



**Galen Catholic College**

# **Student Term 4 summer holiday reading guide 2025**

We hope you enjoy the book recommendations provided by your library staff. This list is packed with great reads to keep you going through the summer holidays.



Dear Students and Parents,

Summer is finally here, bringing long days, warm nights, and the perfect excuse to unwind with a good book. As we head into the break, we're encouraging all our students to keep their minds active by building a simple daily habit: swap a scroll for a story and spend 10 to 20 minutes reading something you enjoy. It's small, it's doable, and it makes a real difference.

Regular reading boosts vocabulary, strengthens critical thinking, fuels creativity, and gives the brain a much-needed break from constant notifications. Whether it's a quick chapter before bed, a sun-soaked read in the backyard, or an audiobook on the go, those minutes add up to better focus and confidence when school returns. Parents, your support helps make this possible. Encouraging reading at home, making space for quiet moments, and showing interest in what your child is choosing can turn holiday reading into something positive rather than a chore.

This guide is filled with suggestions to get everyone started, but it's only the beginning. There's a lot more waiting on our shelves, so students are welcome to pop into the Library before the holidays and be tempted by something that matches their interests. And don't forget: ebooks and audiobooks are available anytime through the Library Website for easy summer access.

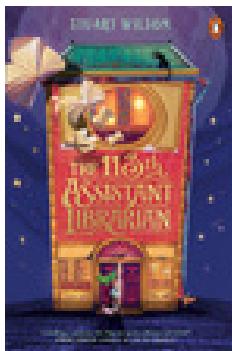
Here's to a season of relaxation, imagination, and stories worth remembering.

Happy reading,  
Cheryl Taylor  
Head of Learning Resources





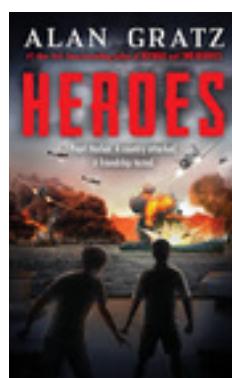
Join Kirby and his Dream Land friends as they continue on zany adventures in manga form! Volumes 1 - 5 available



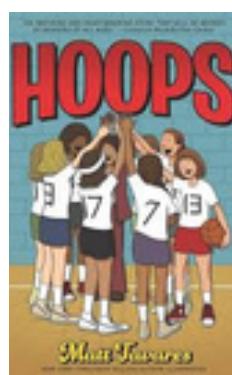
Oliver Wormwood is sure his new job in the library will be boring. Until he learns that books hold great power and danger. By the end of his first day, Oliver has witnessed a death, been frozen by a book, met a perplexing number of cats, and fought off a horde of terrifying creatures.



How to save a dragon: 1) Assemble equipment. Water, Weet-Bix, sugar, syringe, sticky tape, scissors. 2) Believe in everything. Pip never wants to go home. She likes to sit at the waterhole at dusk and remember Mika, her best friend. When she finds a half-dead creature at the waterhole, everything changes. She knows she has to save this small dragon and return it to where it comes from. But how?

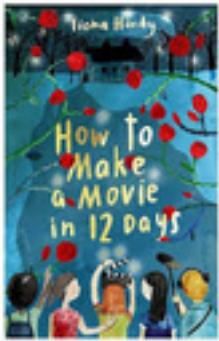


Frank and Stanley are best friends who spend their days dreaming up comic book adventures. But when a sudden attack shatters their peaceful world, the boys are thrown into real danger. As they race home through the chaos, they discover that the fallout of the day runs deeper than explosions; especially for Stanley, who now faces prejudice he's never known. With everything changing around them, can their friendship survive the toughest test they've ever faced?

