St Peter’s College, Oxford.

Introduction to Medicine – some reading

Calvin WH & Ojemann G. Conversations with Neil’s Brain. Perseus, 1995 *
Sacks O. The man who mistook his wife for a hat. Picador, 1986
Skloot R. The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks. Pan, 2010 **

You are encouraged to read two or three of the above titles before coming up to St Peter’s College. The choice is personal. The scientific content of these books is of secondary importance - the aim is to start you thinking about your medical and scientific studies in a rather wider context. You are not required to read all of these books. All of these titles should be available through any good library. We hope you enjoy your chosen titles.

* This book introduces a lot of basic and clinical neuroscience in a very engaging and accessible way by describing the personal journey of a patient (Neil) who is preparing himself for open brain surgery for the treatment of his epilepsy. A very good book indeed, which will see you off to a flying start. It is full of material that you will need to know by the end of year 2, but you are unlikely to find a better introduction.

** A light holiday read.

We look forward to meeting you in October.

Huw Dorkins and Randy Bruno
Fellows & Tutors in Medicine.
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