



LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2026

READING MATTERS

OUR LIBRARY. BRIGHTER POSSIBILITIES.



A NEW
CHAPTER BEGINS.



FROM THE LIBRARIAN'S DESK



Welcome back to the library

Hello,

Welcome to the September edition of **Reading Matters**.

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to the library for a new school year. September is always a fresh start, and this term there are already lots of exciting things happening in our library.

This year is especially meaningful because **2026 is the National Year of Reading**. Throughout the year, we will be celebrating the joy of books, stories and reading in all its forms. Whether you love fiction, graphic novels, non-fiction, poetry or audiobooks, there is something for everyone in the library.

This month, we are inviting pupils to discover the library, explore new reads and get involved in reading life at OLSB. **Student Librarian applications are now open**, so if you are organised, enthusiastic and love books, I would love to hear from you.

You will also find new book recommendations, reading activities and literacy highlights in this issue. I hope this newsletter helps you feel inspired to read something new this month.

As always, if you would like help choosing a book, finding information or discovering something different, please come and speak to me in the library.

Happy reading!

Ms Jawaaid

Librarian & Reading Lead

Good
Books
Brighter
Futures



A bright place for curious minds

DISCOVER

YOUR LIBRARY

Books. Ideas. People. Possibilities.



FIND YOUR NEXT READ

Browse the shelves, explore different genres or search the **Accessit catalogue** to discover books you might not have picked up otherwise.

FANTASY ADVENTURE
MYSTERY SCIENCE FICTION
GRAPHIC NOVELS AND MORE...



RESEARCH & DISCOVER

The library isn't just for fiction. I can help you find reliable information, useful sources and resources for homework and projects.

INFORMATION
RESOURCES
BIG IDEAS



All readers welcome ♥

ASK YOUR LIBRARIAN

Looking for a fantasy with dragons? A funny graphic novel? Something like your favourite TV show? **Speak to Ms Jawaid** and I'll help you find your next book.



LIBRARY OPENING TIMES

BREAK
10:50 – 11:10

LUNCH
1:10 – 1:45

PERIOD 6
2:55 – 3:35

CLOSED ON FRIDAYS

A brighter place for curious minds ♥

STUDENT LIBRARIANS

BE PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER

Do you love books?
Do you want to make a difference in our school?

Our Student Librarians play an important role in library life. You'll help to keep the library running, support other readers and be part of exciting activities, displays and events.

No experience needed – just enthusiasm, reliability and great ideas!

ALL READERS WELCOME

YOU'LL HELP WITH:



Recommending books



Library displays



Supporting other pupils



Events and activities



Keeping the library organised



Sharing ideas to make the library even better!

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

Apply with Ms Jawaid



APPLICATIONS CLOSE:
30 SEPTEMBER



INTERVIEWS BEGIN:
5 OCTOBER

Successful applicants will be introduced in the October issue of Reading Matters!



"Libraries give us a place to belong, to explore and to become more than we ever imagined."

– LUCY HAWKING

Be a leader.
Be a reader.
Be a Student Librarian.

BOOKS. IDEAS. PEOPLE. POSSIBILITIES.

A brighter you

COMING SOON

New titles to look forward to!



A sneak peek at exciting new titles arriving soon in the library.

Something for every kind of reader.



The Sad Ghost Club 5

Liz Meddings

The newest instalment in the much-loved graphic series about friendship, feelings and finding your people.

GRAPHIC NOVEL



The Owl Witch

Miriam Dahman

A magical, atmospheric adventure filled with mystery, courage and folklore.

FANTASY



Lamine Yamal

Ben Lurie

Discover the story of one of football's most exciting young stars.

SPORT



And Then We Screamed

Holly Bourne

A sharp, compelling YA story exploring friendship, pressure and finding your voice.



Traitor's Nest

Frances Hardinge

A richly imagined, twisty tale full of danger, secrets and brilliant world-building.

FANTASY



Lila McKay Finds Life Very Unfair

Jill Sims

A funny and relatable story about school, family and the dramas of growing up.

HUMOUR



Cut Him Out in Little Stars

Lucy Strange

A haunting, beautifully written historical mystery with heart and atmosphere.

HISTORICAL MYSTERY

Great stories brighter futures



Happy Reading!

SEPTEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

New Books. New Adventures. A Brighter You.

PEOPLE.
IDEAS.
PLACES.
POSSIBILITIES.

RECOMMENDED READS

A new term.
A whole new chapter.



New Beginnings

FRESH STARTS.
NEW PLACES.
BOLD ADVENTURES.



These stories are all about fresh starts, new friends and finding your place.
Perfect reads for a new school year!

Curlfriends New in Town



Curlfriends: New in Town

Sheree Miller

A warm and funny graphic novel about friendship, change and finding your people. Perfect for anyone starting somewhere new.

FRIENDSHIP • CONFIDENCE • NEW STARTS

MAKING FRIENDS



Making Friends

Kristen Gudsruk

A funny and relatable graphic novel about navigating a new school, new friends and the ups and downs of growing up.

GRAPHIC NOVEL • FRIENDSHIP • GROWTH



The Boy at the Back of the Class

Onjali Q. Rauf

A powerful and moving story about friendship, kindness and standing up for what's right. A reminder that everyone belongs.

KINDNESS • EMPATHY • BELONGING



The Misadventures of Max Crumbly

Rachel Renée Russell

A hilarious series about surviving middle school, made even funnier by Max's relatable mistakes and big heart.