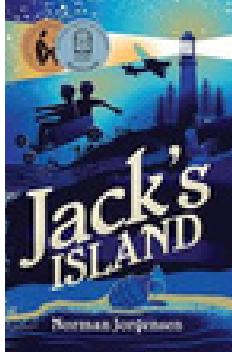


In 1976 Indiana, the whole town turns out to cheer for the boys' basketball team but hardly anyone notices the newly formed girls' team. Judi, Cindy, and Lisa are determined to change that. With talent, grit, and big dreams, they push for equal court time, proper uniforms, and the respect they deserve. As they fight to prove themselves on and off the court, one question drives them: how far can they go when the whole town finally starts to pay attention?

Hayley Whelan has always dreamed of creating a real horror movie, and with her grandma's gift of a proper camera, she finally can. She gathers her friends, plans the perfect shoot, and sets out to film it all in just twelve days. But when props go missing and scenes are mysteriously ruined, it's clear someone is sabotaging the project. As Hayley races to solve the mystery, she discovers a story about friendship, creativity, and the growing-up moments that matter most..



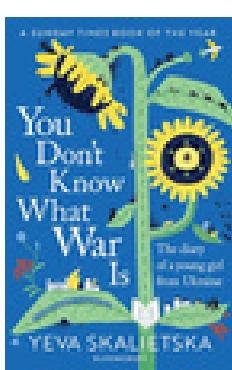
Living on an Island during WWII, Jack and his best friend Banjo have the run of the island and a remarkable knack for getting into trouble. Dafty, a simple but loveable young boy, is their constant companion. But when Dafty seeks revenge against the local schoolmaster for a punishment inflicted on Banjo, life becomes suddenly more serious.



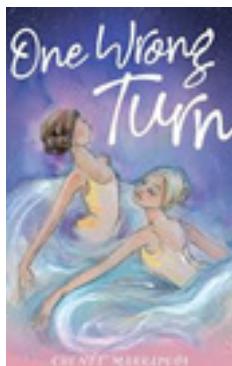
Tor, the young son of the legendary Viking king Harald Hardrada, is sent to scout the land as the Viking fleet advances on England. Kata, an Anglo-Saxon girl longing for a life beyond her quiet village, crosses his path and everything changes. As rumours of invasion spread and loyalties tighten, the two are drawn together despite being on opposite sides. With battle approaching, Kata and Tor must decide what matters more: duty to their people or the pull of their hearts.

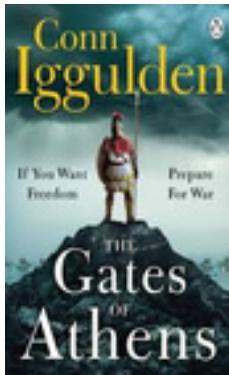


This is the moving diary of young Ukrainian refugee Yeva Skalietska. It follows twelve days in Ukraine that changed 12-year-old Yeva's life forever. She was woken in the early hours to the terrifying sounds of shelling. Russia had invaded Ukraine, and her beloved Kharkiv home was no longer the safe haven it should have been. It was while she and her Granny were forced to seek shelter in a damp, cramped basement that Yeva decided to write down her story. And it is a story that the world needs to hear.

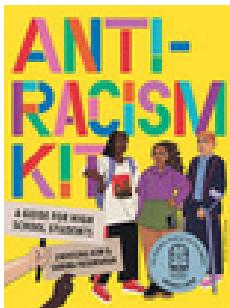


Amelia has worked hard for her moment in the spotlight, finally landing the lead role in her academy's big ballet production. But when Valentina arrives from Italy talented, confident, and instantly impressive the pressure rises fast. Suddenly Amelia is questioning her place, her friendships, and even her love of dance. As competition turns fierce, she must decide what truly matters: winning the role at any cost, or finding the courage to stand up for herself and rediscover the joy of ballet.





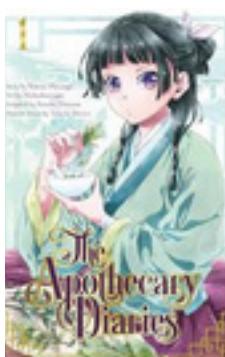
490 BC: The mighty Persian Empire threatens to absorb Greece, but the people of Athens refuse to surrender their freedom. As armies gather at Marathon and later Thermopylae, ordinary Athenians, from thinkers to soldiers, face extraordinary choices that will shape history. *The Gates of Athens* follows these “greatest nobodies,” the minor characters whose courage and determination stand against overwhelming odds. A thrilling, action-packed story of bravery, strategy, and the power of standing up for what you believe in.



