



December 2024

Welcome to our monthly reading newsletter. Each month, we will recommend books from a range of genres and styles.

Don't forget to check out our reading lists aimed at specific year groups, which can be found on your child's English Google Classroom page.

The English Department

The Spook's Apprentice

Fantasy

Horror

Magic

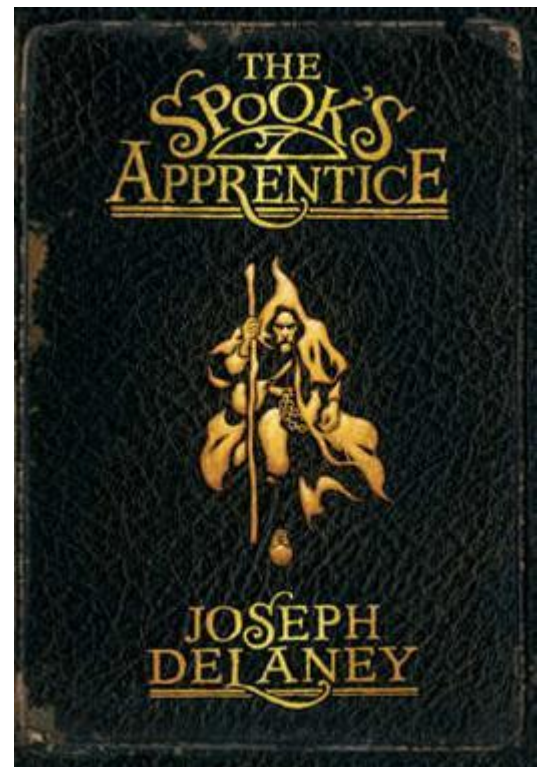
Book of the Month

The Spook's Apprentice

Joseph Delaney

Thomas Ward is the seventh son of a seventh son and has been apprenticed to the local Spook. The job is hard, the Spook is distant and many apprentices have failed before Thomas. Somehow Thomas must learn how to exorcise ghosts, contain witches and bind boggarts. But when he is tricked into freeing Mother Malkin, the most evil witch in the County, the horror begins..

Recommended for [KS3](#) by Jan Gniewek (8R)



All students should have a reading book in school every day.

We recommend reading each weekday evening (and for longer at weekends)

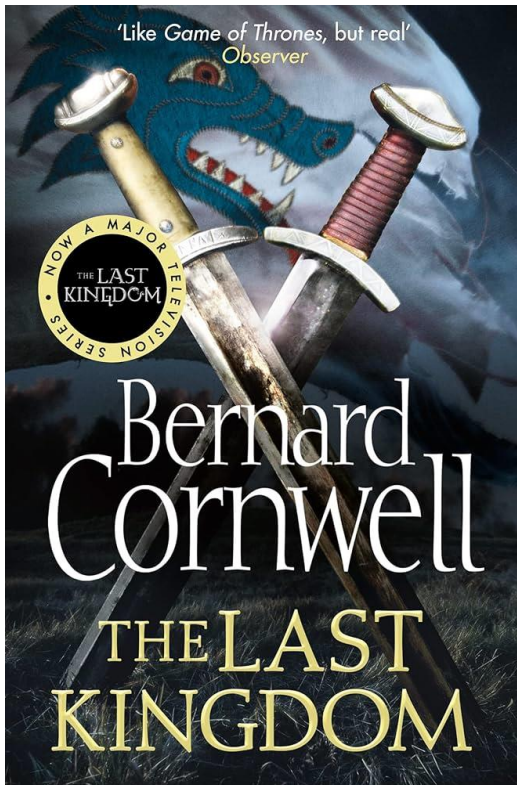
Library Opening Times Year 7:

Lunchtimes: Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Library Opening Times Year 8/9/10

After School: 3:15-4:15pm

Our Recommendations



The Last Kingdom

Historical Fiction

Medieval

Adventure

The Last Kingdom

Bernard Cornwell

This is the story of the making of England in the 9th and 10th centuries, the years in which King Alfred the Great, his son and grandson defeated the Danish Vikings who had invaded and occupied three of England's four kingdoms.

The story is seen through the eyes of Uhtred, a dispossessed nobleman, who is captured as a child by the Danes and then raised by them so that, by the time the Northmen begin their assault on Wessex (Alfred's kingdom and the last territory in English hands) Uhtred almost thinks of himself as a Dane. He certainly has no love for Alfred, whom he considers a pious weakling and no match for Viking savagery, yet when Alfred unexpectedly defeats the Danes and the Danes themselves turn on Uhtred, he is finally forced to choose sides. By now he is a young man, in love, trained to fight and ready to take his place in the dreaded shield wall. Above all, though, he wishes to recover his father's land, the enchanting fort of Bebbanburg by the wild northern sea.

Recommended for **KS4** by James Enright (10R)

We love hearing about books you have read so let us know what book you think everyone should read!



A student who reads is a student who succeeds!