

Find Your
Next
Literary BFF

Did the end of Hunger Games leave a Katniss shaped hole in your life? Are you still mourning the conclusion of Harry Potter? Good news! There are millions of other fantastic characters out there for you. Follow the flow chart to find your perfect match. Recommendations for all ages.

Boy

Girl

I want my next literary BFF to be

What do you want your next literary BFF to be like?

What do you want to do with your next literary BFF?

Breeding in the shadows

Fight bad guys!

Work on a secret, creative project together.

LONE WOLF

DARK, FASCINATING AND UNEXPECTED



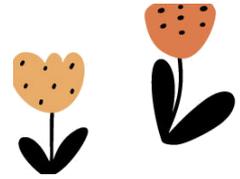
OUR LADY & ST. BEDE

CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Reading Matters



Hello!



AN INVITATION TO EXPLORE

April has been a very busy month in the library as we celebrated **Poetry Month**. Established in 1996, its purpose is to increase the attention paid to the art of poetry, through reading and sharing poems. It was amazing to see pupils reading, writing, and critiquing poems and finding commonality in themes. We promoted all forms of poetry from novels written in verse to traditional poetry collections, in an effort to show pupils that poetry can be an understandable, painless and even eye-opening part of their everyday experience

AN INVITATION TO GROW

Our collection continues to grow, and I am proud to share that our usage has grown exponentially. In the last three months, we have seen a total of 1,145 books in circulation! Pupils are encouraged to recommend new titles for addition to the collection. Whenever possible, the library will make every effort to accommodate such requests

The library is available to you outside of school hours via our library website (<https://uk.accessit.online/orl22>). You can browse our collection, check out upcoming events, or play a game. You may also visit our **myOn** page to access high-quality reading with unlimited, 24/7 access to thousands of enhanced digital books and age-appropriate news articles.

In the spirit of the month, I'd like to share one of my favourite poems by Shel Silverstein.

INVITATION

If you are a dreamer, come in,
If you are a dreamer, a wisher, a liar,
A hope-er, a pray-er, a magic bean buyer . . .
If you're a pretender, come sit by my fire
For we have some flax-golden tales to spin.
Come in!
Come in!

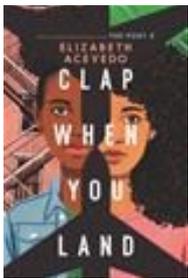
Happy reading,

Ms. Jawaid

Librarian Recommendations

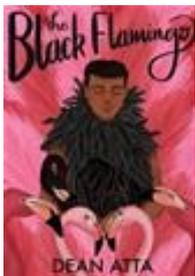
Want to try reading poetry but not sure where to start? You may study the classic poetry of Lord Byron and Keats and Shakespeare's sonnets, but it doesn't stop there. There is modern poetry that addresses ideas like feminism, illness, and immigration. Then you *also* have what you might *think* of as poetry books but are actually novels-in-verse, those beautifully written books that are cleverly put together.

These poetry books and novels in verse are filled with history, love, music, and more. Pop into the library and try a poetry book or a novel in verse today.



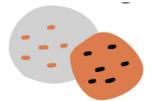
Clap When You Land
by Elizabeth Acevedo
ZPD: 5.3

In a novel-in-verse that brims with grief and love. A story about the devastation of loss, the difficulty of forgiveness, and the bittersweet bonds that shape our lives.



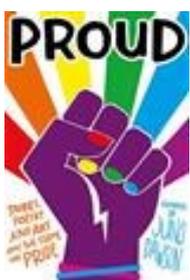
Black Flamingo
by Dean Atta
ZPD: 4.7

Join Michael's world as he travels from school to university where he comes to terms with his identity as a mixed-race gay teen and becomes a drag artist



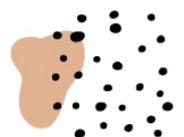
Punching the Air
by Ibi Zoboi
ZPD: 5.2

This book is a novel in verse about a boy who is wrongfully incarcerated. Amal Shahid has always been an artist and a poet. But one fateful night, an altercation in a gentrifying neighbourhood escalates into tragedy.



Proud
by Juno Dawson
ZPD: 5.3

A stirring, bold and moving anthology of stories and poetry by top LGBTQ+ YA authors and new talent, giving their unique responses to the broad theme of pride. Each story has an illustration by an artist identifying as part of the LGBTQ+ community.



