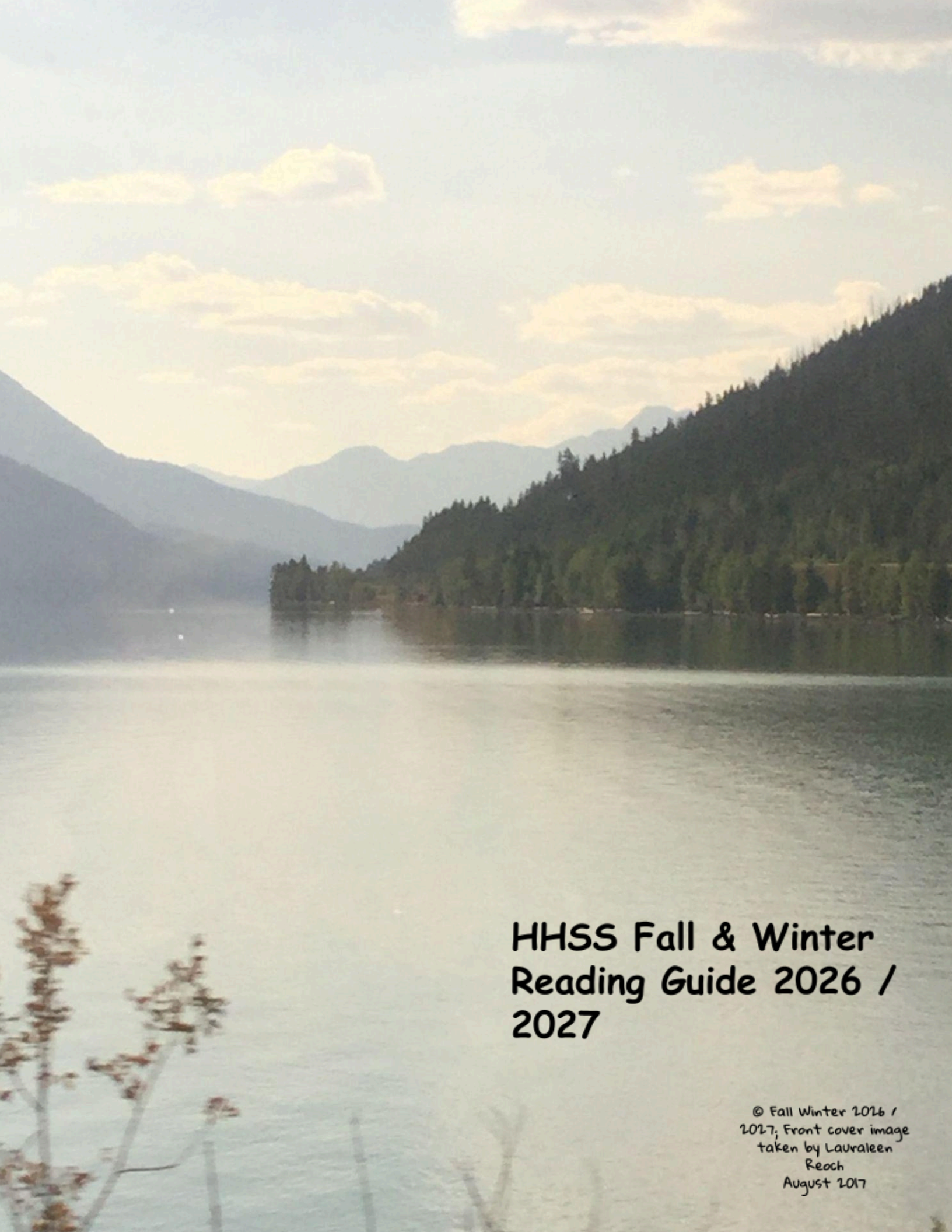




HHSS Fall & Winter Reading Guide 2026 / 2027

© Fall Winter 2026 /
2027; Front cover image
taken by Lauraleen
Reich
August 2017

welcome, readers!

welcome to our tenth reading guide for HHSS.

It is my hope that this edition will offer some titles that will engage, as well as challenge your thinking, you on your reading journey.

Throughout this guide you will find books that have been - or will be - published in 2026. It would be worthwhile to see what titles are coming out that you could find interesting.

