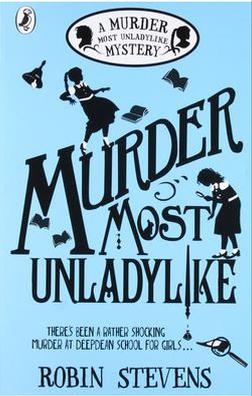
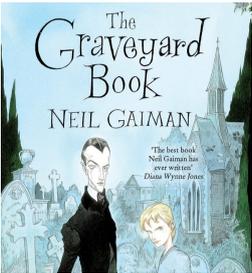
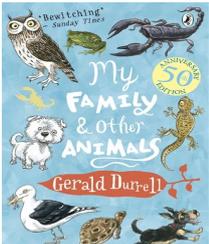


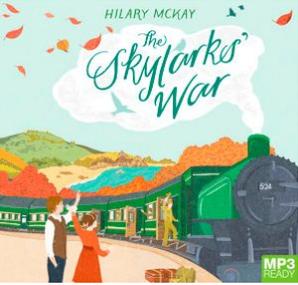
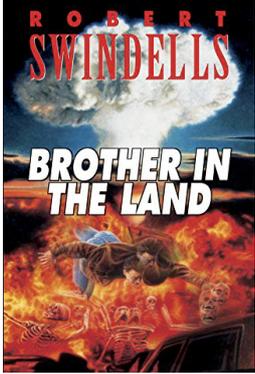
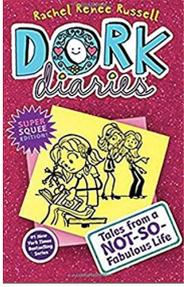
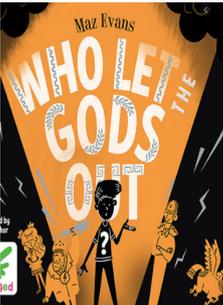


# SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Before you start at Watford Grammar School for Girls, you have an opportunity to take part in our **Summer Reading Challenge**. This is not compulsory, however, if you choose to do the challenge you need to choose a book, read it over the summer and when you have read the book complete **one**, or more, of the **Chilli Challenges**  below. The challenges you complete should be brought in when you start school. These will count towards the Reading Challenge we have for all Year 7 students.

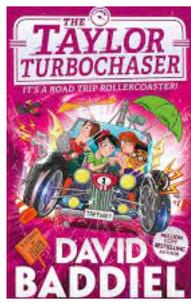
## Your reading choices:

Mystery	Gothic	Family/Coming of Age
<p><b><i>Murder Most Unladylike</i> by Robin Stevens.</b> This book follows two schoolgirls in 1930s England solving their first murder mystery – the girls have to prove a murder has happened in the first place before the killer strikes again!</p> 	<p><b><i>The Graveyard Book</i> by Neil Gaiman</b>  <i>The Graveyard Book</i> traces the story of the boy Nobody "Bod" Owens who is adopted and reared by the supernatural occupants of a graveyard after his family is brutally murdered.</p> 	<p><b><i>My Family and Other Animals</i> by Gerald Durrell.</b> This book tells in an exaggerated and sometimes fictionalised way of the years that the author lived as a child with his siblings and widowed mother on the Greek island of Corfu between 1935 and 1939.</p> 

<p><b>Historical</b></p> <p><b><i>The Skylarks' War</i> by Hilary McKay</b> Clarry and her older brother Peter live for their summers in Cornwall, staying with their grandparents and running free with their charismatic cousin, Rupert. Can their family survive this fearful war? <i>The Skylarks' War</i> is a beautiful story following the loves and losses of a family growing up against the harsh backdrop of World War One.</p> 	<p><b>Dystopian</b></p> <p><b><i>Brother in the Land</i> by Robert Swindells</b> A 1984 post-apocalyptic novel by Robert E. "Bob" Swindells. It follows the adventures of a teenage boy as he fights for survival in Britain after a nuclear war has devastated the country.</p> 	<p><b>Realistic fiction</b></p> <p><b><i>Dork Diaries</i> by Rachel Renee Russell</b> Nikki Maxwell is not popular, in fact she's the opposite of popular, she's a total dork! But Nikki's hoping that by moving to a new school she might just stand a chance of making some friends and leaving behind her dorky ways. Follow 14-year-old Nikki's life through sketches, doodles and diary entries as she starts her new school, meets the school's queen bee, and encounters endless dramas and adventures with new BFFs.</p> 
<p><b><i>Here Lies Arthur</i> by Philip Reeve</b> Gwyna is just a small girl when she is bound in service to Myrddin the bard - a traveller and spinner of tales. But Myrddin transforms her - into a goddess, a boy warrior, and a spy. Without Gwyna, Myrddin will not be able to work the most glorious transformation of all - and turn the leader of a raggle-taggle war-band into King Arthur, the greatest hero of all time.</p>	<p><b>Other Cultures</b></p> <p><b><i>Out of India</i> by Jamila Gavin</b> A touching and very personal recollection, with a backdrop of world-shaking events, from the Blitz of World War II to the struggle for Indian independence and the assassination of Gandhi. Illustrated with the author's own delightful photographs.</p>	<p><b>Fantasy</b></p> <p><b><i>The Potion Diaries</i> by Amy Alward</b> When the Princess of Nova accidentally poisons herself with a love potion meant for her crush, she falls crown-over-heels in love with her own reflection. Oops. A nationwide hunt is called to find the cure, with competitors travelling the world for the rarest ingredients, deep in magical forests and frozen tundras, facing death at every turn.</p>
<p><b><i>Who Let the Gods Out</i> by Maz Evans</b> Elliot's mum is ill and his home is under threat, but a shooting star crashes to earth and changes his life forever. The star is Virgo – a young Zodiac goddess on a mission. But the pair accidently release Thanatos, a wicked death daemon imprisoned beneath Stonehenge, and must then turn to the old Olympian Gods for help.</p> 	<p><b><i>The Poet X</i> by Elizabeth Acevedo</b> A young girl in Harlem discovers slam poetry as a way to understand her mother's religion and her own relationship to the world. Xiomara Batista feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem neighbourhood. Ever since her body grew into curves, she has learned to let her fists and her fierceness do the talking.</p> 	<p><b><i>The House with Chicken Legs</i> by Sophie Anderson</b> Marinka dreams of a normal life, where her house stays in one place long enough for her to make friends. But her house has chicken legs and moves on without warning. For Marinka's grandmother is Baba Yaga, who guides spirits between this world and the next. Marinka longs to change her destiny and sets out to break free from her grandmother's footsteps, but her house has other ideas.</p> 

