



Year 7 English – Reading List

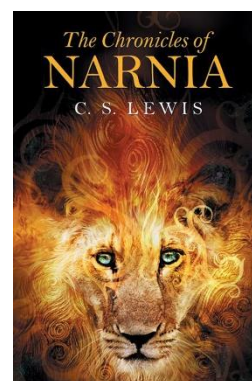
Autumn – ‘Storytelling’

Our first unit of work will focus on the reading of *The Hobbit* alongside some famous stories from periods of English known as ‘Old English’ and ‘Middle English’.

The wider reading list below is designed to help you deepen your understanding and interest in the themes, characters and genres that we will be looking at.

The Hobbit – Other Fantasy Works

- **The Lord of the Rings** series by Tolkien. Series directly linked to The Hobbit.
- **Redwall** series by Brian Jacques. A series of fantasy novels covering ‘Redwall history’. The characters in these books are all anthropomorphic animals of some sort, with almost all of them capable of speech.
- **The Chronicles of Narnia** by C.S Lewis.
- **A Wizard of Earthsea** series by Ursula Le Quin. If Tolkien is the king of fantasy, Le Quin is the queen. TV adaptation coming in 2021.
- **Magyk** (first of the seven book Septimus Heap series) by Angie Sage. Lots of wizardry.
- **Discworld** series by Terry Pratchett. An enormous series of over 50 novels - fantasy and funny.
- **Silverwing** by Kenneth Oppel. Shade is a young Silverwing bat, the runt of his colony. But he's determined to prove himself on the long, dangerous winter migration to Hibernaculum.
- **Howl's Moving Castle** by Diana Wynne Jones. Sophie has the great misfortune of being the eldest of three daughters, destined to fail miserably should she ever leave home to seek her fate.
- **Five Children and It** by E. Nesbit. Five children find a cantankerous sand fairy, a psammead, in a gravel pit. Classic fantasy from 1902.



- **Old and Middle English**

- **Beowulf.** The oldest tale from the past of The British Isles. Two great modern translations by Seamus Heaney and Maria Dahvana Headley.
- **Grendel** by John Gardner. Modern retelling of Beowulf from ‘the enemy’s’ point of view’, Grendel.
- **Sir Gawain the Green Knight.** An ancient tale of Arthurian legend. Many translations including Simon Armitage and Michael Morpurgo.
- **Anglo-Saxon Boy** (and **Viking Boy**) by Tony Bradman. A journey to the Battle of Hastings.
- Any collection of folk tales by Kevin-Crossley Holland. Short, often scary tales, from all over the British Isles and beyond, taken from stories and passed down through the centuries.

