and Edie. When the Psammead - an ancient, magical sand fairy - appears for the first time in ten years, their adventures really begin.

**Clear links to the War unit of Term 1**



**Heroes ...** The novel is centred on the character Francis Cassavant, who has just returned to his childhood home of Frenchtown, Monument (in Massachusetts), from serving in the Second World War in France and has severe deformities as a result of an incident during the war. The structure of the novel involves the use of flashbacks to Francis's childhood in Frenchtown and the events in Frenchtown following the war, when Francis returns.

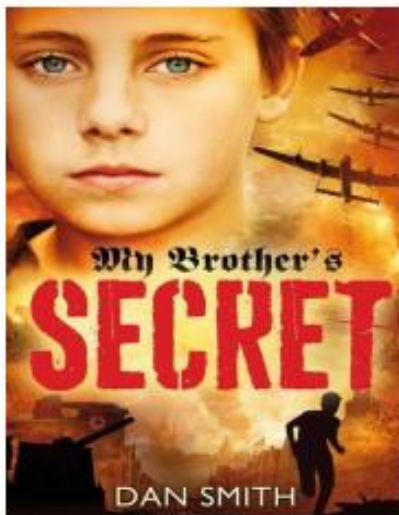
**Clear links to the War unit of Term 1**



**The Book Thief ...** It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will be busier still. By her brother's graveside, Liesel's life is changed when she picks up a single object, partially hidden in the snow. It is The Gravedigger's Handbook, left behind there by accident, and it is her first act of book thievery. So begins a love affair with books and words, as Liesel, with the help of her accordion-playing foster father, learns to read. Soon she is stealing books from Nazi book-burnings, the mayor's wife's library, wherever there are books to be found. But these are dangerous times. When Liesel's foster family hides a Jew in their basement, Liesel's world is both opened up, and closed down.

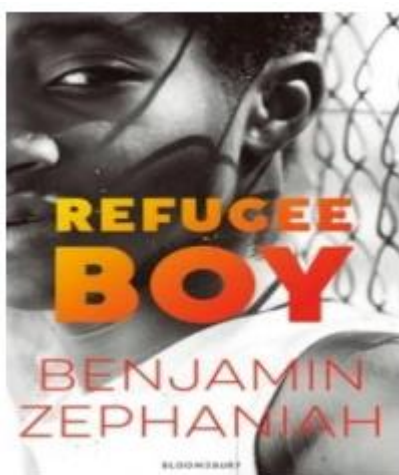
**Clear links to the War unit of Term 1**

## Year 9 Class Readers



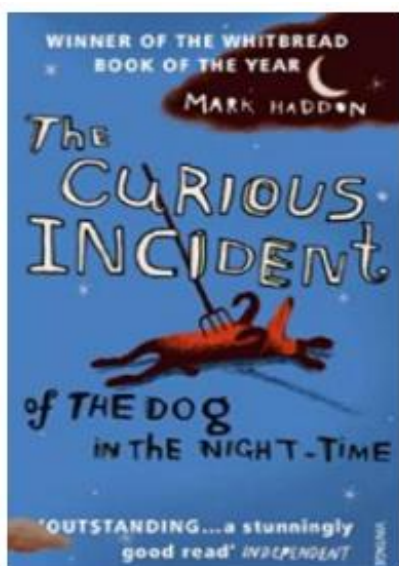
**Secret ...** A fascinating new perspective on World War II; a fictitious, personalized take on the real-life rebel German youth group, the Edelweiss Pirates. Karl Friedman is only twelve, but like all boys his age in Germany, he's already playing war games, training to join the Hitler Youth. Stefan, Karl's nonconformist older brother, wants nothing to do with it. Then their father is killed, and what had been a game suddenly becomes deadly serious. Karl's faith in the Fuhrer is shaken: Is Hitler a national hero--or a villain?

**Clear links to the War unit of Term 1**



**Refugee Boy** is a teen novel written by Benjamin Zephaniah. It is a book about Alem Kelo, a 14-year-old refugee from Ethiopia and Eritrea. It was first published by Bloomsbury on 28 August 2001 . The novel was the recipient of the 2002 Portsmouth Book Award in the Longer Novel category.

