Hans Price Academy Book Awards 2016

Hans Price

of a girl who has been missing for over thirty years. The question is, did whoever was responsible for the girl's death have anything to do with the sick puppy they rescued from a secret laboratory on the same island?

For the past month students and staff at HPA have been nominating their favourite books to be considered for the HPA Book of the Year. Here is the longlist of nominated books.

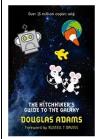
A panel of students and staff will now shortlist before the academy votes on the winner. In the meantime we can all start to read our way through these brilliant books that have been recommended by our students and staff.

Nomination	Book	Synopsis
We Were Liars E. Lockhart I couldn't stop reading until 4am and ended up in floods of tears. This book is just perfect.	Were	We are the Liars. We are beautiful, privileged and live a life of carefree luxury. We are cracked and broken. A story of love and romance. A tale of tragedy. Which are lies? Which is truth?
Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban J. K. Rowling The Harry Potter series turned me into an avid reader, but "The Prisoner of Azkaban" made me fall in love with the Potter universe: From Fred and George, the Marauders Map, trips to Hogsmeade, Butterbeer, Professor Lupin, "Riddikulus" and, of course, Sirius Black.	JK ROWLING HATTER	When the Knight Bus crashes through the darkness and screeches to a halt in front of him, it's the start of another far from ordinary year at Hogwarts for Harry Potter. Sirius Black, escaped mass-murderer and follower of Lord Voldemort, is on the run - and they say he is coming after Harry. In his first ever Divination class, Professor Trelawney sees an omen of death in Harry's tea leaves. But perhaps most terrifying of all are the Dementors patrolling the school grounds, with their soul-sucking kiss.
Split Second Sophie Mckenzie I would like to nominate this book because it is amazing. I really, really hated reading as I struggle with it. No matter how hard I try I can never stay attached to one book. So when we had to pick a book for the accelerated reader challenge, I randomly chose one thinking I wasn't going to ever finish it. I picked up the book and started to read and I couldn't stop. The book is so amazing that no matter where I am I will start to read and won't stop for ages. It hooks you in with the action, the terror, the thrill and the mystery. I recommend the book to EVERYONE!	SPLITE SECOND SOPHIE 10 (15)7/11	Bound together by the devastating consequences of a terrorist attack on a London market, teenagers Charlotte (Charlie) and Nat appear at first to have much in common. But, as Charlie gets closer to Nat and his family, she begins to wonder if perhaps he knows more about the attack than he has let on. Split Second is an action-packed thriller that shifts between the perspectives of its two main characters as their courage and their loyalties are tested to the limit.
Virals Kathy Reich I have an interest in forensic science and mystery so this book was great for me.	Reichs virals	Fourteen-year-old Tory Brennan is as fascinated by bones and dead bodies as her famous aunt, acclaimed forensic anthropologist, Tempe Brennan. However living on a secluded island off Charleston in South Carolina there is not much opportunity to put her knowledge to the test. Until her and her friends stumble across a shallow grave containing the remains

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy

Douglas Adams

It's a fabulous book and it showed me the answer to the question everyone asks: What is the meaning of life?



On 12 October 1979 the most remarkable book ever was made available to humanity – The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy.

It's an ordinary Thursday lunchtime for Arthur Dent until his house gets demolished. The Earth follows shortly afterwards to make way for a new hyperspace bypass and his best friend has just announced that he's an alien. At this moment, they're hurtling through space with nothing but their towels and an innocuous-looking book inscribed with the big, friendly words: DON'T PANIC.

Artemis Fowl

Eoin Colfer

One of the first book I read. I will remember it forever.



Twelve-year-old villain, Artemis Fowl, is the most ingenious criminal mastermind in history. His bold and daring plan is to hold a leprechaun to ransom. But he's taking on more than he bargained for when he kidnaps Captain Holly Short of the LEPrecon (Lower Elements Police Reconnaissance Unit). For a start, leprechaun technology is more advanced than our own. Add to that the fact that Holly is a true heroine and that her senior officer Commander Root will stop at nothing to get her back and you've got the mother of all sieges brewing!

The Hunger Games

Suzanne Collins

I am nominating this book because it is fast paced and there is good characterisation. You can really get lost in this book.

