



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

History Department
KS4 High Achievers Booklet



ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL
CHURCH ROAD
LAVERSTOCK
SALISBURY
SP1 1QY



These activities are meant to support and extend your knowledge, understanding and interest in History. Please be assured that anything that takes your interest is of interest to us, and we look forward to discussing your wider learning with you.

Please aim to complete 3 tasks a term, 1 from the reading list, 1 from the watching list, 1 from the research list.



Reading List

Please read one of the below titles and then write a review of it either at the back of your History book, or on a piece of paper. Please submit it to your teacher for comment and discussion.

All books have been chosen to supplement your learning on the GCSE course. If there is a book that you have read that you would recommend to other GCSE History students, please let us know so we can add it to the list!

Book Title	Author
All Quiet on the Western Front	Erich Remarque
When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit	Judith Kerr (a children's book – what do you make of it?)
Emil and the Detectives	Erich Kastner (a children's tale from Weimar Germany – what does it tell you about Germany in the 1920s?)
Hitler's Canary	Sandi Toksvig
The Diary of a Young Girl	Anne Frank
The Book Thief	Markus Zusak
Schindler's Ark	Thomas Keneally
Oliver Twist	Charles Dickens
Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen

Defying Hitler	Sebastien Haffner
Elizabeth the Queen	Alison Weir
Elizabeth I: Collected Works	Ed. Leah S Marcus; Janel Mueller and Mary Beth Rose
Any articles from BBC History	https://www.bbc.co.uk/history



Watching List

Please watch at least one of these documentaries/films and submit a review expressing your opinion with regard to the following points:

- What has this taught you?
- What are you aware of that you weren't previously?
- How did what was portrayed/discussed change the nature of the world/war?
- What 3 things would you tell someone else about the significance of what you watched?

DOCUMENTARIES	
Title	Link
Monarchy with David Starkey: A Nation State	https://youtu.be/rIFVjNzOV1I
David Starkey's Elizabeth (4 episodes)	https://youtu.be/VQbvaGl4jrg
A History of Britain – Simon Schama (3 series)	https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b008qpzn/episodes/guide
A World at War (1970s documentary on WWII – the classic series 20 episodes. It shows the nature of the Second World War in all its cruelty; check with your parents/carers they are happy for you to watch it.)	https://youtu.be/0b4g4ZZNC1E

Battlefield Britain: (this is an excellent documentary series with Dan and Peter Snow; work out which is the most interesting battle to you and why. We recommend the Spanish Armada and the Battle of the Boyne 😊)	
Blood and Guts – Michael Mosley (a British Health and the People documentary)	
Pain, Pus and Poison: The Search for Modern Medicines	https://youtu.be/2hTZNDyLPLk

FILMS (YouTube links below – also available on DVD, possibly cheaper)	
Note: An additional question that you should always bear in mind when watching films is ‘How historically accurate is this?’	
Title	Link
Elizabeth: The Golden Age	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LdhiCNrt4-w
All Quiet on the Western Front	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTKCg-ufHuM
Hitler, the Rise of Evil	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aPC_TOFT688
Valkyrie	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sENP8178dvA
Sophie Scroll	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=baRvF6ZBK18
Schindler’s List	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2zLMKerhayY
The Book Thief	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IXIFbwD-eDY

Research: Why was _____ so important? How did it change the country/world?

We all have our favourite periods/events in history, and here are some of Team History's. Please write 1 side of A4 (or more) answering the above question on any event in history you choose (as far back as 1066) or one of the following (which are favourites of ours):

- The Irish Famine 1846–1849
- Italian unification 1861/1871
- Indian independence 1947
- The Cuban Missile Crisis
- Rosa Parks Bus Boycott (Montgomery Bus Boycott)
- The Berlin Wall – its establishment, impact, and fall
- The assassination of JFK, 1963
- Falklands War
- UK Miners' Strike, 1984–85