

## History reading list for soon-to-be Year 7s!

Hello! Here in the History department we love reading books about the past. We thought we would use this as an opportunity to introduce ourselves and our favourite books for Year 7 pupils.

Read below to find out more about the people who will be teaching you History next year and to get some great suggestions for what to read over the holidays.

### *Introducing... Mr Elliott*

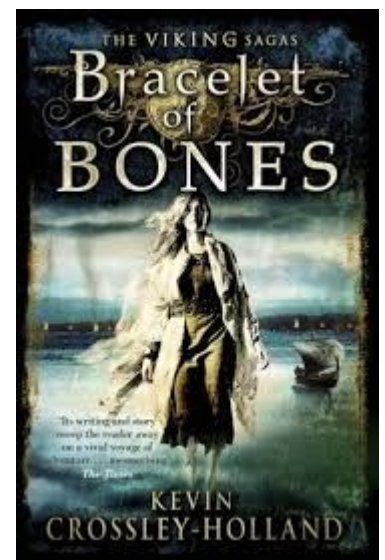
***During lockdown I have been...*** playing an awful lot of scrabble. Most days we play two games and since I discovered that there's a Scrabble app, I've been playing games against people across the world. As I write I have 5 online games on the go.



***Fun facts...*** I have a Cocker Spaniel puppy called Frida. She is mad and delighted that the whole family is at home all the time. We also have a cat called Bernard. He thinks we're all lazy and need to get back to work so he can have the house back to himself.

***My favourite historical period is...*** the medieval period; I especially find the 14th century fascinating. It was a time of epidemic disease and protest on the streets of London, nothing like the present day at all!

***Book suggestions for Y7s:*** The first is '**Bracelet of Bones**' and the second is '**Gatty's Tale**'. Both are by **Kevin Crossley-Holland** and both are about long and dangerous journeys taken by girls in the Middle Ages. '**Bracelet of Bones**' follows Solvieg, a girl from a Viking family, who follows her father all the way from Norway to Constantinople. '**Gatty's Tale**' takes us on a pilgrimage from England all the way to Jerusalem and back. Both books are exciting stories and offer a really engaging insight into two fascinating periods of history.



## **Introducing... Mr Charachon**

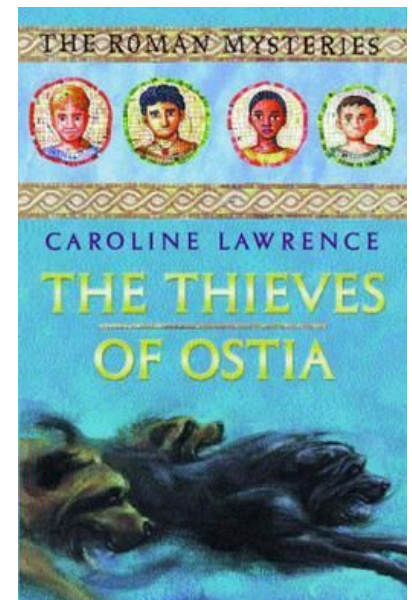
***During lockdown I have been...*** playing way too many online board games with friends – and learnt about new topics of History like the Silk Roads!

***Fun facts...*** I am from France and you might find pronouncing my name to be a bit tricky at first. When I was 10, I actually wanted to be a sports journalist so I could follow as many football games as I wanted!



***My favourite historical periods are...*** the Roman Empire and the Viking Age – I love to find out about how societies and countries developed at those times and how people then were a lot more exciting, adventurous and complex than we usually think!

***Book suggestions for Y7s:*** 'The Roman Mysteries' book series by **Caroline Lawrence** because they are thrilling detective stories led by a group of young teenagers set in Ancient Rome with real historical characters! There are also lots of books in the series which are often based on real events so you'll always have a new one to read!



## **Introducing... Ms Webster**

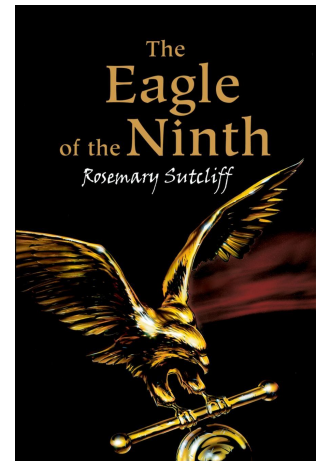
***During lockdown I have been...*** learning how to use a sewing machine and practising making dresses out of old bed sheets!

