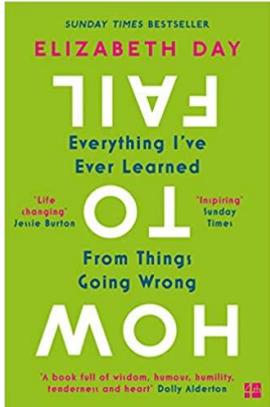
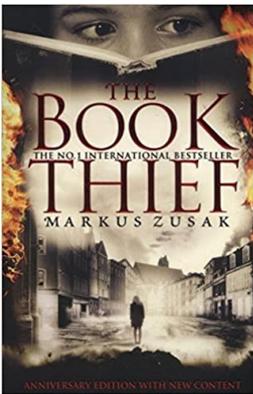
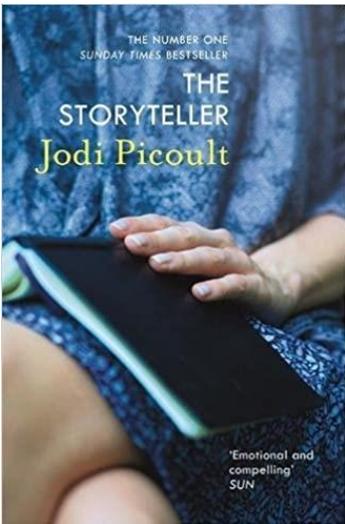
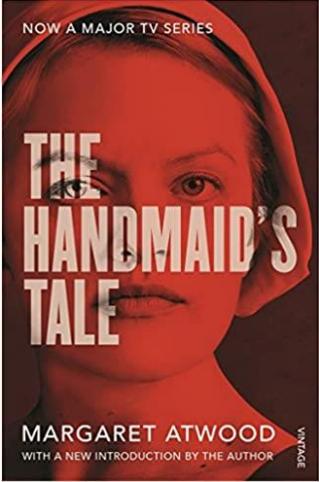
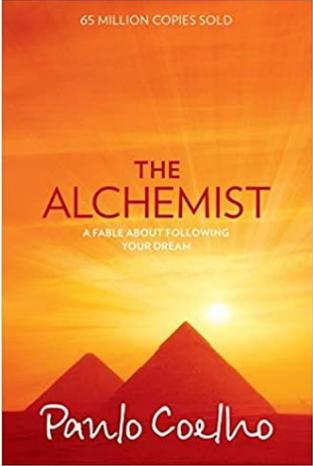
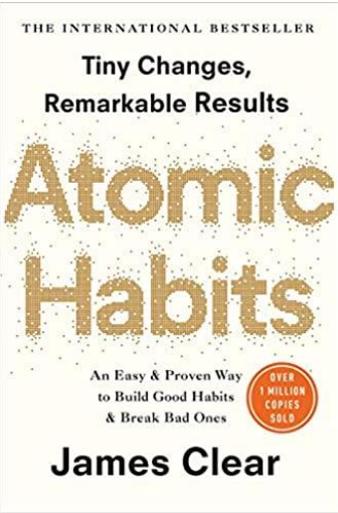


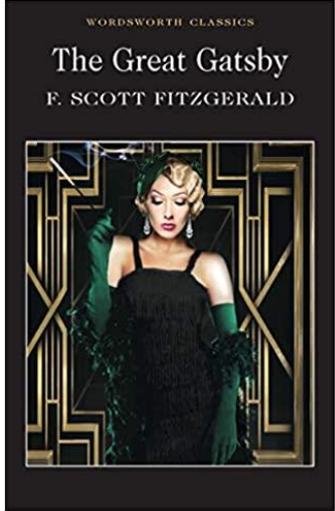
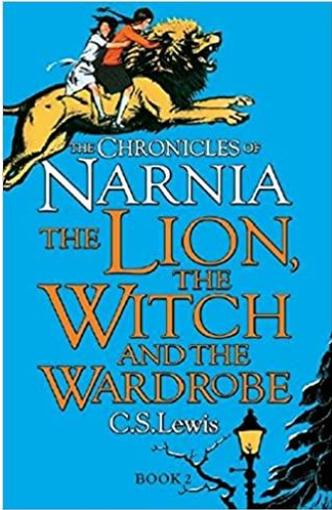
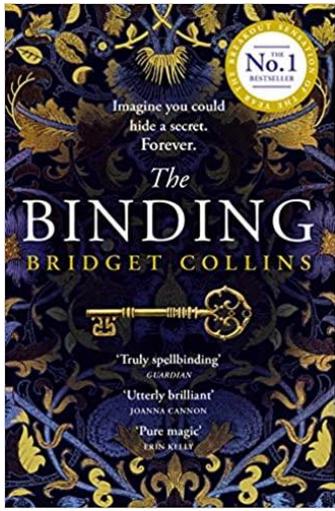
Miss Heslehurst's Desert Island Books