*Anti-Racism Kit* is an exploration of anti-racism and racial justice centring on the lives and experiences of young adults. Covering three actionable, tangible areas for change, Self, School and Society, this guide breaks down key steps in learning about and practising anti-racism, including understanding important concepts such as privilege and internalised racism and learning to speak up effectively and safely in challenging situations.



Jelena Dokic has faced life's toughest challenges: from heartbreak and online abuse to battling her own mental health struggles, and found a way to rise stronger. In *Fearless*, she shares her journey of resilience, self-discovery, and the power of speaking up. From reclaiming her body to becoming a leading tennis commentator and motivational speaker, Jelena shows how anyone can start at the bottom, rebuild, and find their voice to thrive in the face of life's challenges.

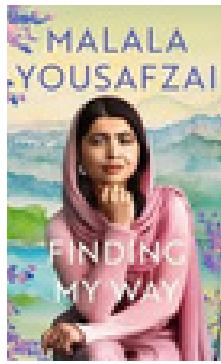


Maomao, a clever former apothecary, has caught the attention of the emperor himself and saying no isn't an option. Tasked with serving at the imperial court, she soon discovers that court life is full of tricky rules, mysterious intrigues, and demanding duties. From brewing potions to navigating gossip and etiquette, Maomao must use all her wit to survive. Full of clever schemes, secrets, and unexpected humour, this story proves that brains can be just as powerful as obedience in a palace filled with secrets..



When Duke Leto Atreides is betrayed and killed, his son Paul and Lady Jessica must flee into the vast, dangerous deserts of Arrakis. There, they encounter the Fremen, the fierce native people who know the desert and its giant sandworms like no one else. As Paul learns their ways and hones his own extraordinary abilities, he must navigate politics, survival, and prophecy to avenge his father and reclaim control of Arrakis. A thrilling tale of courage, strategy, and destiny unfolds in a world like no other.

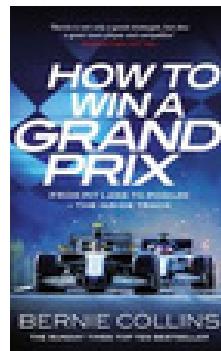
After surviving a Taliban attack at just fifteen, Malala Yousafzai became a global symbol of courage. But away from the spotlight, she faced the messy, confusing journey of growing up in a new world. *Finding My Way* is her candid story of friendship, first love, anxiety, and self-discovery. Through highs and lows, near-failures, and unexpected joys, Malala shows that strength comes from being human, owning your story, and finding the courage to live life on your own terms.



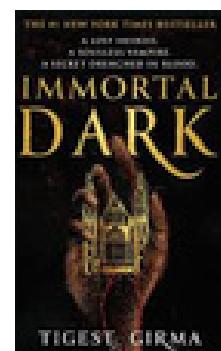
When Tess Kendrick is sent to stay with her older sister in Washington, she has no idea that Ivy is a professional 'fixer', a person who makes powerful people's scandals disappear. Then Tess enrolls at the elite Hardwicke School and unexpectedly becomes Hardwicke's own high school fixer. As each sister leads a double life, their worlds collide when a scandal from the halls of Hardwicke reaches the most powerful people in the city.



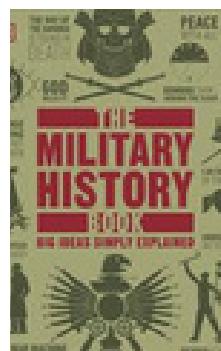
Formula 1 may look like it's all about the drivers, but behind every race is a huge team working tirelessly to win. In *How to Win a Grand Prix*, Bernie Collins, Chief Race Engineer and Team Strategist, takes you behind the scenes of an F1 team. From designing the cars to split-second decisions on race day, Bernie reveals the precision, pressure, and teamwork that goes into getting from the grid to the podium. A thrilling look at racing like never before.



