



Our Lady & St Bede
Catholic Academy

READING MATTERS



Hello!



Welcome to our March Library Newsletter!

As spring blooms around us, it's the perfect time to renew our commitment to reading and reflection.

This month, as we embrace the season of Lent—a period of introspection and spiritual growth—we invite you to explore the transformative power of literature. From uplifting tales of resilience to works that inspire introspection, we invite you to drop in and find a book that's perfect for you.

We have something for every reader seeking enlightenment. Our library is here to accompany you on your journey of self-discovery.

We had a busy month marking the commemoration of International Women's Day, World Book Day, and finishing up our rating for the Excelsior Award. We're looking forward to many exciting new projects and adventures as we use literature as our spring board of creativity.

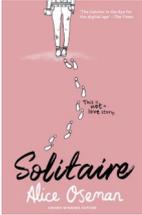
Happy Reading,

Ms. Jawaid



Student Librarian Recommendations

Student Librarians have gathered a few favourites that feature strong female leads.



Solitaire by Alice Oseman

A teenage girl feels alienated from her friends and starts to obsess over finding out who is behind a series of elaborate pranks at school

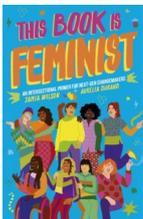
A n empowering story about coping with the hard times. —George



The Secret Sunshine Project by Benjamin Dean

After Bea's dad passes away and she and her family move to their Gran's in the countryside, she sets her mind to recreating London Pride as a way to bring sunshine back into their lives

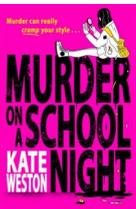
Covers LGBTQ women's rights. —Isabelle



This Book is Feminist by Jamia Wilson

A look at feminism as it is now, and its history, and a springboard for forming one's own views about what feminism means to you

Raises awareness on gender and culture. —Sophia



Murder on a School Night by Kate Weston

When student after student turn up dead, Annie and Kerry go on a mission to catch the *menstrual murderer*.

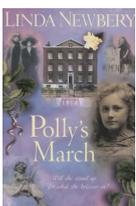
Funny and relatable to British culture. —Grace



Raven by Kami Garcia

When a tragic accident takes the life of 17-year-old Raven Roth's foster mum and Raven's memory she moves to New Orleans to recover and finish her senior year of high school.

An empowering story of overcoming emotions to fight your own troubles. —Aryanna



Polly's March by Linda Newberry

Polly has an adventurous spirit, and her dream is to become an explorer. But in 1914 women didn't have many rights, let alone career choices. Polly discovers this can be changed when her new neighbours turn out to be suffragettes.

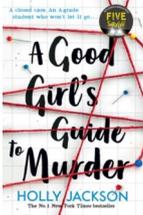
Female leaders inspire confidence in this book about Suffragettes. —Sophie



The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

Set in a dark vision of the near future, a terrifying reality TV show is taking place. Twelve boys and twelve girls are forced to appear in a live event called The Hunger Games. There is only one rule : kill or be killed.

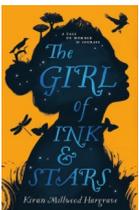
Katniss is always courageous.—Aidan



A Good Girl's Guide to Murder by Holly Jackson

Pippa Fitz-Amobi finds herself in danger when she uncovers hidden secrets about a historic murder that happened in her town five years ago.

Girls can be detectives too! - Lailani



The Girl of Ink and Stars by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

Forbidden to leave her island, Isabella dreams of the faraway lands her father once mapped. When her closest friend disappears into the island's Forgotten Territories, she volunteers to guide the search.

Isabella shows extreme courage throughout the story.—Lauren



Ladybird Tales of Adventurous Girls

Girls can save the day too, and they always have. Join six adventurous girls from around the world as they use their wits, courage and strength to overcome the odds in this colourful, illustrated collection of Ladybird Tales.

Empowered, women superheroes! - Laurretta



Percy Jackson: The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

Percy discovers he is half human, half Greek god, and sets about trying to avert a war among the Olympians .

Annabeth is the one who saves Percy! - William



Once Upon a Dream by Liz Braswell

Reimagines the tale of the Sleeping Beauty if Princess Aurora wasn't awoken by the her true love's kiss

Aurora goes on adventures to save her people. —Annie



As Good as Dead by Holly Jackson

Pip is convinced she is being stalked which leads her onto solving her next murder case, and thus committing a crime of her own.

Clever and determined Pip solves the murder case when the police cant. —Aiah



Reading Group

This month we have been partaking in voting for the Excelsior Award. This is the only fully independent, nationwide book award for graphic novels and manga. Our pupils had a chance to read through the shortlists for the Blue and White Awards by rating each book as they read it!

Pupils judged each title for the story, characters, artwork, and dialogue. Graphic novels help pupils develop literacy skills by engaging them visually and textually. They learn to interpret images alongside words, enhancing comprehension and vocabulary.

Analysing the visual elements of graphic novels, such as panel layout, colour, and typography, helps pupils become visually literate. This skill is increasingly important in a world saturated with visual information. Exposure to different artistic styles and narrative techniques in graphic novels can inspire pupils to explore their own creativity, whether through writing, drawing, or storytelling.



Library Events

Multi Culture Club

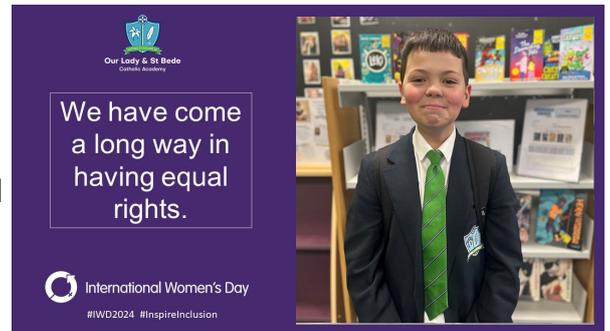
In Multi-Culture club, we have started working on some special projects. We also had presentations from Annie and Leilani. Annie brought in a *dirndl* which is traditional German outfit for girls. A dirndl is a dress consisting of a blouse, bodice, skirt, and apron. While it originated in Bavaria, it is worn widely across Europe, especially in Germany and the Alps.

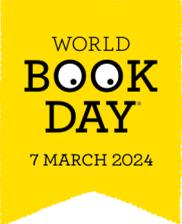
Leilani shared something a little different: currency! She showed us the different bank notes and coins she has collected from various countries around the world.



In honour of International Women's Day, pupils took part in activities around the theme, 'Inspire Inclusion'.

Pupils engaged in thought-provoking discussions about women's rights, privilege, and empowerment. We also played games based on showcasing and exploring diverse perspectives. We will continue honouring the achievements and contributions of women worldwide next week in Social Justice Club.





Special Library Event

This year the library held the first annual Big Book Swap on World Book Day. Pupils were invited to bring a book from home that they had finished reading and no longer wished to keep. In gifting their old book, they will be able to try something new, donated by another pupil.



Our wonderful Student Librarians dressed up in costume to celebrate World Book Day, Our theme was Heroes vs Villains and I think we nailed it. Check out the costumes below and see if you can identify the book they're from.



Gotta catch 'em all!™

POKÉMON CLUB



EVERY WEDNESDAY

DURING LUNCH in the Library

12:55-1:20 pm

Please see Ms. Jawaid for more information.



Multi Culture Club

Mondays

in the library

12:55 - 1:10 PM



SOCIAL JUSTICE CLUB

FRIDAYS IN THE LIBRARY

12:55 - 1:00 PM