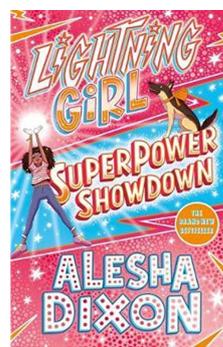
**Adventure**

**The Taylor Turbochaser by David Baddiel**  
*The Taylor Turbochaser* is a road-trip rollercoaster... with a twist. At its heart is the unforgettable Amy Taylor. Amy loves cars, and dreams of being a driver. But there's a major catch: her slow old wheelchair with its broken wheel. When Amy finally gets a new electric one, it's exciting... at first. And so, the Taylor TurboChaser is born. But when it all goes suddenly wrong Amy is going to have to hit the road – and drive.



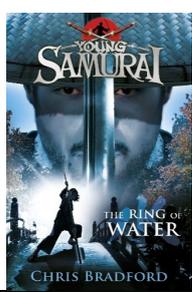
**Lightning Girl by Alesha Dixon**

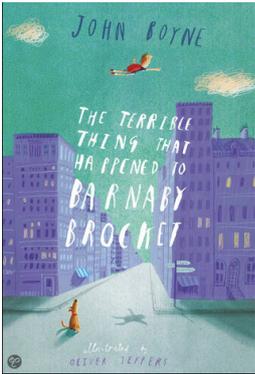
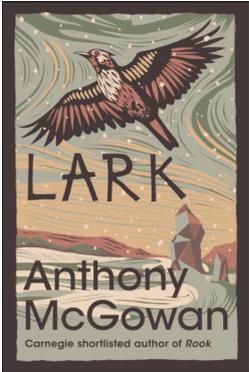
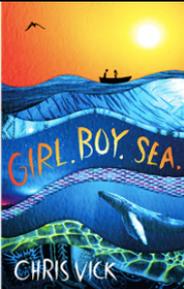
10-year-old Aurora Beam lives at home with her utterly unremarkable family... until the day she sees her little sister being picked on in the playground and suddenly beams of light shoot out of her fingers! It's time for her parents to drop a life-changing bombshell.



**Young Samurai by Chris Bradford**

The Young Samurai series is all about the adventures of Jack Fletcher, an English boy who is shipwrecked off the coast of Japan, his father and ship crew slaughtered by ninja pirates. Rescued by the legendary sword master Masamoto Takeshi, Jack's only hope of survival in a foreign land is to become a samurai warrior.



<b>RECENTLY PUBLISHED NOVELS</b>	
<p><b><i>The Terrible Thing That Happened to Barnaby Brocket</i> by John Boyne</b>            There's nothing unusual about the Brockets. Normal, respectable, and proud of it, they turn up their noses at anyone strange or different. But from the moment Barnaby Brocket comes into the world, it's clear he's anything but ordinary. To his parents' horror, Barnaby defies the laws of gravity - and floats.</p>	
<p><b><i>Lark</i> by Anthony McGowan</b>            Things are getting tense at home for Nicky and Kenny as they wait for a visit from their estranged mum. To escape, they go for a walk on the moors, taking their little Jack Russell terrier with them. But what should have been a laugh, a lark, turns deadly when the weather changes and they are caught in a blizzard. Nothing will ever be quite the same again.</p> <p><b>Winner of the 2020 CARNEGIE MEDAL.</b></p>	
<p><b><i>Girl. Boy. Sea.</i> by Chris Vick</b>            Storm, shipwreck, survival. Chris Vick's novel delves deep into the might and majesty of the unpredictable ocean, the strength of an unlikely friendship between a British boy and a Berber girl and their will to survive against all the odds.</p>	



**Chilli Challenge**

	1. Write out the title decoratively, like for an acrostic poem, and for each letter write a sentence about your book.
	2. Draw a character from your book and label the drawing with things they have said and done so far and things other people have said about them. What does it show about the character?
	3. Choose a chapter from your book. Re-write the chapter as a scene from a play.

*You will notice the difficulty of the challenge depends on the number of **chillies** next to it*