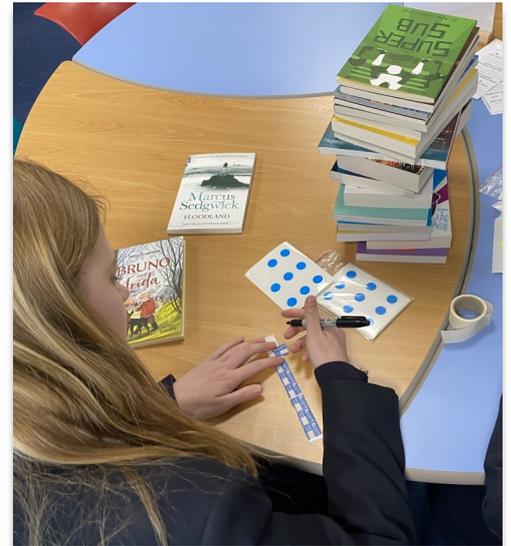
Student Librarians

Student Librarians have been very busy with different duties in the library. Each Student Librarian has “adopted” a shelf, maintaining the shelf is their top priority. I am very pleased with the efficiency with which they have started learning new tasks such as labelling and adding new books into our collection.

The skills learned are those which are valued in any walk of life – organisation, presentation, communication, team work and customer service, to say nothing of a greatly increased level of self-esteem and confidence which is evident in their presentation as library ambassadors.

Our Student Librarians, Oliver R, Teagan B, and Harrison D. have had a new addition to the team. A very warm welcome to Year 9 pupil, Isabel H who joins the Student Librarian team. We wish her every success in her many endeavours and responsibilities.

Isabel joined Student Librarians because of her passion for reading. She enjoys the experience of learning how to become a librarian, from labelling new books for our catalogue to supporting special library programmes like the Poetry Slam, Isabel shows great enthusiasm. She hopes of becoming a librarian herself in the future. Her dedication is apparent and she states, “I love what I do!”



Student Librarians will enter the program in September 2022. It is open to all students in Y8-Y10. Please see Ms. Jawaid if you're interested in joining.

Student Librarians' Recommendations



A great fantasy series to escape into. It's tragic but a real adventure.

- Harrison D



Amulet: The Stone Keeper

by Kazu Kiibuishi

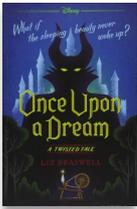
ZPD 4.1

After moving to their ancestral home, Emily and Navin's mother is kidnapped by a tentacled creature in the basement that leads the children on a deadly chase into the magical world below their home.



I love that it's from Maleficent's perspective. It's fascinating!

- Isabel H



A Twisted Tale: Once Upon a Dream

by Liz Braswell

ZPD 5.6

In this alternative retelling of SLEEPING BEAUTY, the prince falls asleep as his lips touch the fair maiden's lips, and it is clear that this fairy tale is far from over.



If you liked the film, you'll love the book. It's a very creative story!

- Oliver R



Ready

Player One

by Ernest Cline

ZPD 6.7

When Wade stumbles upon the first of the fiendish puzzles set up by virtual world OASIS creator James Halliday, he finds he must compete with thousands of others to claim a prize of massive fortune.



A good mystery that is real. And I love the cover!

- Teagan B



Not if I can Help it

by Carolyn Mackler

ZPD 4.9

Willa lives on the Upper West Side of Manhattan with her father and her brother. She likes things to be a certain way because it makes life manageable. She does not like surprises, and her father has just thrown her a big one.





POP

OR

POETRY



Read the following verses, and see if you can figure out if they were penned by a **poet** or a **popstar**? Check your answers at the bottom of the page. How many did you get right?



1. Armitage or The Arctic Monkeys?

*The future was a beautiful place, once.
Remember the full-blown balsa-wood town
on public display in the Civic Hall.
The ring-bound sketches, artists' impressions,*



2. Zephaniah or The Zombies?

*I could try be more personal
But you've heard it all before,
Pages of written words not needed
Brain has many words in store,*



3. BLAKE OR BTS?

*Sinking slowly like in a trance
Struggle but it's all ocean floor
Every moment becomes eternity*



4. Bronte or The Beatles?

*I shall smile when wreaths of snow
Blossom where the rose should grow;
I shall sing when night's decay
Ushers in a drearier day.*



Answer Key: 1. Simon Armitage 2. Benjamin Zephaniah 3. BTS 4. Emily Bronte

Library Events

FIRST ANNUAL POETRY SLAM

We held our first **Annual Poetry Slam** this month. The theme for this year was **diversity**. Our students shared their original poems and performed poems from their favourite poets. The purpose of this event is to provide a space for students to develop their emerging skill with poetic forms, especially spoken word poetry. Spoken word poetry differs from other, more traditional, forms of poetry in that it is meant to be read aloud with elements of performance adding to the meaning of the piece.



We enjoyed performances from 5 pupils: Elizabeth H, Y7; Rosie R and Penny O, Y8; Jenna O, Y10; Rhiannon N, Y11. Poems by Maya Angelou, Gwendolyn Brooks, and original poems by our pupils featuring topics of feminism, politics, and racism. Students were excited to discuss the different issues that fall under the umbrella of celebrating our differences, from personal experience or those less privileged, the insight into the minds of these young people was inspiring.