Orphaned heiress Kidan Adane never expected to confront the dark, hidden world she was born into. When her sister vanishes, Kidan suspects a powerful vampire Susenyos Sagad, bound to her family bloodline, is behind it. To rescue her sister, she must infiltrate the elite Uxlay University and navigate a dangerous game of power, secrets, and seduction. As revenge and desire collide, Kidan discovers that surviving the vampire underworld will take more than courage: it will take wit, will, and heart.

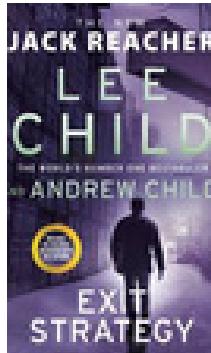


The Military History Book takes readers on a journey through 7,000 years of warfare, from ancient battles to modern conflicts. Adrian Gilbert explores the causes, strategies, and consequences behind the world's most pivotal military events. Packed with insights into weapons, tactics, and the people who shaped history, this book reveals how war has influenced societies, politics, and technology across time. A gripping and informative guide for anyone curious about the epic story of humanity's battles.





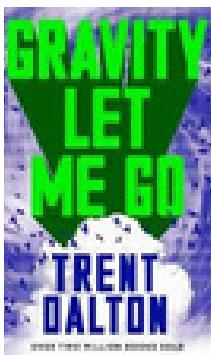
Once every millennium, the gods assemble to decide if humanity is worthy of its continued existence or if it should be destroyed! When the verdict is destruction, the final battle between the gods and mortal heroes will decide the survival or extinction of the human race: a battle known as Ragnarok! Volumes 1 - 4 available



Jack Reacher's day starts like any other, a corner seat in a Baltimore coffee shop, a black coffee, and a quiet exit. But when a young man brushes past him, a handwritten note turns an ordinary errand into a desperate call for help. Reacher doesn't hesitate. Each stop draws him deeper into danger, testing his instincts, strength, and courage. With every twist, Reacher moves closer to a confrontation he didn't see coming and a mystery that only he can solve.



Penelope Featherington has admired Colin Bridgerton from afar for years, quietly hiding her feelings. But when she uncovers a secret of his, she begins to wonder if she ever really knew him. Colin, tired of being seen as just a charming bachelor and weary of Lady Whistledown's gossip, returns to London to find his world changed, especially by Penelope. As secrets unravel and sparks ignite, both must decide if love is their greatest risk or their happiest ending.

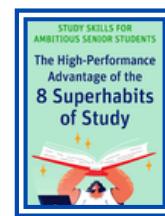
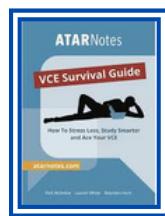
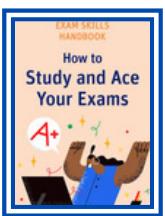
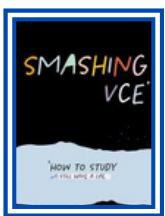


How will you ever know how the story ends, if you let the story go? Noah Cork has just published the scoop of a lifetime: a white-hot true-crime book about the cold-blooded killer who slipped an unfolding murder mystery into his mailbox. But if this is his moment of triumph, then why is the tin roof being ripped from the walls of his reality? Why are skeletons standing upright in his closet? Why do people want to run him over in the street?