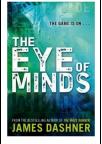


Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen regards it as a death sentence when she is forced to represent her district in the annual Hunger Games, a fight to the death on live TV. But Katniss has been close to death before-and survival, for her, is second nature. The Hunger Games is a searing novel set in a future with unsettling parallels to our present. Welcome to the deadliest reality TV show ever...

Eye of Minds

James Dashner

On every page there is action, it keeps you on the edge of your seat in anticipation, it is amazing. Also, James Dashner is an amazing author.



To catch a hacker, you need a hacker.

For Michael and the other gamers, the VirtNet can make your wildest fantasies become real. And the more hacking skills you have, the more fun. Who wants to play by the rules anyway?

But some rules were made for a reason. One gamer has been taking people hostage inside the VirtNet with horrific consequences.

The government needs Michael to track down the rogue gamer, but the risk is enormous and the line between game and reality could be blurred forever . . .

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone J. K. Rowling

It's AMAZING!

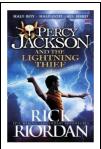


Harry Potter has never even heard of Hogwarts when the letters start dropping on the doormat at number four, Privet Drive. Addressed in green ink on yellowish parchment with a purple seal, they are swiftly confiscated by his grisly aunt and uncle. Then, on Harry's eleventh birthday, a great beetle-eyed giant of a man called Rubeus Hagrid bursts in with some astonishing news: Harry Potter is a wizard, and he has a place at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. An incredible adventure is about to begin!

Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief

Rick Riordan

It is a book that you can get stuck into!



Half boy. Half God. All Hero.

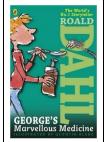
Look, I didn't want to be a half-blood. I never asked to be the son of a Greek God.

I was just a normal kid, going to school, playing basketball, skateboarding. The usual. Until I accidentally vaporized my maths teacher. Now I spend my time battling monsters and generally trying to stay alive. This is the one where Zeus, God of the Sky, thinks I've stolen his lightning bolt - and making Zeus angry is α very bad idea.

George's Marvellous Medicine

Roald Dahl

I choose this book because I think it's an amazing book. It is hilarious.

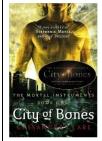


In this popular Dahl story, George creates a very special medicine to cure his grandma of her nasty habits.

City of Bones

Cassandra Clare

I'm nominating this book because it introduced me to characters that I want to be friends with in a world where I want to exist!

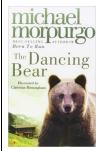


Clary Fray is seeing things: vampires in Brooklyn and werewolves in Manhattan. Irresistibly drawn towards a group of sexy demon hunters, Clary encounters the dark side of New York City - and the dangers of forbidden love.

The Dancing Bear

Michael Morpurgo

It has a bear that's loveable. A friendly old man and a bear that is loveable. Bear with me, I can't think of a pun.



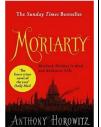
A gentle and deeply moving story of a young girl and her bear, told with great charm by a master storyteller.

High in the mountains, in a tiny village, an abandoned bear cub is adopted by a lonely orphan child. Soon they are inseparable, beloved by the whole village – safe, until the arrival of a glamorous film crew who need a dancing bear...

Moriarty

Anthony Horowitz

The plot twist is executed exactly the way a plot twist should be executed: BRILLIANTLY!!



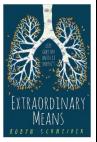
Sherlock Holmes is dead.

Days after Holmes and his arch-enemy Moriarty fall to their doom at the Reichenbach Falls, Pinkerton agent Frederick Chase arrives from New York. The death of Moriarty has created a poisonous vacuum which has been swiftly filled by a fiendish new criminal mastermind. Ably assisted by Inspector Athelney Jones, a devoted student of Holmes's methods of investigation and deduction, Chase must hunt down this shadowy figure, a man much feared but seldom seen, a man determined to engulf London in a tide of murder and menace. The game is afoot . . .

Extraordinary Means

Robyn Schneider

I'm nominating this book because it is honest and beautiful.



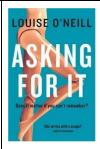
When he's sent to Latham House, a boarding school for sick teens, Lane thinks his life may as well be over.

But when he meets Sadie and her friends - a group of eccentric troublemakers - he realises that maybe getting sick is just the beginning. That illness doesn't have to define you, and that falling in love is its own cure.

