



OUR LADY & ST. BEDE
CATHOLIC ACADEMY

READING MATTERS





Hello!

Welcome to our February edition of Reading Matters.

This month we embraced the essence of love, inspiration, and creativity that permeates the world of literature. We celebrated the power of words to transcend boundaries and touch the depths of our souls.

We have launched the *Excelsior Award* book group.

The Excelsior Award is a fully independent, nationwide book award for graphic novels and manga. Pupils decide the winner by rating each book as they read it! In addition to rating and voting, our book group is competing for The True Believers Award. This is awarded every year to the school that returns the most Rating Forms. If you're a comic book enthusiast or want to explore this form of literature, please stop by the library and join in!

The library offers an array of monthly activities, enrichments, and opportunities to expand your ideas, learn, and grow.

Happy reading,

Ms. Jawaid



Librarian's Recommendations

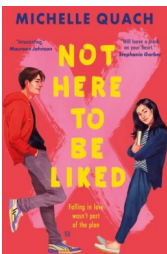
Whether you want to cheer on your new favourite couple or just want to get lost in a great story, these books are perfect for you! From sweet romances to hilarious comedies to thrilling dramas, there's something for everyone. So pick your next read and dive in!



Love is a Revolution by Renée Watson

A love story about not only a romantic relationship but how a girl finds herself and falls in love with who she really is.

A slow-burn journey of realising what love is and learning to celebrate yourself.



Not Here to Be Liked by Michelle Quach

A teenage girl unexpectedly falls in love with her rival for the post of the school newspaper's editor-in-chief.

Enemies to lovers—thought provoking read.



Ghosted by Amanda Quain

A modern take on Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey*. In this witty, slow-burn romance, a girl and a ghost get together to work out who it was that murdered him.

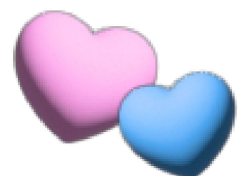
Turns a Austen classic on its head in this sparkling retelling that proves sometimes the ghosts are just a metaphor after all.



Tweet Cute by Emma Lord

Two fellow pupils at a high achieving US high school form an unlikely romance when their respective family businesses engage in a Twitter war over a copycat toastie recipe

A fresh, irresistible rom-com.



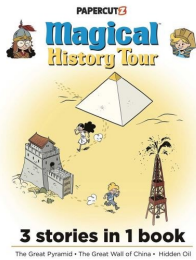
Library Event: The Excelsior Award

The Excelsior Award is split up into **four different shortlists**.

We're following, rating, and voting in Excelsior Award **White** and Excelsior Award **Blue**.

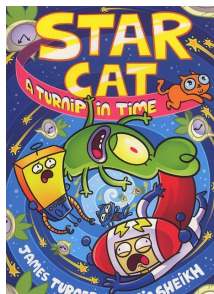


Check out the nominees below in the Excelsior **White** category—these picks are perfect for ages 9 and up. Next month, we'll be sharing the Excelsior **Blue** shortlist. Come to the library and pick up one of these books to rate and review!



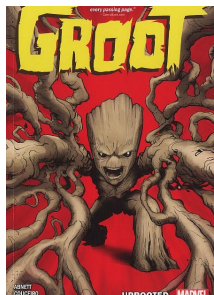
Magical history tour : 3-in-1 by Fabrice Erre and Sylvain Savoia

Modern day kids, Annie and Nico, travel back in time to the Great Pyramids in Egypt, the Great wall of China and also learn all about oil, from origins to present day.



Star Cat: a turnip in time by James Turner and Yasmin Sheikh

Join the crew of the Star Cat as they take part in a science competition, judge a plant show, and explore a planet of sentient poos!



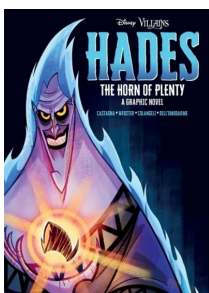
Groot: UPROOTED by Dan Abnett, Lee Garbett and Damian Couceiro

Baby Groot enjoys a happy childhood with his friends. But his life is about to be thrown into terrifying turmoil by a band of intergalactic despoilers who are asset-stripping entire worlds and leaving them barren



Superman vs. Meshi. Vol. 1 by Satoshi Miyagawa and Sheldon Drzka

Clark Kent visits Japan as Superman, traveling the country in pursuit of Meshi! What is Meshi? A new villain? A new ally? None of those! It's all about restaurants and exciting new food as Superman tours culinary delights!