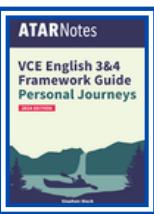
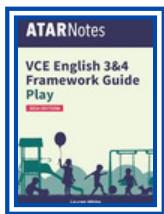
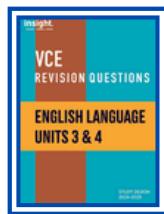
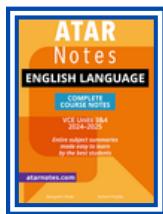
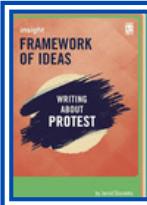
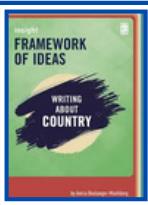
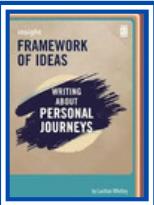
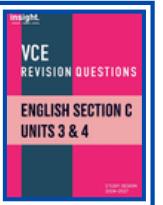
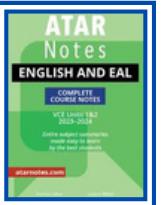
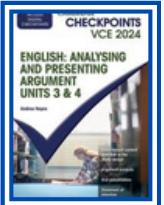


You all know this, of course, but years and years ago, acclaimed Australian novelist Brenda Shales went missing. After two explosive, controversial books, and that terrible legal scandal, she was simply gone. That was, right up until a frustrated young writer sees an elderly woman swimming at his local pool in Melbourne. She looks familiar, very familiar in fact...

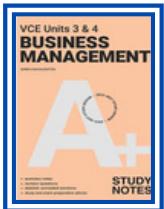
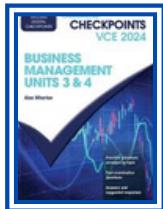
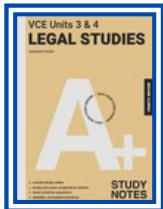
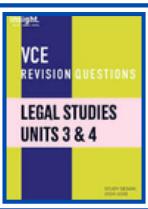
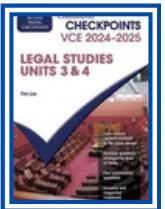
## VCE study survival guides



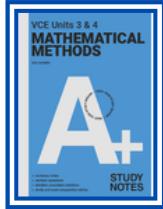
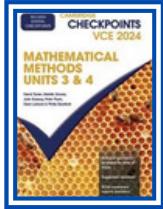
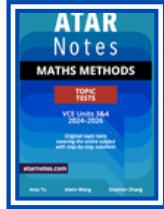
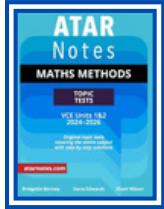
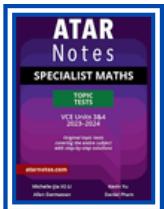
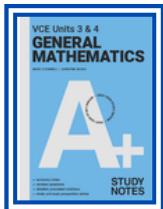
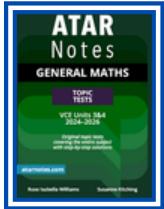
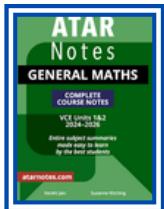
## English and English Language



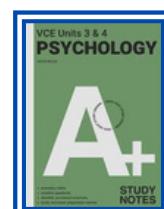
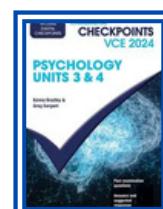
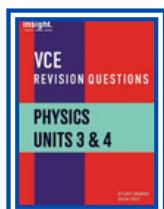
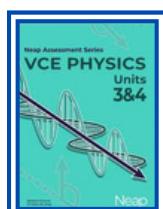
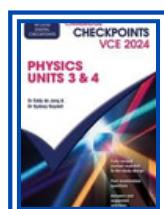
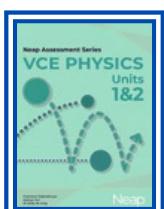
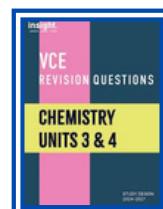
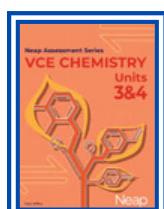
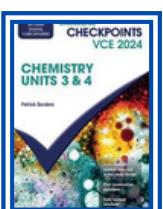
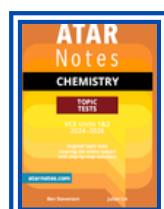
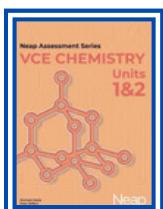
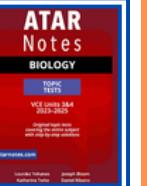
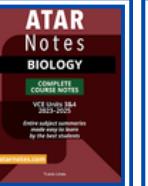
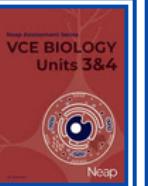
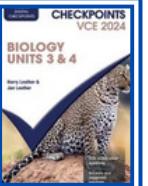
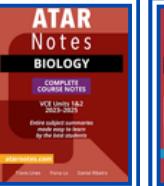
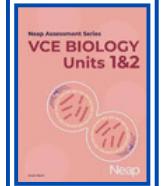
## Humanities