Asking for It

Louise O'Neil

You know when you finish a book and you don't know if it will ever leave your mind and you don't think it ever should? That.



In a small town where everyone knows everyone, Emma O'Donovan is different. She is the special one -beautiful, popular, powerful. And she works hard to keep it that way.

Until that night . . .

Now, she's an embarrassment. Now, she is nothing.

And those pictures - those pictures that *everyone* has seen - mean she can never forget.

Half My Facebook Friends are Ferrets

J. A. Buckle

It is a really good book and so, so funny.

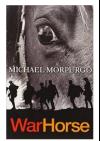


Fifteen-year-old Josh fantasises about becoming a death metal guitarist complete with tattoos, piercings and hoards of adoring fans. But it's not easy when his super-strict mom won't let him grow his hair! Luckily Josh has a way of coping with life's setbacks; it's only a diary, but it contains all Josh's hopes, dreams and frustrations (not to mention some great ideas for band names and lyrics!). There's a lot he wants to get done before his 16th birthday, but things never turn out quite like he plans...

War Horse

Michael Morpurgo

I like War Horse because it is based on a true story set in Devon. It is great to read about the friendship between a young lad and his horse. It shows what life was like in World War One for humans and animals. It is a sad story but it is an important read.



In the deadly chaos of the First World War, one horse witnesses the reality of battle from both sides of the trenches. Bombarded by artillery, with bullets knocking riders from his back, Joey tells a powerful story of the truest friendships surviving in terrible times. One horse has the seen the best and the worst of humanity. The power of war and the beauty of peace. This is his story.

Five Go To Smuggler's Top

Enid Blyton

Beautiful language, innocence of youth, fantastic adventures, friendship and respect all feature heavily.

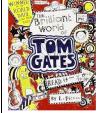


Are there still smugglers at Smuggler's Top? The Famous Five go to stay at the large old house and discover secret hiding places and underground tunnels! Then they catch people signalling out to sea - who can these smugglers be? Can Julian, Anne, Dick, George and Timmy the dog discover the answer?

The Brilliant World of Tom Gates

Liz Pichon

It is a book full of adventure and imagination. It is full of great characters and scenarios. It is brilliantly presented with lots of twists and turns through Tom's life.

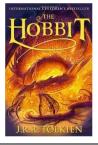


"When my teacher, Mr Fullerman, doesn't have his BEADY EYES on me, I like to draw pictures and write stories about stuff – like when we had the worst holiday ever (camping sucks), and when my parents came to school for parents' evening (groan), and about how Marcus Meldrew is the most annoying boy in the world and how I don't want to sit next to him in class. All I want to do is get tickets to see the best band ever, DUDE3. It's not easy when I'm up against Delia, my weirdo big sister, and all my plans seem to get me into MAJOR TROUBLE."

The Hobbit

J. R. R. Tolkien.

It is just the greatest adventure. It transports you to another world. I want a little round house with a round front door and a little friend with a hat and an axe.



Bilbo Baggins enjoys a quiet and contented life, with no desire to travel far from the comforts of home; then one day the wizard Gandalf and a band of dwarves arrive unexpectedly and enlist his services – as a burglar – on a dangerous expedition to raid the treasure-hoard of Smaug the dragon. Bilbo's life is never to be the same again.

Wonder

R. J. Palacio

I couldn't put this book down. I think everyone should read it and consider the way they treat others. The world should be a kinder place.



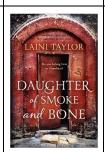
'My name is August. I won't describe what I look like. Whatever you're thinking, it's probably worse.'

Auggie wants to be an ordinary ten-year-old. He does ordinary things - eating ice cream, playing on his Xbox. He feels ordinary - inside. But ordinary kids don't make other ordinary kids run away screaming in playgrounds. Ordinary kids aren't stared at wherever they go. Born with a terrible facial abnormality, Auggie has been home-schooled by his parents his whole life. Now, for the first time, he's being sent to a real school - and he's dreading it. All he wants is to be accepted - but can he convince his new classmates that he's just like them, underneath it all?