There are titles mentioned in this guide that you will be able to access through the library at HHSS while others you may need to make a visit to your closest Kitchener Public Library branch.

Your reading life should bring you joy, happiness and an eagerness to share your love of reading. There are so many amazing books which have been published in recent years that it is truly a daunting task to make reading choices. Hopefully, this fall and winter reading guide will offer you ideas to further your reading enjoyment.

As a teacher-librarian it is always enjoyable to see what books are being requested in person, as well as trends that are occurring on platforms such as #BookTok and #Bookstagram.

Reading Philosophy

Reading is a very personal activity. In many cases the timing of reading is everything. A plethora of good books exist and are being published regularly. Hopefully selections throughout this guide will offer you encouragement in your reading life.

The best advice to you - the reader - is to know what you need as a reader. Stay with your own tastes with a selection or two outside of your comfort zone to determine what you need right now. You are encouraged to "play" with genres that you would not normally gravitate to. Not sure about what you prefer as a reader? Track what you read noting the genre of the books you have been reading as you go.

As the spring and summer months progress, tag the HHSS library on social media (Instagram @hhsslibrary; X @HHSS_Library) to share your selections.

Exploring The wild

Watch Me Disappear by Janelle Brown
Spiegel & Grau - July 11, 2017; 368 pages
Themes: Family life; Thriller; Women



The Stranger in the Woods by Michael Finkel
Vintage - January 30, 2018; 224 pages
Themes: Nature (Ecosystems); Biography



The Way of the Hermit by Ken Smith
Hanover Square Press - May 28, 2024
Themes: Biography; Survival; Adventure



Where the Falcon Flies by Adam Shoalts
Penguin Canada - April 29, 2025
Themes: Biography; Adventure; Environment



Releases of 2026

Liberty Street by Heather Marshall
Doubleday Canada - February 24, 2026
Themes: History; Friendship; Women



Into the Blue by Emma Brodie
Ballantine Books - April 7, 2026
Themes: Literary fiction; Women; Romance



The Shippers by Katherine Center
St Martin's Press - May 19, 2026
Themes: Fiction; Rom Com; Women



The Night We Met by Abby Jimenez
Forever - March 24, 2026
Themes: Rom Com; Fiction; Women



Debut Books of 2026

Yesteryear by Caro Claire Burke
Knopf Canada - April 7, 2026
Themes: Fiction; Dark humour; Thriller



Lady Tremaine by Rachel Hochhauser
St Martin's Press - March 3, 2026
Themes: Fiction; Historical; Fairy tales; Mythology



Names Have Been Changed by Yu-Mei Balasingamchow
Penguin Publishing Group - June 23, 2026
Themes: Fiction; Asian American; Pacific Islander; Crime



The Infamous Gilberts by Angela Tomaski
Scribner - January 20, 2026
Themes: Fiction; Gothic; Family life



Canadian Authored Books

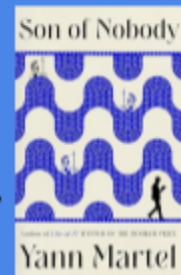
The Last Mandarin by Louise Penny and Melissa Fung
St Martin's Press - May 12, 2026
Themes: Fiction; Thrillers - Political & Suspense



Cherry Beach by Don Gillmore
Biblioasis - April 14, 2026; 272 pages
Themes: Fiction; Mystery; Detective; City life



Son of Nobody by Yann Martel
Knopf Canada - March 31, 2026; 352 pages
Themes: Literary fiction; Fairy tales; Mythology



The Cure for Drowning by Logan Paylor
Random House Inc - January 30, 2026; 400 pages
Themes: Fiction; World War 2; Holocaust; Magical realism



Staff Reads

A Rip Through Time by Kelley Armstrong
St Martin's - January 31, 2023
Available formats: Print; eBook; Audio



Bonded By Thorns by Elizabeth Helen
Bloom Books - November 4, 2025
Available formats: Print; eBook; Audio



Rings of Fire by Melissa De La Cruz
Entangled Red Tower Books - January 6, 2026
Available formats: Print; eBook; Audio