**Clear links to the War unit of Term 1**

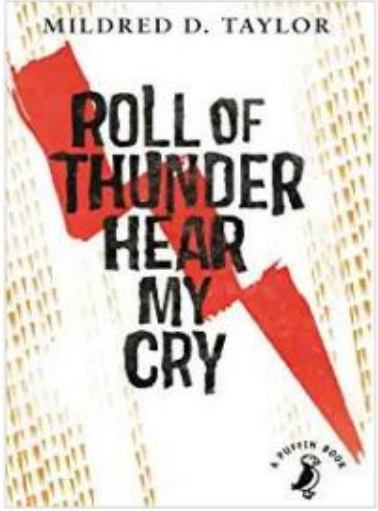

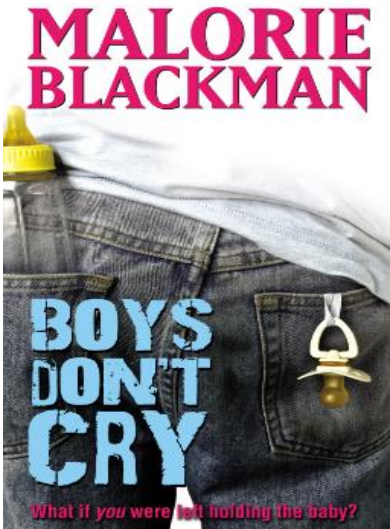


**The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time ...** A bestselling novel that tells the story of Christopher Boone, a 15-year-old boy with Asperger's, who, after the vicious killing of his neighbour's dog, embarks on a investigation à la his hero Sherlock Holmes.

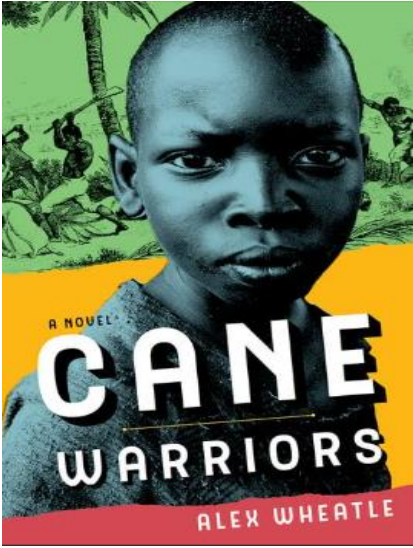
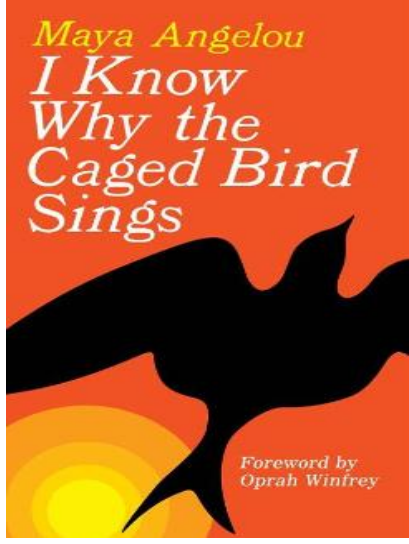
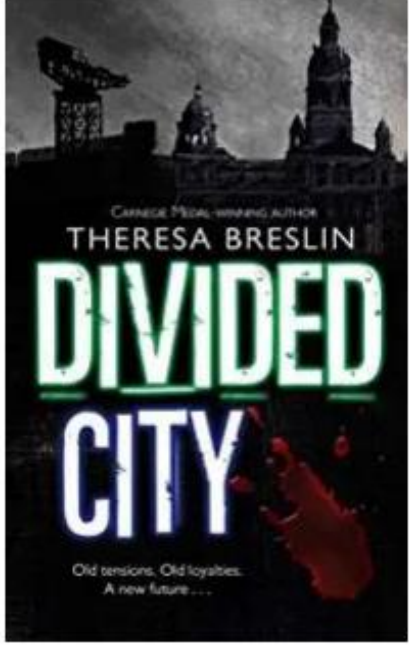
**Clear links to the issues of identity and perspectives covered in previous years as well as a nice insight into the issue of paternal control (Term 2)**