Daughter of Smoke and Bone

Laini Taylor

It introduces a new world that you can totally believe in, unlike any you have seen before. The story is gripping and challenging, with complex characters and themes. It encourages you to think about war, discrimination and love without being in any way preachy or distracting from the excitement and emotion of the book. It might also make you want to dye your hair blue.



Errand requiring immediate attention. Come. When Brimstone called, she always came.

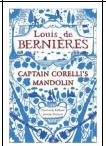
In general, Karou has managed to keep her two lives in balance. On the one hand, she's a seventeen-year-old art student in Prague; on the other, errand-girl to a monstrous creature who is the closest thing she has to family. Raised half in our world, half in 'Elsewhere', she has never understood Brimstone's dark work, nor how she came into his keeping. She is a secret even to herself, plagued by the sensation that she isn't whole.

Now the doors to Elsewhere are closing, and Karou must choose between the safety of her human life and the dangers of a war-ravaged world that may hold the answers she has always sought.

Captain Corelli's Mandolin

Louis De Bernieres.

Escapism that I couldn't put down. Loved it!



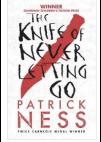
It is 1941 and Captain Antonio Corelli, a young Italian officer, is posted to the Greek island of Cephallonia as part of the occupying forces. At first he is ostracised by the locals, but as a conscientious but far from fanatical soldier, whose main aim is to have a peaceful war, he proves in time to be civilised, humorous - and a consummate musician.

When the local doctor's daughter's letters to her fiancé - and members of the underground - go unanswered, the working of the eternal triangle seems inevitable. But can this fragile love survive as a war of bestial savagery gets closer and the lines are drawn between invader and defender?

The Knife of Never Letting Go

Patrick Ness

It is one of the most imaginative, ground breaking novels that I have read for a very long time.



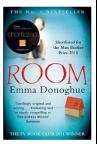
Imagine you're the only boy in a town of men. And you can hear everything they think. And *they* can hear everything *you* think. Imagine you don't fit in with their plans...

Todd Hewitt is just one month away from the birthday that will make him a man. But his town has been keeping secrets from him. Secrets that are going to force him to run...

Room

Emma Donoghue

Room is an astonishingly emotive book which leaves the reader on the edge of their seat the entire time.



Jack is five. He lives with his Ma. They live in a single, locked room. They don't have the key.

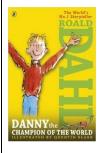
Jack and Ma are prisoners.

Room by Emma Donoghue is an extraordinarily powerful story of a mother and child kept in isolation, and the desire for, and price of, freedom.

Danny The Champion of the World

Roald Dahl

This book takes me back to my childhood. It is exciting and in parts took my breath away. The love and devotion between Danny and his Dad was very moving. A must read for all ages.



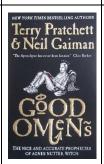
Danny and his father outwit their greedy, rich neighbour, Mr Victor Hazell.

Danny thinks his dad is the most marvellous and exciting father a boy could wish for. Life is happy and peaceful in their gipsy caravan, until one day Danny discovers his dad has been breaking the law. What's more, soon Danny has to join his father as they attempt to pull off a daring and devilish plot against their horrible, greedy neighbour, Mr Victor Hazell.

Good Omens

Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman

Perfect for anyone with a dark and dry sense of humour. The apocalypse has never been more fun!



According to the Nice and Accurate Prophecies of Agnes Nutter the world will end on a Saturday. Next Saturday, in fact. Just after tea...

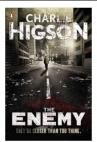
People have been predicting the end of the world almost from its very beginning, so it's only natural to be sceptical when a new date is set for Judgement Day. This time though, the armies of Good and Evil really do appear to be massing. The four Bikers of the Apocalypse are hitting the road. But both the angels and demons – well, *one* fast-living demon and a somewhat fussy angel – would quite like the Rapture not to happen.

And someone seems to have misplaced the Antichrist...

The Enemy

Charlie Higson

I don't like reading... but I finished this book and then read the whole series. Addicted.



When the sickness came, every parent, police officer, politician - every adult fell ill. The lucky ones died. The others are crazed, confused and hungry.

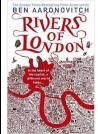
Only children under fourteen remain, and they're fighting to survive.

Now there are rumours of a safe place to hide. And so a gang of children begin their quest across London, where all through the city - down alleyways, in deserted houses, underground - the grown-ups lie in wait. But can they make it there - alive?