Ready Player Two by Ernest Cline
Ballantine Books - November 9, 2021
Available formats: Print; eBook; Audio



A Guide to Becoming a Reader

1. Start small
2. Track what you are reading
3. Ask for book recommendations
4. Talk about the book(s) you are reading
5. Give audiobooks a try
6. Read consistently
7. Carry a book with you
8. Join a book club (it could be in person or online)
9. Surround yourself with readers
10. Surround yourself with books

Reading BINGO

B	I	N	G	O
A standalone book	400 (or more) pages	New to you author	A book published this year	A book you judged by the cover
One word title	Number in the title	Popular #booktok book	1st book in your TBR	Finish a book in a day
Rom com	Book recommended by a friend	Free  space	Book outside of your comfort genre	Book with a colour in the title
Book that became a movie / show	Book with a strong female character	Book with a red cover	A re - read	Read a whole series
Book by an author with the same name as you	Contains worded chapters	Read in a 'ber month (October, November, December)	2026 debut author	Cloaks and daggers (spy thriller)

Useful Book Related Links

Take a look at the links provided below for some ideas as to what you may consider reading next!!

HHSS Library: Take a moment to visit the HHSS library website at hrh.wrdsb.ca/library to see new additions to our collection. If HHSS doesn't have a book you are looking for we can make a request from other secondary schools in the WRDSB.

Goodreads: This is a great resource for finding your next read. Check out goodreads.com

Public Libraries: Visiting your local branch of a library is another fantastic spot for book browsing. Check out the following public library websites for even more bookish enjoyment:

- Cambridge Public Library (cambridgepl.ca)
- Guelph Public Library (guelphpl.ca)
- Hamilton Public Library (hpl.ca)
- Kitchener Public Library (kpl.org)
- Waterloo Public Library (wpl.ca)
- Toronto Public Library (tpl.ca)

Modern Mrs Darcy: This is truly a delightful site for many things book related. visit modernmrsdarcy.com for a variety of book type ideas and suggestions.

Book Browse: This site offers suggestions of newly released books, book club options and so much more. visit bookbrowse.com for a variety of book related themes and suggestions.

Fable: This app fits the bill for avid readers and movie lovers. It offers insight into genres that you gravitate to, allows you to set a goal for how many books you wish to read in a year and so much more. Check out fable.co/ for more information.

Story Graph: This website is another option for tracking what you read in a year. Take a look at thestorygraph.com/ to see if this is an option for you.

Classic Gothic Novels

Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson
Various publishers - January 5, 1886
Themes: Classic fiction; Horror; Psychological



Rebecca by Daphne Du Maurier
Various publishers - August 5, 1938
Themes: Classic fiction



The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde
Various publishers - July 1890
Themes: Literary fiction; Classic; Psychological



Bleak House by Charles Dickens
Various publishers - March 1852 to September 1853
Themes: Literary fiction; Classic



Medical Drama Books

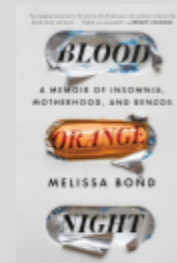
Enormous Wings by Laurie Frankel
Henry Holt and Co - May 5, 2026; 291 pages
Themes: Fiction; Family life; Humour



Mischling by Affinity Konar
Random House Canada - September 6, 2016; 352 pages
Themes: Fiction; History; World War 2; Holocaust



Blood Orange Night by Melissa Bond
Gallery Books - August 1, 2023; 304 pages
Themes: Biography; Substance abuse



The Queen of Hearts by Kimmery Martin
Berkley - February 5, 2019; 368 pages
Themes: Women; Fiction; Friendship



Books Set in Canada

Province	Title	Author
British Columbia	greenwood	Michael Christie
Alberta	Divinity and the Python	Bonnie Randall
Saskatchewan	who Has Seen the wind	w o Mitchell
Manitoba	The Break	Katherena vermette
ontario	The Stone Carvers	Jane Urquhart
Quebec	Still Life	Louise Penny
New Brunswick	The Shipping News	Annie Proulx
Nova Scotia	The Bishop's Man	Linden MacIntyre
Prince Edward Island	Anne of Green Gables	L M Montgomery
Newfoundland & Labrador	The wake	Linden MacIntyre
Yukon	The Call of the wild	Jack London
Northwest Territories	Late Nights on Air	Elizabeth Hay
Nunavut	Split Tooth	Tanya Tagaq

