



Our Lady & St Bede
Catholic Academy

Reading Matters



Hello!

Greetings Dear Readers!

I am delighted to present to you the May edition of our library newsletter. As the days grow warmer and brighter, our library is bustling with exciting events, new book arrivals, and programmes designed to inspire and engage readers of all ages.

Drop by the library to discover the latest additions to our collection! From bestsellers to hidden gems, our new arrivals section highlights books across various genres to cater to every reading preference.

Our Multicultural Club has been packed with pupils on Mondays and Fridays as they plan for our upcoming Around the World: Multicultural Festival on the 8th of July.

Read on to check out all the exciting things we've been up to this month.

We hope you find this newsletter both informative and inspiring. As always, your feedback is invaluable to us, so please feel free to share your thoughts and suggestions.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement.

We look forward to seeing you at the library soon!

Happy reading,

Ms. Jawaid



New Releases

Check out some of our newest and most popular additions of 2024



Skylar and the K-Pop Headteacher by Luan Goldie

When 11-year-old K-pop obsessed Skylar inexplicably switches bodies with her super strict 71-year-old headteacher, Ms Callus, she's thrown into a hilarious world of dancing old ladies gone viral and school rules thrown out the window. But then the chance to meet her favourite boyband AZ8 in real life changes everything, and Skylar must decide whether her K-pop dream come true is worth risking being stuck as an old lady for ever...

Laugh-out-loud funny body-swap adventure with plenty of twists.



The Girl who Couldn't Lie by Radhika Sanghani

A fresh, funny story about white lies, brutal honesty and a bangle with special powers, from award-winning journalist and author Radhika Sanghani. Priya Shah lies. A lot. She pretends everything in her life is perfect, so she doesn't disappoint anyone.

But when she puts on a bangle left to her by her Ba - the one person she was always honest with - she finds herself unable to tell a lie.

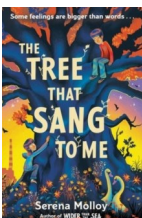
A poignant story filled with tween angst and a little magic.



A Rover's Story by Jasmine Warga

Res was built to explore Mars. He was not built to have human emotions. But as he learns new things from the NASA scientists who assemble him, he begins to develop humanlike feelings.

A fun emotional read which takes readers on an extraordinary journey to Mars..



The Tree that Sang to me by Serena Molloy

When Kai's big sister Jen leaves the family home, Kai knows it's all his fault. His secret burns, but he tells no one, just keeps pulling at tufts of his hair. But in the broad branches of a wasteland sycamore tree, Kai feels safe and free from his worries. Up there he feels he can be whoever he wants to be. And when a girl called Sky starts climbing Kai's tree, a friendship blossoms ... a friendship with the power to heal.

Told with empathy and compassion, highlights how kindness gives an inner strength..

Spotlight on Reading

As May is a month of mental health awareness, we wanted to stress how important the role of the library is. Reading a book from the library offers numerous benefits for pupils' mental health, contributing to their emotional well-being, cognitive development, and social skills.

Engaging with a good book allows pupils to immerse themselves in a different world, providing a mental break and reducing stress levels.

Regular reading can enhance a pupil's ability to concentrate and focus. This improved attention span can help reduce anxiety and promote a sense of calm.

Learning to empathise with others' emotions and experiences is integral for the development of the whole child, and a great way to do is through reading diverse stories. This emotional development can lead to better emotional regulation and interpersonal relationships.

Increases
empathy

Reading educational materials or non-fiction can provide pupils with information and perspectives that help them understand the world and their place in it. This can reduce feelings of confusion and helplessness, promoting mental clarity and confidence.

A strong vocabulary and the ability to express oneself clearly are crucial for mental health. Being able to articulate feelings and thoughts effectively can reduce frustration and improve social interactions.

Expands your
vocabulary

The act of reading can be a form of mindfulness. Focusing on the words and the story can help pupils stay present in the moment, fostering relaxation and reducing anxiety.

Fiction and fantasy genres provide a healthy form of escapism, allowing pupils to explore different scenarios and use their imagination. This can be particularly beneficial for those dealing with difficult life situations, offering a temporary mental getaway.