Rivers of London

Ben Aaronovitch

If there was ever a book where magic could seem like a genuine part of the world we live in it is this one! It is gripping, hilarious and perfect for anyone who wants their fantasy brought down to earth with sarcasm and a London attitude.



My name is Peter Grant and until January I was just probationary constable in that mighty army for justice known to all right-thinking people as the Metropolitan Police Service (and as the Filth to everybody else). My only concerns in life were how to avoid a transfer to the Case Progression Unit - we do paperwork so real coppers don't have to. Then one night, in pursuance of a murder inquiry, I tried to take a witness statement from someone who was dead but disturbingly voluable, and that brought me to the attention of Inspector Nightingale, the last wizard in England.

Butter

Erin Lange

This book makes you look at body image, confidence and bullying from a whole new perspective. It is really well written and the characters are believable and captivating.



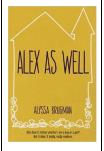
I can't take another year in this fat suit, but I can end this year with a bang. If you can stomach it, you're invited to watch . . . as I eat myself to death. -Butter

Prepare to gasp, laugh and cry at one boy's journey from lonely outcast to toast of the school as he nears his dreadful deadline . . .

Alex As Well

Alyssa Brugman

I loved this book. It was really important to me and I wish everyone would read it.

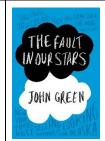


Why does it matter whether I am a boy or a girl? But it does...It really, really matters. When Alex was born, the doctors described him as sexually ambiguous, with both male and female reproductive organs. For the last fourteen years his parents have raised Alex as a boy. They dressed him in boy's clothes, sent him to a boy's school and gave him medication to help regulate his hormones. But last night at dinner, Alex made an announcement, three words that would change everything: 'I'm a girl.' And when Alex sets about changing her life her wardrobe, her school, her entire identity no one knows how to react, least of all her parents.

The Fault in Our Stars

John Green

Any book that can leave you crying on a bus full of people looking at you is worth reading.



"I fell in love the way you fall asleep: slowly, then all at once."

Despite the tumour-shrinking medical miracle that has bought her a few years, Hazel has never been anything but terminal, her final chapter inscribed upon diagnosis. But when a gorgeous plot twist named Augustus Waters suddenly appears at Cancer Kid Support Group, Hazel's story is about to be completely rewritten.

Wolf Brother

Michelle Paver

This is one of the books that first got me into reading in Primary school and I still love it now. It was very different to anything I had read before and really transports you through time and space.



Thousands of years ago the land is one dark forest. Its people are hunter-gatherers. They know every tree and herb and they know how to survive in a time of enchantment and powerful magic. Until an ambitious and malevolent force conjures a demon: a demon so evil that it can be contained only in the body of a ferocious bear that will slay everything it sees.

Only one boy can stop it - 12 year old Torak, who has seen his father murdered by the bear. With his dying breath, Torak's father tells his son of the burden that is his. He must lead the bear to the mountain of the World Spirit and beg that spirit's help to overcome it.

Across the Nightingale Floor

Lian Hearn

This book throws you back into historical Japanese culture and makes you believe in the world it has created there. The story is intense and gripping and very different to the majority of popular books these days.



In his black-walled fortress at Inuyama, the warlord lida Sadamu surveys his famous nightingale floor.

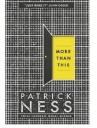
Constructed with exquisite skill, it sings at the tread of each human foot. No assassin can cross it unheard.

One boy. One journey. One hidden destiny.

More Than This

Patrick Ness

This book is incredible. I didn't know what to expect and I wouldn't want anyone else to know either. It blew my mind from the first chapter and I couldn't put it down.



A boy called Seth drowns, desperate and alone in his final moments, losing his life as the pounding sea claims him. But then he wakes. He is naked, thirsty, starving. But alive. How is that possible? He remembers dying, his bones breaking, his skull dashed upon the rocks. So how is he is here? And where is this place

What's going on? And why is it that whenever he closes his eyes, he falls prey to vivid, agonizing memories that seem more real than the world around him? Seth begins a search for answers, hoping that he might not be alone, that this might not be the hell he fears it to be, that there might be more than just this...



^{*}Some of the books on the list are not suitable for younger readers.