



9 May 2017

To Parents/Caregivers of our Year 9 students,

We are writing to inform you about our Year 9 differentiated novel study for 2017. The textbook list issued for Year 9 had “TBC” under textbooks for English, attached to this letter are the options for our novel study. Students are required to have one of these novels by Week 6 (29 May) at the latest.

In 2015/2016 Year 8 were introduced to a differentiated novel study that allowed students to have choice in their reading and study novels of varying difficulties, we are continuing with this approach with 4 novels on the list. This term students will be completing the concept unit of ‘Journeys’ and will be required to purchase a novel to commit to, and read throughout this unit of study. Reading will be taking place in and out of the classroom and for this reason, students will be bringing home a reading schedule to ensure students follow timelines. Processes will be set up in the classroom to support this approach such as; reading logs, matrix activities, cooperative learning opportunities, guided reading and literature circles.

Provided on the following pages are the details of the four novels set for study for the Journey unit. Students are required to have one of these novels for the start of week 6 of this term. If there is a problem with organising the purchase of a novel please let the LCF – English, Mrs Anya Meek, Miss Kirsty Bell or your child’s classroom teacher know as soon as possible.

Kind regards

Mrs Anya Meek
Learning Community Facilitator – English Portfolio

Jim Fanning
Principal

Option 1:

Looking for Alibrandi

By Melina Marchetta

ISBN: 9780375836947 or 9780670077786

Paperback 313 pages

Both editions range between \$17- \$20 and readily available in most bookstores and online.

<https://www.penguin.com.au/products/9780140360462/looking-alibrandi>

For as long as Josephine Alibrandi can remember, it's just been her, her mum, and her grandmother. Now it's her final year at a wealthy Catholic high school. The nuns couldn't be any stricter—but that doesn't seem to stop all kinds of men from coming into her life.

Caught between the old-world values of her Italian grandmother, the no-nonsense wisdom of her mum, and the boys who continue to mystify her, Josephine is on the ride of her life. This will be the year she falls in love, the year she discovers the secrets of her family's past—and the year she sets herself free.

Told with unmatched depth and humour, this novel, which swept the pool of Australian literary awards and became a major motion picture is one to laugh through and cry with, to cherish and remember.

Option 2:

Footy Dreaming

By Michael Hyde

ISBN: 9781925000993

Paperback 190 pages

Price ranges between \$17-21

<http://www.fordstreetpublishing.com/ford/index.php/ford-street-titles/books/290-footy-dreaming>

Ben and Noah play on opposing teams in a footy-obsessed town. They each dream of playing at the G – and this is their make or break season.

Tensions rise as sledging goes too far.

Will Noah lose his cool, and his chance, in the face of prejudice?

Will Ben reject racism and forge his own path?

Noah and Ben have the potential to play in the AFL. It's up to each of them whether they make it.

Option 3:

Are you seeing me?

By Darren Groth

ISBN: 9780857984739

Paperback 274 pages

Price ranges between \$18-\$20

<http://www.randomhouse.com.au/books/darren-groth/are-you-seeing-me-9780857984739.aspx>

This road trip will have earth-shattering consequences

Twins Justine and Perry are about to embark on the road trip of a lifetime in the Pacific Northwest.

It's been a year since they watched their dad lose his battle with cancer. Now, at only nineteen, Justine is the sole carer for her disabled brother. But with Perry having been accepted into an assisted-living residence, their reliance on each other is set to shift. Before they go their separate ways, they're seeking to create the perfect memory.

For Perry, the trip is a glorious celebration of his favourite things: mythical sea monsters, Jackie Chan movies and the study of earthquakes.

For Justine, it's a chance to reconcile the decision to 'free' her twin, to see who she is without her boyfriend, Marc – and to offer their mother the chance to atone for past wrongs.

But the instability that has shaped their lives will not subside, and the seismic event that Perry forewarned threatens to reduce their worlds to rubble...

Option 4:

A Monster Calls

By Patrick Ness and Siobhan Dowd

ISBN: 9781406339345 (illustrated edition)

Paperback 216 pages

Price range \$15-\$20

<http://patrickness.com/book/a-monster-calls/>

This is an extraordinarily moving novel about coming to terms with loss. The monster showed up just after midnight. As they do. But it isn't the monster Conor's been expecting. He's been expecting the one from his nightmare, the one he's had nearly every night since his mother started her treatments, the one with the darkness and the wind and the screaming...The monster in his back garden, though, this monster is something different. Something ancient, something wild. And it wants the most dangerous thing of all from Conor. It wants the truth. Costa Award winner Patrick Ness spins a tale from the final idea of much-loved Carnegie Medal winner Siobhan Dowd, whose premature death from cancer prevented her from writing it herself. Darkly mischievous and painfully funny, "A Monster Calls" is an extraordinarily moving novel of coming to terms with loss from two of our finest writers for young adults.



Prices sourced from and were correct as at the 8 May 2017:

www.dymocks.com.au

www.booktopia.com.au