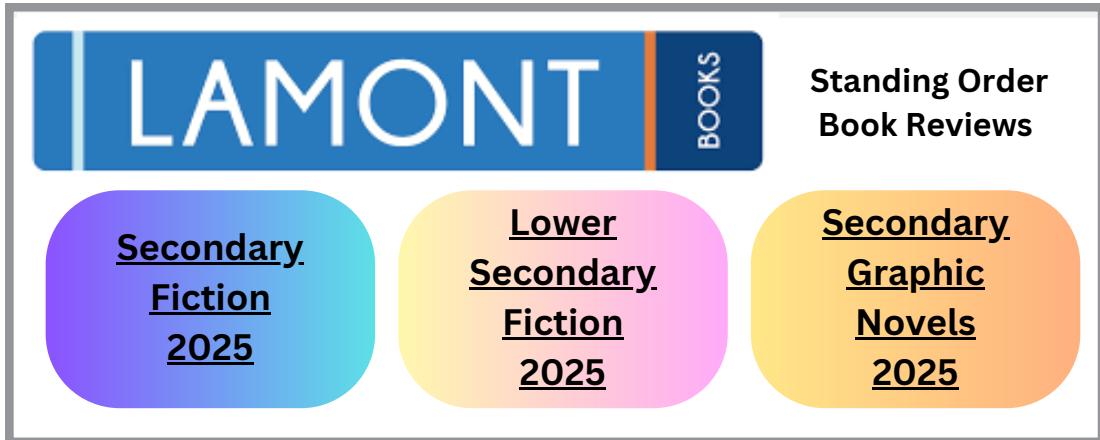


## Maths



## Science





**LAMONT** BOOKS

**Standing Order Book Reviews**

**Secondary Fiction 2025**

**Lower Secondary Fiction 2025**

**Secondary Graphic Novels 2025**



High Country Library Network

Click image for the catalogue

Explore the Wangaratta Library. They offer more than just books. You can access a range of online resources too! Audiobooks, eBooks, digital newspapers and magazines. It's free. Join through their [website](#).



**THE LITTLE BOOKROOM**

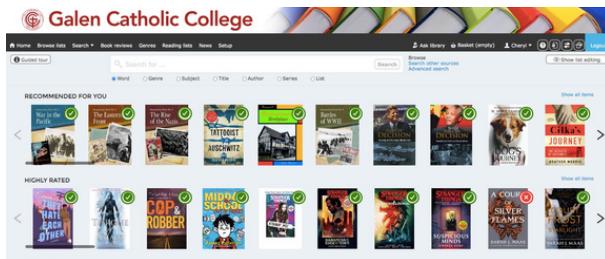
The Little Bookroom has sold children's books to Melbournians for over 60 years. Various recommended reading lists available



**Shop local**



**Galen Catholic College**



**Galen Catholic College Library catalogue**



**Galen Catholic College Library**  
WHEELERS eBooks and audiobooks



**Galen Catholic College Library**  
Sora eBooks, audiobooks and magazines