Book cover	Book Title and Author	Blurb	Reason for choice
	<p>How To Fail by Elizabeth Day</p>	<p><i>'Adventures do by definition involve risk, but not having an adventure means missing out on life, a far greater risk.'</i></p>	<p>I read this in its entirety in less than a day. I love it because I 100% believe in finding the positives in failure. I have failed at many things in life and will continue to fail, but I've learnt that many of my failures lead me on to improving myself and achieving even better things. This is exactly what Day preaches.</p>
	<p>The Book Thief by Markus Zusak</p>	<p><i>'I am haunted by humans.'</i></p> <p><i>'I'm always finding humans at their best and their worst. I see their ugly and their beauty, and I wonder how the same thing can be both.'</i></p> <p><i>'You can't eat books, sweetheart!'</i></p>	<p>I am obsessed with Zusak's writing – truly incredible. The narrator 'Death' is also one of my favourite characters ever. Some of my most-loved quotes are in this book and I love the way Zusak illuminates how people can be both good and bad simultaneously.</p>
	<p>The Storyteller by Jodi Picoult</p>	<p><i>Sage Singer is a baker and a loner, until she befriends an old man who is particularly beloved in her community. Josef Weber is everyone's favourite retired teacher and Little League coach. One day he asks Sage for a favour: to kill him. Shocked, Sage refuses—and then he confesses his darkest secret – he deserves to die because he had been a Nazi SS guard. And Sage's grandmother is a Holocaust survivor. How do you react to evil living next door?</i></p>	<p>Historical fiction is one of my all-time favourite genres. I think it is so important that we don't forget about the past and how it influences our today. This book left a lasting impression on me; I thought about it for weeks. You know the kind of story that punctures your heart and leaves you yearning for more? It's that kind of story.</p>

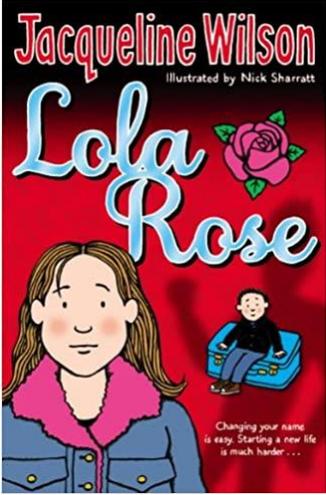
Miss Heslehurst's Desert Island Books

	<p>The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood.</p>	<p><i>Offred is a Handmaid in the Republic of Gilead where women are no longer allowed to read. She must lie on her back once a month and pray that the Commander makes her pregnant, because in an age of declining births, Offred and the other Handmaids are valued only if their ovaries are viable.</i></p>	<p>I love a dystopian novel and this one caught my attention because it envisions a disturbingly believable future. I find the story intriguing, heartbreaking and terrifying all at the same time.</p>
	<p>The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho</p>	<p><i>"What is the world's greatest lie?" the little boy asks. The old man replies, "It's this: that at a certain point in our lives, we lose control of what's happening to us, and our lives become controlled by fate."</i></p>	<p>This book called me to step out of my own way and break through the fears that were holding me back. A beautiful, enlightening story told in a calming and enchanting way.</p>
	<p>Atomic Habits by James Clear</p>	<p><i>James Clear knows that real change comes from the compound effect of hundreds of small decisions a day and he writes all about it in his book.</i></p> <p><i>'Decide on the type of person you want to be. Prove it to yourself with small wins.'</i></p> <p><i>'A lack of self-awareness is poison. Reflection and review is the antidote.'</i></p>	<p>I love non-fiction just as much as fiction and I'm always reading books on self-improvement and life skills. I believe that we should always be trying to improve ourselves and no matter how big or small, we should never stop learning. Atomic Habits is exactly what you'd think it is; a guide to helping people transform their lives through reviewing and realigning daily habits.</p>

Miss Heslehurst's Desert Island Books

	<p>The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald</p>	<p><i>'Gatsby? What Gatsby?'</i></p> <p><i>'So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past.'</i></p> <p><i>'It was one of those rare smiles with a quality of eternal reassurance in it, that you may come across four or five times in your life.'</i></p>	<p>An interesting read on how one man pursues his version of 'The American Dream' in the 1920s. I studied this at A Level and have never forgotten it. I was intrigued by the portrayal of Gatsby – outwardly 'having it all' but on the inside battling misery and loneliness.</p>
	<p>The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis</p>	<p><i>During the World War II bombings of London, four English siblings are sent to a country house where they will be safe. One day Lucy (Georgie Henley) finds a wardrobe that transports her to a magical world called Narnia.</i></p>	<p>I think this particular book truly cemented my love for literature at a young age - I must have been around 6 years old when I was first introduced to it. I remember my year 2 teacher reading it to us on an afternoon in primary school and I'd look forward to it all day. I loved being transported to the fantasy world of Narnia, immersing myself in the story and pretending my own wardrobe was magical!</p>
	<p>The Binding by Bridget Collins</p>	<p><i>The Binding is told in first person and follows Emmett Farmer, a young man who is sent to a Binder named Seredith to become her apprentice. As Seredith teaches Emmett how to bind, he learns that all books are memories sealed away within the pages. Some memories are so haunting that people beg to have them removed.</i></p>	<p>I devoured this in one sitting – I could not put it down. One of my other favourite genres is gothic literature and I love how this particular book explores humans' darkest moments and morals through a fantasy world.</p>

Miss Heslehurst's Desert Island Books

	<p>Lola Rose by Jacqueline Wilson</p>		<p>Growing up, I was lucky enough to have a loving family and a stable home-life. But for many children my age, this couldn't be further from the truth. I loved Wilson's books because they offered an insight into a grittier, more difficult world. I wanted to learn more about life outside of my own little bubble and as an adolescent, books like Lola Rose did exactly this. I read all of Jacqueline Wilson's books from the age of 8-13 and used to write about and draw my own characters that were inspired by those in her stories.</p>
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