HUMOUR • SCHOOL LIFE • RESILIENCE



Middle School and Other Disasters

Wanda Coven

A laugh-out-loud look at life in a new school, with all the challenges, chaos and adventures that come with it.

HUMOUR • ADVENTURE • NEW STARTS

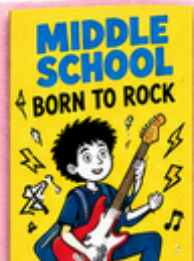


The School for Good and Evil

Soman Chainani

Two best friends. One extraordinary school. A spellbinding adventure about friendship, choice and discovering who you really are.

FANTASY • FRIENDSHIP • SELF-DISCOVERY



Middle School: Born to Rock

James Patterson and Chris Tebbetts

A fun, fast-paced story about talent, friendship and being true to yourself — even when things don't go to plan.

MUSIC • HUMOUR • CONFIDENCE

New books.
New worlds.
Same you — only brighter.



BOOKS. IDEAS. PEOPLE. POSSIBILITIES.

A brighter you



ACCELERATED READER

Find your next great read!

Read
More
Be More ♥



Small
steps.
Big progress. ♥

WHAT IS ACCELERATED READER?

Accelerated Reader (AR) helps you find books that match your reading level and interests. Every AR book has a Book Level (BL) and an AR Quiz. When you've finished reading, simply complete the online quiz to check your understanding and earn points!



HOW IT WORKS

1 CHOOSE A BOOK



- Pick an AR book from the library.
- Check the AR stickers on the spines.
- Not sure what to read? Ask Ms Jawaid!

2 READ



- Enjoy your book at your own pace – at school or at home.
- Read something you're interested in – fiction or non-fiction!

3 TAKE THE QUIZ



- Log in to Accelerated Reader and complete the quiz while the story is still fresh in your mind.
- Each quiz is different and checks your understanding.

4 EARN POINTS



- Every successful quiz earns you points.
- Your points help you track your progress.
- Work towards certificates, rewards and reading milestones!

WHY TAKE AR QUIZZES?

- ✓ Check your understanding
- ✓ Find books that are the right level for you
- ✓ Track your reading progress
- ✓ Build confidence as a reader
- ✓ Earn points, certificates and prizes!

WHERE CAN I QUIZ?



AT SCHOOL

Use the library computers during break, lunchtime or after school (except Fridays).



AT HOME

Log in via the OLSB Accelerated Reader page.

TOP TIPS



- Take your quiz soon after finishing your book.
- Only quiz on books you've actually read.
- Don't worry if you don't score 100% – every quiz helps you improve.
- Challenge yourself by trying different genres.



“The more you read,
the more you know.
The more you quiz,
the more you grow!” ♥

LOG IN HERE

<https://ukhosted35.renlearn.co.uk/2234318>

QUESTIONS?

Speak to Ms Jawaid in the library.
I'm always happy to help! ♥

NATIONAL YEAR OF READING 2026

Read more. Be more.



A YEAR FOR EVERYONE

The National Year of Reading 2026 is a celebration of the power of reading to open minds, build empathy and create brighter futures. At OLSB, we're going **ALL IN** – and we'd love you to be part of it.



READ YOUR WAY

- ☒ Novels
- ☒ Graphic novels
- ☒ Manga
- ☒ Non-fiction
- ☒ Poetry
- ☒ Audiobooks
- ☒ Magazines
- ☒ Anything that sparks your interest!



DISCOVER

Explore new genres, authors and perspectives.



EXPLORE

Step out of your comfort zone and find a book that surprises you.



THINK

Great books ask big questions and help you see the world differently.



BELONG

Stories connect us. There's a book for everyone here.

“A reader lives a thousand lives before they die.”

– George R.R. Martin

Small steps. Big stories. ♥

READ
EXPLORE
LEARN
BELONG

BOOKS. IDEAS. PEOPLE. POSSIBILITIES.

A brighter you ♥

LANGUAGE MATTERS

SEPTEMBER–OCTOBER VOCABULARY

Fortitude

courage and strength
in difficult times

Juxtaposition

placing two things
side by side for effect

Optimistic

hopeful and confident
about the future

Catalyst

something that causes
change or action

Avid

very eager or
enthusiastic

Compassion

care and concern
for others

Confidence

belief in yourself and your abilities

LITERACY FOCUS

Strong readers and writers notice ambitious vocabulary everywhere.

- Read actively — spot interesting words in every subject.
- Use context clues — work out meaning from the words around it.
- Use it yourself — try the weekly words in your speaking and writing.



Use these words in your speaking and writing this half term.

EXTREME READING WEEK

at OLSB

Read somewhere unusual. Be imaginative. Be safe.

WHAT IS IT?

Extreme Reading Week is a fun reading challenge where students take a photo of themselves reading in an **unusual, imaginative but safe place**.



HOW TO TAKE PART

- ☒ Choose something to read
- ☒ Find a creative but safe place
- ☒ Take your photo
- ☒ Submit your entry



READ
OUTSIDE



READ
HIGHER



READ
DIFFERENTLY

ENTRIES CLOSE:



REMEMBER

- ☒ Be creative
- ☒ Be memorable
- ☒ Be safe



Some photos may
also be taken
in school.



Whether it's around school,
at home or out and about –
everyone can take part!

Reading
can happen
ANYWHERE.



PEOPLE • PLACES • STORIES • CREATIVITY • OLSB LIBRARY