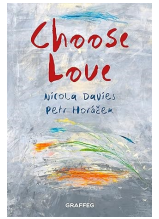
Reading keeps the brain active and engaged, which can prevent mental health issues related to inactivity and boredom. It promotes critical thinking and keeps cognitive functions sharp.

Reading about characters who overcome challenges and adversity can inspire pupils and build their resilience. Learning from characters' experiences and coping mechanisms can provide valuable lessons for dealing with their own difficulties.

Sharpens your
brain

Encouraging pupils to read regularly can therefore play a significant role in supporting their mental health and overall well-being.

'Choose Love' has been a popular read in our group. Check out what our Shadows have to say about it, but don't just take their word for it - pick up the book today from the library!



Choose Love by Nicola Davies

In this moving sequence of poems Nicola Davies's provides insight into the real-life experiences of refugees forced to leave their homes and previous lives behind to face an unknown future.

Suffused with compassion and understanding, the work invites you to share in these stories in the hope of building greater awareness and empathy for the struggles faced by so many, and to choose love as our response.

In this book, the author combines powerful vocabulary with extremely evocative illustrations. They give us insights and glimpses of the harsh realities of refugees, allowing the audience to sympathise and empathise with the victims of these events. Speaking from a personal view, I don't generally enjoy poetry books nor would I be willing to read one. However, this book was superbly written and beautifully presented, in return, it really resonated with me and is most definitely a memorable book. —Aryanna

I really enjoyed reading Choose Love because of the poetry that expresses what it is like for victims of war. I also loved the art displayed next to the poems as it made subtle links to what was happening in the story, such as a silhouette in the art that resembled a boat. It really took my interest because of the emotive story that was a representation of what refugees have to go through to seek asylum. — Chloe

This was an amazing book that piqued my interest because it is full of emotions and poems. All of the poems have deep meanings, it was intriguing. — Aiah

It makes you think how other people feel in really tough times. It makes me feel sad that these things really happen in real life. We need to be kinder to new people as we don't know what they have been through. Show kindness not hatred. — Anastasia

I thought that the book was amazing and really inspirational. I love the way it slowly revealed the storyline. —Lauretta

The book "Choose Love" is a sequence of hard-hitting poems, with abstract illustrations adorning the pages of the book. It brings to light what many people want to conceal or ignore. Topics like refugees trying to escape difficult and dangerous real-life experiences, bring awareness to things that are happening in our world, and it puts you in the shoes of many children - toddlers - getting separated from their own loving parents. I would recommend this book to anyone wanting to educate themselves about things that are becoming buried in our everyday lives.

—Sophia

Choose Love is a heart breaking story that will give the reader sympathy for people in that situation. I really enjoyed the writing style of this book and the atmosphere it creates.

—Lauren

In one word, I found it: powerful. I enjoyed the way it told you about the life of a refugee and how it is so unfair. To think of something bad would probably be how the character heals, most refugees don't heal and the words unbroken at the end. I would on the other hand continue to read this book and gave it a 69/70 as I gave the ending a 4. — George

Library Events

Multi Culture Club

The Multi Culture Club's 'Around the World': Multicultural Festival is taking place on 8th July, 2024. We're planning displays of arts and craft, dance, music, heritage talks, performance, food, and more, showcasing and raising awareness of our diaspora roots.



Pokemon Club

Pokémon Club meets Wednesdays in the Library! Join us to battle, trade, or chat! We have battle decks for all levels of trainers. Bring your own collection of cards or use ours!

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS® CLUB



Join our adventure with our knowledgeable Dungeon Master: William P leading you on all sorts of hijinks!

Sign up required.

DnD club meets every Tuesday in the library during the second half of Lunch.





Our Lady & St Bede
Catholic Academy

AROUND THE WORLD MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

MONDAY, 8TH JULY

JOIN IN OUR CELEBRATION!

**FOOD • DANCE • MUSIC
CRAFTS • ART • GAMES**

**Sign up with Ms. Jawaid
Meetings in the library,
Monday and Friday
2nd Half of Lunch**

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS[®] CLUB

**EVERY TUESDAY
IN THE LIBRARY**

SECOND HALF OF LUNCH

SIGN UP REQUIRED.



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

