



# Hello!



### "Be pilgrims of hope and builders of peace." - Pope Francis

As we journey through this Jubilee Year in the Catholic Church, we embrace the theme "Pilgrims of Hope"—a reminder that even in times of sorrow, we walk together in faith and purpose. This message is especially poignant as we mark the passing of the beloved Pope Francis, a shepherd of compassion and dialogue who inspired many around the world. Our thoughts and prayers are with the global Catholic community during this time of mourning and reflection.

Here in the school library, we continue to nurture curiosity, empathy, and hope through reading and discovery. This month, our Carnegie Medal Shadowing Book Group is in full swing, with students exploring a shortlist of powerful and thought-provoking novels.



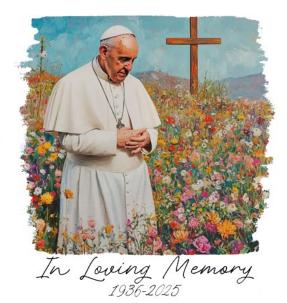
This Jubilee icon was painted by Mulugeta Araya from Ethiopia.

These stories challenge us to think deeply, walk in others' shoes, and become more compassionate—true acts of hope and pilgrimage in themselves.

Let us continue to make the library a place where we not only seek knowledge but also find inspiration for the journey ahead.

Happy reading,

Mr. Jawaid





### **Reading Group**

We have begun to shadow the judging process for the prestigious YOTO Carnegie Medal Book Award. Join us by picking up one of the shortlisted books from the library.



#### Little Bang by Kelly McCaughrain

Told from the dual perspectives of a young Northern Irish couple, Mel and Sid, when following their first sexual encounter Mel becomes pregnant



#### The Final Year by Matt Goodfellow

The story of a young boy going into year 6, dealing with a failing friendship, an ill younger brother and his own mental demons.



#### King of Nothing by Nathanael Lessore

When Matthew saves Anton's life, he starts to learn important lessons about friendship, peer pressure and resisting macho culture.



#### Treacle Town by Brian Conaghan

A young man stuck in a town with no prospects and beset with violence is offered an escape through poetry.



#### Glasgow Boys by Margaret McDonald

Meet Banjo and Finlay. Thrust together in a group care home when they were teenagers, inseparable until an incident three years ago..



#### The Things we Leave Behind by Clare Furniss

A 16-year-old refugee is found near to collapse and recounts her story to a kind adult, explaining how a totalitarian government in London ripped her family apart.



#### Play by Luke Palmer

Follows four boys growing up and discovering who they are and what masculinity is to them.



#### All that it Ever Meant by Blessing Musariri

A young woman is guided by a ghost only she can see on a road trip across Zimbabwe.

## **Student Librarian Recommendations**

As Pilgrims of Hope, our Student Librarians are recommending books to give you hope.



#### Hope is a Thing with Feathers by Emily Dickinson

A collection of Emily Dickinson's vast archive of poetry to inspire the writers, creatives, and feminists of today

The couplets and rhymes have a calming feel.—Lauren



#### Wolf and Bear by Kate Rolfe

A young wolf tries to help her friend Bear out from under the lonely shadow of sadness which engulfs him.

Conveys the power of friendship in an interesting and unique way.—Lauretta



### Glassgow Boys by Margaret McDonald

Meet Banjo and Finlay. Thrust together in a group care home when they were teenagers, inseparable until an incident three years ago..

Finding each other and rebuilding a better life is inspiring. - Annie



#### Nina Peanut is Amazing by Sarah Bowie

A young girl who loves making her own funny online content has to cope with suddenly being 'internet famous' when a video featuring her cat goes viral . Tackles life in a fun way and shows how to overcome bullies.—Isabelle



#### All that it Ever Meant by Blessing Musariri

A young woman is guided by a ghost only she can see on a road trip across Zimbabwe.

Takes you on a journey of overcoming grief. - Sophia



#### The Final Year by Matt Goodfellow

The story of a young boy going into year 6, dealing with a failing friendship, an ill younger brother

The display of emotions and brotherhood are portrayed so well I could feel them through the page. -Ellie



**King of Nothing by Nathanael Lessore** When Matthew saves Anton's life, he starts to learn important lessons about friendship, peer pressure and resisting macho culture. Depicts the positive character development of the protagonist, Matthew, whilst

tackling sensitive topics like toxic masculinity.—Aryanna

### In Memoriam: Pope Francis

With deep reverence we mourn the passing of Pope Francis, a global spiritual leader whose papacy reshaped how we think about compassion, inclusion, and justice. As the first pope from the Americas, and the first Jesuit pope, Francis brought a fresh, humble voice to the Church—calling on all of us to serve the poor, care for creation, and walk with those on the margins.

Pope Francis reminded us that faith must be lived out in action. He was beloved around the globe for his kindness, humility, and unwavering commitment to justice. Whether speaking on behalf of the poor, the environment, or those suffering discrimination, he consistently urged us to open our hearts to others. "Faith," he often said, "means helping others, speaking out when something is wrong, and showing love to everyone—no matter who they are."

Pope Francis stood up for justice and human dignity. To young Catholics especially, he gave this challenge: "Make your voices heard. Be bold. Do not be afraid."

A powerful advocate for justice and human dignity, Pope Francis challenged us to engage with the world around us. To young Catholics especially, he offered this bold encouragement: "Make your voices heard. Be bold. Do not be afraid." As we mark the Jubilee Year under the theme "Pilgrims of Hope," we are invited to reflect on his life and carry forward his message. Pope Francis called on young people to lead with courage, to speak up for what is right, and to walk together in peace. He believed deeply in the power of hope—even in the most difficult times. .

Pope Francis also believed deeply in the power of education and learning. He once said, "Education is an act of hope," encouraging schools and libraries to be places where young people grow in wisdom and compassion

In our school library, we honour his legacy by continuing to explore stories that ask us to think critically, act justly, and live with empathy. Reading is one of the most powerful ways we can grow in understanding and compassion.

Let us now pray for the soul of Pope Francis:

#### Loving God,

We thank You for the life and leadership of Pope Francis. He served Your Church with humility, courage, and compassion.

Welcome him now into Your eternal peace. May his words and actions continue to guide us. Help us to follow his example by living with faith, hope, and love.



#### Amen.

# SOCIAL JUSTICE CLUB FRIDAYS IN THE LIBRARY 12:55 -1:15