We were joined by two special guests in the audience, Headteacher Mrs Wilkinson and Chair of Governors, Mr Lee. As the discussion turned to freedom, Mrs Wilkinson took the opportunity to invite everyone to share their views on the school rules. Harrison D especially appreciated this, stating, "Mrs Wilkinson is a wonderful Head Teacher because she listens to us." Mr Lee thanked the group for their performances and expressed that he would love to join us again.



The event was a wonderful experience for all and we hope to organise more in the future.

Library Events

POETRY SLAM ORIGINAL POEMS

Here are two of the beautiful original poems shared by our Poets.

These poems are a celebration of **embracing our differences**.



Expectations

By Rhiannon N., Y11

When you're younger your expectations are high,
You wait for True Love's Kiss like Snow White.

You wait for Prince Charming to fix your troubles,

You're taught to be quiet and meek and humble.

Did you ever notice how the villains seem to be people of colour?

And the brunettes seem to be dour and duller.

The Princesses are pretty, tiny, and blond,

Maleficent, Mother Gothel, and Ursula are not.

I wish children knew that you don't need

To look like a Princess or Queen.

You don't need Prince Charming to be happy,

You are perfect as you are,
All you need is your self.

My Scars

By Elizabeth H., Y7

My scars are bare
But I don't care
People may stare,
People may comment,

But I won't cover them,
But this time I won't take it.

Some people may not like them,
But my scars are I am,

My scars tell my story
And I'll share more of me.

I won't hide me anymore,
And you shouldn't either.
Celebrate our differences together!



Upcoming Library Events



After ten million people have had to leave their homes in Ukraine, we are asking students to raise money for UK for UNHCR by getting sponsored to read as much they can.

The overall aim is to keep children reading and do something positive in the face of tragedy.

Pupils may ask for sponsors to agree to donate based on number of pages, chapters, or books read, per half hour or hour spent reading outside of school, or just make a flat donation to encourage participating readers.

This project will encourage children to read more widely outside of school and help them to take positive action in scary times.



Our Patrons of the Written Word 'shadowers' are busy 'shadowing' the judging process for the Carnegie Medals. Debating the virtues of their favourite book off the short list is hard work but the cupcakes and juice help!



The Shadowers meet weekly to engage in reading related activities which they can share online, and vote for their favourites to win the Shadowers' Choice Awards.



BOOKFLIX

Check out these books from your library before they're released on screens.

Trending Now



The Hate U Give

Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter, an ordinary girl in extraordinary circumstances, addresses issues of racism and police violence with intelligence, heart, and unflinching honesty.



There's Someone Inside your House

The series is binge-worthy! Makani thought she'd left her dark past behind her in Hawaii, settling in Nebraska with her grandmother. Then, one by one, the students of Osborne High begin to die in a series of gruesome murders,



One of Us Is Lying

Mystery surrounds Bayview High when five students walk into detention and only four walk out alive, leaving one dead just as he was about to reveal life-changing secrets about the others in a gossip app.



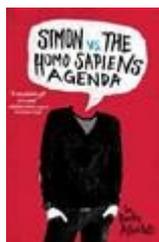
It Ends with Us

A romantic drama, the story follows Stella and Will, both suffering from cystic fibrosis, realise their love for each other pushes the boundaries of physical and emotional safety.



Shadow and Bone

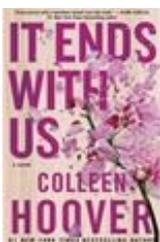
Leah Bardugo's fantasy series is one Netflix. Orphaned by the Border Wars, Alina becomes the protégée of the mysterious Darkling, who trains her to believe that she is the Sun Summoner, who can destroy the monsters of the Fold.



Simon vs The Homo Sapiens Agenda

Love, Simon is a romantic comedy-drama film based on the novel. It centres on Simon Spier, a closeted gay high school boy who struggles to balance his friends, his family, and the blackmailer threatening to out him to the entire school, while attempting to discover the identity of the anonymous classmate with whom he has fallen in love online.

Coming Soon



It Ends with Us

Combining a captivating romance with a cast of all-too-human characters, It Ends with Us is an unforgettable tale of love that comes at the ultimate price. Expect to see it at the cinema in 2023!



The School for Good and Evil

The movie will be the series about an enchanted institution where ordinary children are trained in ways of becoming fairy tale heroes and villains

Current Events

Scientists have been observing the Earth's land, atmosphere, ocean, and ice. They believe that Earth's climate is getting warmer, which will impact the Earth's plants and animals.



Stopping climate change is possible, but time is running out.