***Fun facts...*** I'm currently in the middle of trying to read at least 100 books this year! I grew up in Hong Kong so I particularly enjoy books set in different parts of the world.



***My favourite thing to study in History is...*** the role of women, particularly in the Medieval period. I think there is something fascinating about feeling a connection with other people in the past who had experiences both like, and unlike, yourself.

***Book suggestions for Y7s:*** *'The Eagle of the Ninth'* by Rosemary Sutcliffe is a fantastic book about a Roman soldier who goes on a dangerous mission to try and find out what happened to his father in Roman Britain. It leads to a fantastic adventure. I also love *'The Little House on the Prairie'* series by Laura Ingells Wilder for a sense of what it was like to live in such a different period (and who wouldn't want to be able to build their own house?).



## ***Introducing... Dr Harvey***

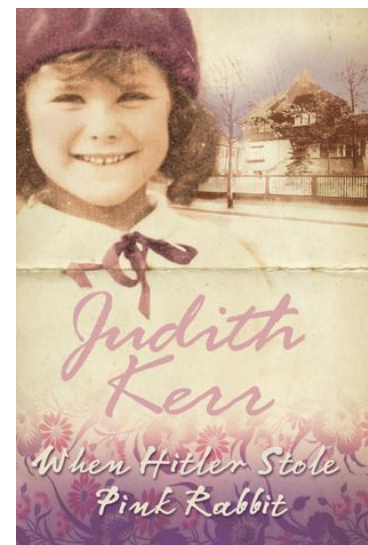
***During lockdown I have been...*** During lockdown I am reading a lot of books (some of them History related!) I also have a little boy so I am busy keeping him entertained.



***Fun facts...*** Not many people know this but I went to a very unusual primary school in a place called Buckfast Abbey and some of my lessons were taught by religious men called monks

***My favourite thing to study in History is...*** the nineteenth century (1800s). It was a time of huge change for Britain, for example when railways were built!

***Book suggestions for Y7s:*** My suggestion for a book to read (and why) is *'When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit'* by Judith Kerr. It is set during the 1930s in Germany when Hitler was in power. It is told from the point of view of a young girl and the way her life changed dramatically during this time.





## ***Introducing... Mr Spillane***

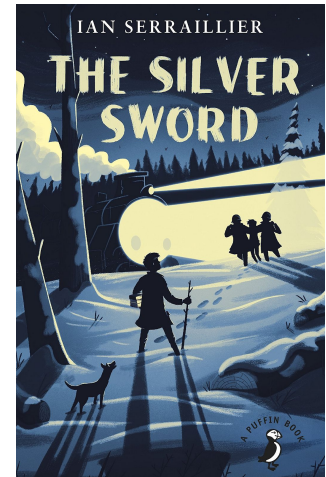
***During lockdown I have been...*** working hard during the week but finding a lot of time to finish jobs that I had planned for a long time. I have improved the garden in my house and spent lots of quality time with my children. I have also gone on lots of long walks and cycle rides.



***Fun facts...*** When I was younger I wanted to be a fighter pilot when I grew up and still love visiting airfields when the fighter jets take off and land.

***My favourite thing to study in History is...*** the Holocaust because I am constantly surprised that so many people could stand by and do very little whilst horrible things were done to so many people.

***Book suggestions for Y7s:*** My suggestion for a book to read would be '***The Silver Sword***' by Ian Serraillier. It is about a boy and his friends fending for themselves in Poland during World War II, clinging to the sword as a symbol of hope.



**For you fellow bookworms out there, the Historical Association have also shared hundreds of great historical reads:**

**<https://www.history.org.uk/secondary/news/3700/historical-fiction-list>**

**What are your favourite historical books? We would love to hear from you! You can email [WX@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:WX@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk) to introduce yourself and share a book you have enjoyed about the past.**