What book, read in the past year (but not any assigned school reading), has had a major impact on you? Please provide the author and title and explain why this book has spoken to you so powerfully.

Ender’s Game is, by far, my favourite book of all time. Orson Scott Card’s creativity combined with just the right amount of controversy makes for a truly enthralling book. What is presented as the ultimate conflict is vastly overshadowed by the riveting themes of psychology, morality and intellectual power that drive Ender’s game. The threat of mankind’s annihilation by a vastly superior alien species was not the allure that glued my eyes page after page. Rather, it was the study of human nature, of interpersonal conflict and the role of ruthlessness in both society and the individual. It was fascinating watching through Ender’s eyes, observing and analyzing each conflict as a genius, striking in the face of overwhelming disparity as a warrior. The uniquely intellectual characters made for riveting dialogue, intricate thoughts, and provoked genuine emotion and concern through their tests and trials. Ender’s Game is the ultimate celebration of human capacity. A creature of mind unafraid to call upon his body, Ender uses wits and tenacity to overcome insurmountable odds, both physical and mental. This remarkable novel is rich in both entertainment and depth, appeasing the primal urge for violence and thrill yet offering thought-provoking insight into the morality and psychology of both humans and monsters.