According to a new report released by the United Nations (U.N.) on the 4th of April, 2022. The report states that the world's top climate scientists say that countries must sharply reduce their fossil-fuel emissions in the next few years. Otherwise, the dangers of global warming—including droughts, wildfires, and ecosystem loss—will become much worse.

"This is a climate emergency," U.N. Secretary-General, António Guterres says. Not following the guidelines, he says, puts "us firmly on track toward an unlivable world."

The earth is now 1.1°C warmer than it was at the start of the industrial revolution. We are not on track to meet agreed targets in the 2015 Paris Agreement on climate change, which set a goal of keeping global temperature increase well below 2 °C or at 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels. More than 100 countries agreed to cut methane emissions by 30% this decade. Methane is a planet-warming gas. More than 130 pledged to stop deforestation within that time. Trees are important to the health of the planet. They help clean the air and guard against climate change. They're also a source of food and medicine. But 46% of the world's trees have been cut down.



Technology for renewable energy, such as solar and wind power, has gotten better, and cheaper. Planting the right trees is part of the solution. Using green and clean energy will also help create more jobs, improving world economics. Small changes can make a difference, too. Try switching to energy-saving lightbulbs, walking instead of using the car, turning off electrical items when you're not using them, recycling and reducing your food waste can help the Earth. And the easiest way to save the Earth is by learning more about the environment and sharing your knowledge with others.



HOW TO SPOT FAKE NEWS



CONSIDER THE SOURCE
Click away from the story to investigate the site, its mission and its contact info.



CHECK THE AUTHOR
Do a quick search on the author. Are they credible? Are they real?



READ BEYOND
Headlines can be outrageous in an effort to get clicks. What's the whole story?



SUPPORTING SOURCES?
Click on those links. Determine if the info given actually supports the story.



ASK THE EXPERTS
Ask a librarian, or consult a fact-checking site.



IS IT A JOKE?
If it is too outlandish, it might be satire. Research the site and author to be sure.



CHECK THE DATE
Reposting old news stories doesn't mean they're relevant to current events.



CHECK YOUR BIASES
Consider if your own beliefs could affect your judgement.

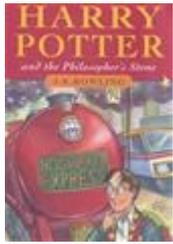
Find your Next Read

What to Read Next

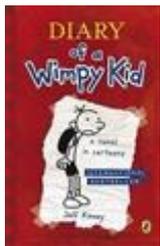
If you like...

Try

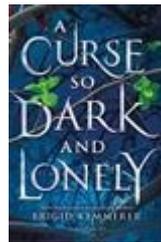
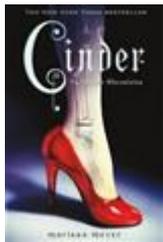
Why...



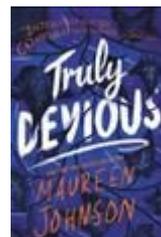
Magic
Good vs Evil
Friendship



Humour
Friendship
Survival



Fairytales
Twists
Strong Heroine



Murder
Mystery
Twists

Accelerated Reader®

Taking an Accelerated Reader Quiz

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

1 Choose a book within your ZPD 

2 Read your book 

3 Search for the quiz 

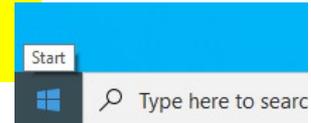
4 Take the quiz 

5 Write your score down in your Reading Record

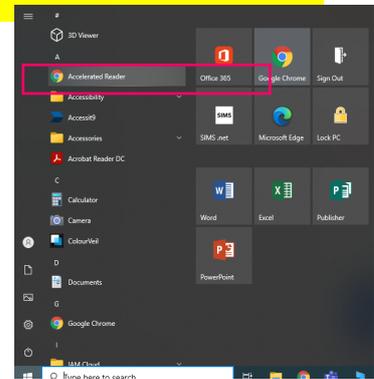
At school:

Login to a computer.

Go to Start Menu.



Click on "Accelerated Reader".



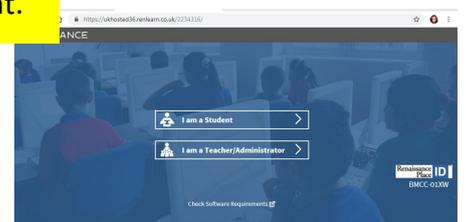
At home:

Login to a computer.

Open the internet browser.

Use our school's unique URL to go to our Accelerated Reader page.

Login as a student.



Choose Accelerated Reader to **quiz** on a book or check your bookshelf.



Reading Books Are Compulsory Equipment

If you need a reading book, please see your English teacher or the librarian, Ms Jawaid.