Books Set Abroad

Country	Title	Author
Austria	The Third Man	Graham Green
Australia	Tomorrow, when the war Began	John Marsden
Barbados	The Island of Forgetting	Jasmine Sealy
Belgium	Villette	Charlotte Brontë
China	Shanghai Girls	Lisa See
Cuba	Next Year in Havana	Chanel Cleeton
Denmark	Hamlet	William Shakespeare
Egypt	Death on the Nile	Agatha Christie
Estonia	The Lace Weaver	Lauren Chater
Finland	The Witch Hunter	Max Seeck
France	All the Light We Cannot See	Anthony Doerr
Germany	The Book Thief	Markus Zusak
Great Britain	Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen
Greece	Circe	Madeline Miller
India	The Henna Artist	Alka Joshi
Iran	Moon at Nine	Deborah Ellis
Iraq	When the Apricots Bloom	Gina Wilkinson
Italy	One Italian Summer	Rebecca Serle
Japan	Memoirs of a Geisha	Arthur Golden

Country	Title	Author
Mexico	Mexican Gothic	Silvia Moreno-Garcia
Mongolia	Genghis: Birth of an Empire	Conn Iggulden
Netherlands	The Diary of a Young Girl	Anne Frank
New Zealand	Strange Sally Diamond	Liz Nugent
Northern Ireland	The Ghosts of Belfast	Stuart Neville
Pakistan	Home Fire	Kamila Shamsie
Portugal	The High Mountains of Portugal	Yann Martel
Republic of Ireland	In the woods	Tana French
Russia	War and Peace	Leo Tolstoy
Rwanda	Shake Hands with the Devil	Roméo Dallaire
Scotland	A Rip Through Time	Kelley Armstrong
Spain	The Shadow of the Wind	Carlos Ruiz Zafón
Sweden	A Man Called Ove	Fredrik Backman
Switzerland	The Swiss Summer	Stella Gibbons
Turkey	The Bastard of Istanbul	Joseph Kanon
Ukraine	The Diamond Eye	Kate Quinn
Wales	Here Be Dragons	Sharon Kay Penman

My To Be Read List

A healthy To Be Read list will assist you in never being left looking for the next book to read. You are encouraged to not only include the title and author, but also why you have chosen the title.

Book Title	Author	why

Literary Festivals to Look For

Check out the list of festivals below with the possibility that you could attend one (or multiple) of these events in the upcoming year. Many authors will attend these festivals with their most recent releases - maybe you would enjoy curating your own collection of autographed books!!

Eden Mills Writers Festival (edenmillswritersfestival.ca)

This wonderful festival is taking place in Eden Mills just outside of Guelph. Keep an eye on their website for more details pertaining to the September 18 to 20, 2026 festival. The format is very informal and multiple authors will be providing insight into their writing process, reading from their most recent publication and so much more.

GritLit (gritlit.ca)

GritLit is a four day event held in downtown Hamilton. Participants can attend writing master classes, author readings and so much more.

Toronto International Festival of Authors (festivalofauthors.ca)

This multi day event is held in the Harbourfront area of Toronto with various events taking place in September and usually early June. Many author events take place with the opportunity to obtain an autographed copy of the author's most recent work.

Toronto Comic Arts Festival (torontocomics.com)

If manga, comics and / or graphic novels are of interest to you, check out this festival taking place June 6 and 7, 2026. This years event is to be held at the Mattamy Athletic Centre. A plethora of vendors will be available if you are looking to expand your personal library.

Burlington Literary Festival (bpl.on.ca/BurLitFest)

BurLITFest is a month-long event with various workshops available to participants along with author talks. Take a look at their site for updates for announcements for this year's lineup.

Useful Links For You

There are a number of useful links for the library at Huron Heights Secondary School. These can be useful for doing research, finding that next fantastic read and so much more!!