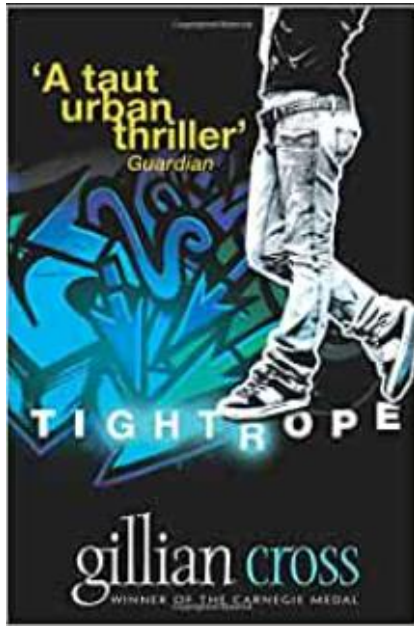
## Year 9 Class Readers

	<p><b>Roll of Thunder ...</b> In the book, Taylor explores struggles of African Americans in 1930s Mississippi through the perspective of nine-year-old Cassie Logan. The novel contains several themes, including Jim Crow segregation, Black landownership, sharecropping, the Great Depression, and lynching.</p> <p><b>Clear links to OMAM and Suffering and Survival in Term 3.</b></p>
	<p><b>Coram Boy ...</b> For in the late 1700s your circumstance of birth meant everything. Toby and Aaron may both find themselves living at Captain Thomas Coram's Hospital for parentless children, but their histories are as far apart as they could possibly be. Toby has been rescued from a life of slave labour in a faraway country; Aaron is the illegitimate son of the heir to a large country estate. They are watched over by Mish--a simple soul who has been with them since their arrival. His devotion to them is absolute, but his motives are not altogether straightforward. Could this curious man really be Meshak, the son of a wicked child-killer who was hanged at the gallows for his crimes?</p> <p><b>Links to Suffering and Survival in Term 3.</b></p>
	<p>In <b>Boys Don't Cry</b>, bestselling author Malorie Blackman explores the uncharted territory of teenage fatherhood. You're waiting for the postman - he's bringing your A level results. University, a career as a journalist - a glittering future lies ahead. But when the doorbell rings it's your old girlfriend; and she's carrying a baby. Your baby. You're happy to look after it, just for an hour or two. But then she doesn't come back - and your future suddenly looks very different. Malorie's dramatic new novel will take you on a journey from tears to laughter and back again.</p> <p><b>Links to Paternal Control in Term 2 as well as Suffering and Survival in Term 3.</b></p>

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	<p><b>Cane Warriors ...</b> This story is inspired by a real life rebellion in British-owned slave plantations in Jamaica in 1760. 14 year old Moa's dad warns him not to join in the rebellion being plotted by charismatic leader Tacky because he can't bear to lose another son, but Moa makes the decision to become a Cane Warrior and join the resistance - even a glimmer of hope of freedom is better than the horrendous life he is forced to live on the plantation.</p> <p><b>Clear links to OMAM and Suffering and Survival in Term 3.</b></p>
	<p><b>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</b> is a 1969 autobiography describing the young and early years of American writer and poet Maya Angelou. The first in a seven-volume series, it is a coming-of-age story that illustrates how strength of character and a love of literature can help overcome racism and trauma. The book begins when three-year-old Maya and her older brother are sent to Stamps, Arkansas, to live with their grandmother and ends when Maya becomes a mother at the age of 16. In the course of Caged Bird, Maya transforms from a victim of racism with an inferiority complex into a self-possessed, dignified young woman capable of responding to prejudice.</p> <p><b>Clear links to OMAM and Suffering and Survival in Term 3.</b></p>
	<p><b>Divided City</b> is a novel written by Theresa Breslin and published on 5 May 2005 by Doubleday. The novel is written for teenagers and adults concerning the problems of sectarianism in Glasgow and racism against asylum seekers. The main characters are young boys called Graham, a Protestant supporting Rangers.</p> <p><b>Clear links to Romeo and Juliet in Term 2.</b></p>

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**Tightrope** is a children's novel by Gillian Cross, published in 1999. It was shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal. It is about a teen girl named Ashley who does well at school and helps her sick mother through the day. However, she leads a double life. Her other name is Cindy, and Cindy likes to sneak out and graffiti her name on large, untouched walls; it's her release. Unfortunately, someone discovers her secret and is leaving nasty letters and horrible things in her backyard. Will she ever be able to live normal life again? Without these fears she will die and never ever live a happy life again.

A nice opportunity to revisit the issue of identity explored in previous years as well as the issue of paternal; control explored in Term 3.