Hades: the horn of plenty by Manlio Castagna and Lorenzo Colangeli

Embrace your evil side with this villainous Disney graphic novel adventure. Lorenzo Colangeli and Francesca Dell'Omodarme bring Manlio Castagna and Harriet Webster's narrative to life with beautiful and vibrant illustrations.



Student Librarian News

Meet the New Members of Our Team

We are thrilled to welcome our new Student Librarians to our team. Their role is invaluable in fostering a love of reading and learning within our school community.



- William hopes to become an author and hopes to use his time as a Student Librarian to explore different styles of writing.
- An avid reader of historical non-fiction, Grace wants to be a historian 'on the telly', she can be found in the library on most days and wanted to join our team to learn more about customer service.
- Another frequent library user, Isabelle, is very creative. She likes to sew and design clothes. Her favourite series is *The Magic Faraway Tree*.
- Leilani has taken inspiration from our current team and wanted to join ever since she started visiting the library. She recommends *Heartstopper* to anyone who wants to read a cute, wholesome romance.
- George found a special place in the library, he really feels like belongs here and wants to be more social through his work as a Student Librarian. He aspires to be an actor and loves reading books with drama and romance.
- Laretta is a keen reader and her eagerness to help out in the library has made her a great asset to our team. She loves reading fantasy novels.
- Annie says she felt 'at home' as soon as she stepped foot in the library. She is excited to create moments and memories to carry with her throughout her school career.
- Aidan joined us because he loves books enough to commit to the role of a Student Librarian. He is most looking forward to gaining experience as he wants to be an author.
- Aiah has been challenging herself to reading more and more complex books. She would like to inspire and guide others to find the right books for themselves.
- Sophie has already proven to be a wonderful support in the library, she is a confident, well-spoken pupil, who excels in all of the activities she tries!

Library Events

Multi Culture Club

In the Multi-Culture Club, we believe that fashion is not just about aesthetics; it is a form of expression, a way to honour our roots, and a bridge that connects us across borders and boundaries.

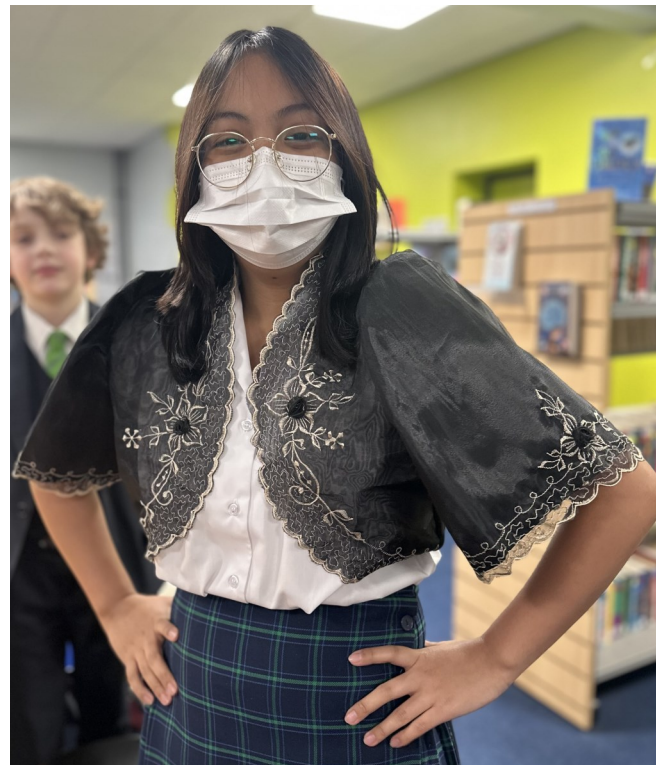
Through our expression of fashion and dress, we are learning how every outfit is a story waiting to be told, and every accessory is a piece of history waiting to be discovered.

Each week, our members bring in an article of clothing that represents their culture. It has been fascinating to see the similarities across the diverse style of clothing.

Emaan brought an traditional Pakistani outfit she wore for a wedding. The *lehenga* is a three-piece garments which traditionally includes a long skirt that typically reaches down to the ankles. It can be worn with a long or short embellished top in complementary colours, and the *dupatta*, which is like a scarf or shawl. This style is prevalent in South Asian culture and usually worn on special occasions and celebrations.

Aryanna brought in her bolero, a variation of the *Philippineana*, which is a traditional outfit for women in the Philippines. It is known for its butterfly sleeves. The material is very delicate and we really appreciate Aryanna for modelling it for us!

Multi-Culture Club meets every Monday in the library during the second half of lunch.





Multi Culture Club

Mondays

in the library

12:55 - 1:10 PM



SOCIAL JUSTICE CLUB

FRIDAYS IN THE LIBRARY

12:55 - 1:00 PM