[Catalogue](#) for the WRDSB



HHSS [Library](#) website



HHSS Library X Account



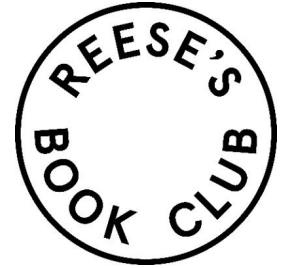
HHSS Library Insta

Reading Journal

Title & Author		Thoughts & Summary	
Details			
Genre			
Recommended by			
Pages			
Start Date			
End Date			
My Rating			

Celebrity Book Club Selections

Take an opportunity to find out what books various celebrities are choosing for their book clubs from the list below!!



Month	Title	Author
January	The First Time I Saw Him	Laura Dave
February	In Her Defence	Philippa Malicka
March	Lady Tremain	Rachel Hochhauser
April	All That Life Can Afford	Emily Everett
May	Great Big Beautiful Life	Emily Henry
June	A Pair of Aces	Marie Benedict
July	The Heir Apparent	Rebecca Armitage
August	The wild Beneath	Kelly Anderson
September	Big Little Truths	Liane Moriarty
October	Stophie, Standing There	Meg Mason
November		
December		



Month	Title	Author
January	Skylark	Paula McLain
February	The Exes	Leodora Darlington
March	The Secret Lives of Murderers' wives	Elizabeth Arnott
April	Yesteryear	Caro Claire Burke
May	Homebound	Portia Elan
June	Dolly All the Time	Annabel Monaghan
July	The Compound	Aisling Rawle
August	Take what You Can	Naima Coster
September	under Story	Chloe Benjamin
October	Bad words	Riognach Robinson
November		
December		



Month	Title	Author
January	Homeschooled: A Memoir	Stefan Merrill Block
February	one and only	Maurene Goo
March	wait for Me	Amy Jo Burns
April	Upward Bound	woody Brown
May	Caller Unknown	Gillian McAllister
June	The Children	Melissa Albert
July	The Shampoo Effect	Jenny Jackson
August	Sunlight Finds You	Laura Moriarty
September	The witches of Cambridge	Alice Hoffman
October	Partita	Barbara Kingsolver
November		
December		



Month	Title	Author
January	Night People: How To Be a DJ in 90s New York City	Mark Ronson
February	The Son of a Man	Jean-Baptiste Del Amo
March	Bad Feminist	Roxane Gay
April	Jerusalem	Jez Butterworth
May	So Late In The Day	Claire Keegan
June	Having Spent Life Seeking	Kae Tempest
July	Free: Coming of Age at the End of History	Lea Ypi
August	Lost Lambs	Madeline Cash
September	Martyr!	Kaveh Akbar
October	Klara and the Sun	Kazuo Ishiguro
November		
December		



Month	Title	Author
January	Small Town Girls	Jayne Anne Phillips
February	Kin	Tayari Jones
March	Kin	Tayari Jones
April	Go Gentle	Maria Semple
May	John of John	Douglas Stuart
June	Little wonder	Sophie Chen Keller
July	Little wonder	Sophie Chen
August	The River Is waiting	Wally Lamb
September	No selection for this month	
October	Hungred	Amanda Rizkalla
November		
December		

HHSS Book Club Selections

Take an opportunity to find out what books our very own HHSS book club will be reading for the 2026 / 2027 school year. Two options are available to choose from but you only need to read one (unless you are feeling extra adventurous).

Month	Title	Author
Sept 24/26	The Blackbird Girls My Real Name Is Hanna	Anne Blankman Tara L Masih
Oct 29/26	Great Big Beautiful Life Book Lovers	Emily Henry Emily Henry
Nov 26/26	The Gilded Blade A Good Girls Guide to Murder	Jennifer Lynn Barnes Holly Jackson
Dec 17/26	Lore I, Medusa	Alexandra Bracken Ayana Gray
Feb 25/27	The weight of Blood Underground to Canada	Tiffany D Jackson Barbara Smucker
March 25/27	A book highlighted in a previous reading guide of HHSS (check them out HERE)	
April 29/27	Seven Fallen Feathers From the Ashes	Tanya Talaga Jesse Thistle
May 27/27	The Migrant Rain Falls in Reverse You Know What You Did	Vinh Nguyen K T Nguyen
June 17/27	A book of your choosing	

