

## What are our staff's favourite books?





Mrs Boardman: My favourite book is To Kill a Mocking Bird as Atticus Finch is my favourite literary character. I love the way he parents, the morals he has, and I think this is book that everyone should read to understand how to treat others.







**Mr Wilson:** Quirky, funny and moving. A tale of a remote island, the translation of Shakespeare into pidgin English, the corruption of idyllic island life by the west through invasion, landmines and money. Love, loss, Shakespeare, anthropology, subterfuge, globalism, language, obsessive-compulsive disorder and cheerful communal defecation - really, does a book need anything more? A brilliant book that I have read at least 6 or 7 times.







Mrs O'Connell: My favourite book is The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time. I think the author has been so clever writing from the perspective of an autistic boy and I love a bit of detective work!







Miss Parker: My favourite book is The Great Gatsby. I am fascinated with life in the 1920s, also known as the Jazz Age. This is a story of love, loss and extraordinary and unpredictable characters. I particularly love the opening quote: Then wear the gold hat, if that will move her; If you can bounce high, bounce for her too, Till she cry "Lover, gold-hatted, high-bouncing lover, I must have you!" which highlights before you begin the novel that this is a story about material wealth making someone fall in love which fails to last.







Ms Lyons: The Fifth Elephant by Terry Prachett is my favourite book, it's my comfort book. It makes me happy.







Mrs Hunter: My favourite book is The Complete Fairy Tales of The Brothers Grimm. We all remember fairy tales from our childhood but there are also the 'darker' tales that deserve to be better known.







Mrs Evans: Mines' Trainspotting by Irvine Welsh. Graphic, disturbing and real with a narrative voice like no other.







Mr Jackson: Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol. It's something I like to read at a particular time of year, especially because of the themes of hope and more importantly redemption I don't like to go in to deep with it, I just enjoy those aspects. After the year we have all had, I suspect it will be more important than ever to read it again later this year.







Mr Cowan: My favourite book would have to be Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy. I think it has the ability to make you feel very small in the universe, while reminding you of the simple pleasures in your life. Plus, it's really quite funny!

ADAMS The Hitch Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy

A TRILOGY IN FIVE PARTS





Ms Parkinson: My favourite book is 'Interview with the Vampire' by Anne Rice. I love books that are told from unique perspectives and what is more unique than a vampire? A beautiful yet horrific and tragic tale of an immortal life. Even this, though it's fictional, the story felt real and had a lasting impact on me. I also managed to hunt down a  $1^{st}$  edition version of the book that is one of my greatest treasures.







Mrs McDonagh: My favourite book is Jane' Austin's Pride and Prejudice. I love a bit of romance to escape into. I also love seeing all of the restraints and curiosities of society at the time. It is simply a timeless classic.







Mrs Weights: My favourite book - Pride and prejudice: brilliant story telling, humorous, and quite deceptive- you might think it's a simple quaint tale but it's brilliantly written- which is what makes it seem so effortless. I studied it for GCSE and have loved it ever since - and I can still remember the opening line, from my first reading of it aged 15- "it is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife."







Mrs Cleary: Wuthering Heights - every time I read this book, I am instantly transported into another time and place, so different from here and now, but so familiar to me. The characters are so richly developed that they feel so real - I genuinely feel their pain, joy and frustrations anew each time I revisit it. The descriptions of the landscapes are rugged and stunning. It is a truly special book to me (which I first read as a teeneager) and is the first book I read that I felt this type of connection with. It ignited my passion for Literature.







**Mrs Sinclair:** My favourite book is called Shadow Man by Cody Mcfadyen. It's the first book that made me cry. It's a dark crime thriller and not for the faint-hearted. "COLDLY, STUNNINGLY BRILLIANT." —Lisa Gardner, author of *Gone* 

"AMONG THE BEST CRIME FICTION YOU WILL READ THIS YEAR." —Washington Post





Mr Perkins: Hitchhikers Guide To The Galaxy for the sheer bizarre humour and creative view of the galaxy and its likeness to our government with the demolishing of earth to build a new highway.

ADAMS The Hitch Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy

A TRILOGY IN

cluding MOSTLY HARMLESS





## Mr Hickin: Catch 22 - Joseph Heller or A day in the life of Ivan Denisovich - Aleksandra Solzhenitsyn.









Mrs Phillips: A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini. Totally gripping, very moving, though provoking and emotive. A book showing true strength of women that is heart wrenching.







Miss Mault: My favourite book is Bird Song by Sebastian Faulks. I love the imagery and description of WW1 and Trench Warfare in it. I first read it when I was in Belgium on a trip to the battlefields when I was a trainee teacher and the book gave me context to what I was seeing. Sebastian Faulks is one of my favourite authors and I have read all of his books but Birdsong is by far my favourite. The story is told from the point of view of a soldier and his experiences of tunnelling in No Mans Land which must have been horrific but it has a love story running alongside it as well so you feel empathy for the characters involved.





SEBASTIAN

FAULKS

BIRDSONG



Miss Smith: My favourite book is Those who are Loved by Victoria Hislop. It is a fictional story set against the backdrop of the German occupation of Greece and the civil war that follows. It intertwines history, politics, family feuds and the complexity of growing up. Every time I read it, I am transported to a period of history, that I find fascinating and moving.







Mrs Thompson: I'm going to offer Pride and Prejudice. I wanted to suggest something more impressive sounding, but I really do love this novel! I find Jane Austen very amusing and every time I re-read her I am amused and amazed by her insights into life. She is a woman of compassion with a sense of justice and fun - and I've loved it for so long it's like going back to an old friend!





Mrs Hewitt: One of my favourite books is one I read when I was about 18. It's called Green Dolphin Country by Elizeth Goudge. It is set in the 1800's and is a love story told over a lifetime of two sisters and a childhood friend. It is set first of all in Guernsey and moves across the sea to the newly discovered island of New Zealand. The boy in the story is press-ganged into joining the navy and sails to New Zealand where he then writes to his childhood sweetheart to ask her to join him in marriage in the new world. However, he requested the wrong sister because he mixed up the girls' names. I loved the romance, the catastrophe, the honour and the resilience, beautifully told in this story.

'S WORLD BOOK DAY

 ABBRATION

4

The monumental best seller of two womenand the man who was their one great love





Mrs Dudaniec: Ps I love You by Cecelia Ahern. I hate the film but love the book. I was 18 and on my first holiday abroad when I read it, I could not put the book down. It made me cry, laugh and even a little bit angry at times. Not sure if it is my all-time favourite but is one that stands out for me.







Mr Crusham: Ant Middleton: Zero Negativity There are times when life feels like it has you cornered: financial difficulties, relationship issues, work problems, all of the above. Every one of us, at one time or another, will have to face up to the challenges that come our way. And there are two ways of meeting them: negatively, where blame is the answer, where other people are at fault, where you haven't been treated fairly. Or positively, where you own the situation, learn and grow from it, and become a better person at the end of it.



THE SUNDAY TIMES NUMBER ONE BESTSELLE



## What is your favourite book and why?

