



Our Lady & St Bede
Catholic Academy

READING MATTERS



HELLO!

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the November edition of our Library Reading Newsletter! As the leaves fall and the days grow shorter, it is the perfect time to curl up with a good book.

November was all about celebrating the power of real stories, knowledge, and discovery through Non-Fiction November.

This year, our theme was “Why Don't You?”, which encouraged pupils to explore new hobbies, skills, and interests with the help of our fantastic non-fiction collection.

Why didn't you...

- Try your hand at sketching or painting?
- Discover the secrets of the stars through astronomy?
- Learn to knit or crochet?
- Dive into the lives of inspiring figures from history?

Non-fiction books opens the door to endless possibilities, helping you try something new or delve deeper into a topic you love.

We also marked Remembrance Day through our tales of war heroes both fact and fiction to mark the sombre history of sacrifice.

Happy Reading,

Ms. Jawaid



LIBRARY FAQs

A reading book is an essential part of your school equipment, make sure that you are prepared by dropping to check out a book from your library.

Opening Hours:

The Library is **open** at the following times:

Before school from 8.00am to 8.15am

At break time from 10:05am to 10:20am

At lunch time 12:20pm to 1:15 pm

After school from 3:20pm to 4pm (except Fridays, when the library **closes** at 3:30)

Our school library provides students with an opportunity to celebrate reading in a relaxing environment.

Here, you can take out books, read, complete independent study, or enjoy one of our many exciting enrichment opportunities:

Monday lunch (second half): Multicultural Club

Tuesday lunch (second half): Dungeons and Dragons Club

Wednesday lunch (second half): Pokémon Club

Thursday lunch (second half): Student Librarians' Meeting

Friday lunch (second half): Social Justice Club

Borrowing Rules:

Book Limit: 2 books at one time.

Loan period: 2 weeks.

Need more time? To renew any materials, books must be shown to the librarian.

Current issues of magazines and research material may be issued with special permission.

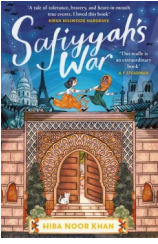
Books should be kept in good condition.

Late book? Lost book? Damaged book? Accidents happen! Please speak to Ms. Jawaid.



LIBRARIAN'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Here are a list of books that highlight the essence of Remembrance. They're awe-inspiring, even when tragic, and they can make us laugh, cry, or jump for joy. I think it's important for us to reflect on our history and learn from it.



Safiyyah's war by Hiba Noor Khan

A young girl helps in the resistance work by members of the Grand Mosque in Paris whose bravery saved the lives of hundreds of Jews during World War II.

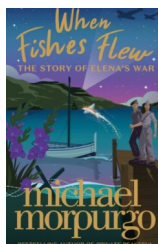
Compelling adventure story based on true events.



When the War came Home by Lesley Parr

After the end of the First World War, Natty meets two soldiers who are struggling to cope with what they've been through.

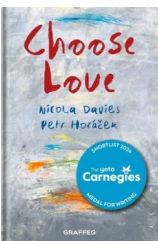
Wonderful story with emotive characters covering mental health, the stigma of being different, and accepting yourself.



When Fishes Flew by Michael Morpurgo

A seventeen-year-old girl travels to her ancestral home of Ithaca and there discovers, with the help of a god, the story of her great aunt's heroic actions during World War II.

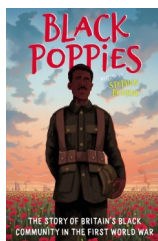
Weaves Greek myth with history to tell a tale of family ties and a talking fish!



Choose Love by Nicola Davies

Choose Love is a cycle of poems that highlights the experience of those forced to become refugees.

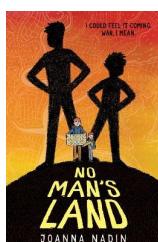
Raw and heartbreaking poems that will invoke compassion and empathy.



Black Poppies: Britain's black community in World War 1 by Stephen Bourne

Discover the stories of black British servicemen who fought on the battlefields in the First World War.

The stories bring the characters to life, highlighting the dedication and bravery of Black British Servicemen and women.



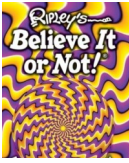
No Man's Land by Joanna Nadin

In a dystopian far-right version of Britain, a ten-year-old boy tries to understand who's right or wrong as war looms.

A thought provoking story with believable characters that you root for from the start.

STUDENT LIBRARIAN'S RECOMMENDATIONS

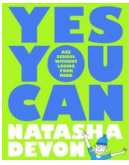
Non-fiction must-reads from our Student Librarians.



Ripley's believe it or not!: escape the ordinary by Jeff Tibbals

Transports readers to a world beyond imagination--where truth is stranger than fiction!

An immersive book that enlightens you with facts from our world. -Aryanna



Yes you can by Natasha Devon

An empowering guide to succeeding at school while still looking after your mental health.

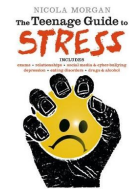
Motivates you to be your best.—Chloe



The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank

This book provides a deeply moving and unforgettable portrait of Anne Frank - most poignant true-life story to emerge from the Second World War.

A very sad but relatable and interesting story.—Lauretta



The Teenage Guide to Stress by Nicola Morgan

A self-help guide for coping with stress for teenagers.

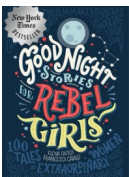
A must-read full of tips on handling stress.— Lauren



Find Peace in a Poem by Multiple Authors

Presents a collection of poems about mindfulness written by various contemporary voices.

As you read the poems, you feel yourself calming.—Sophia



Good Night for Rebel Girls by Francesca Cavallo

Presents the biography of 100 inspiring women

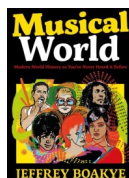
Gives confidence to girls! - Annie



Be Resilient by Nicola Morgan

A guide for teenagers for building mental resilience to help them through their teenage years and give them coping strategies for life.

Gives helpful advice for exams friendship, global events and other challenges.—Isabelle

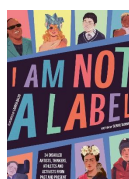


Musical World by Jeffrey Boakye

Pip insists her investigating days are behind her.

But she will have to break that promise when someone she knows goes missing.

Gripping tale, I couldn't put it down! —George



I am not a label by Cerrie Burnwell

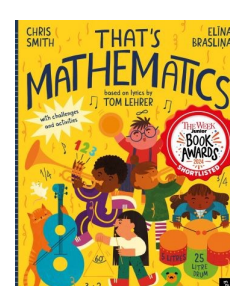
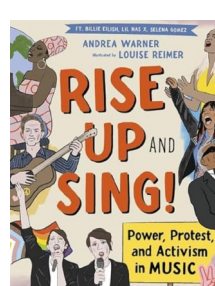
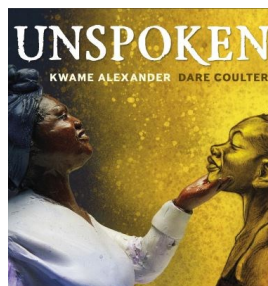
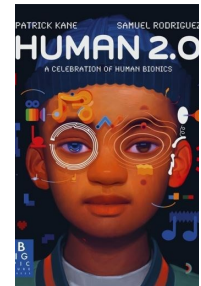
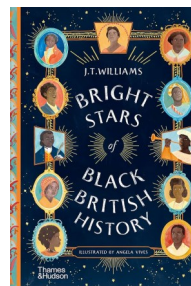
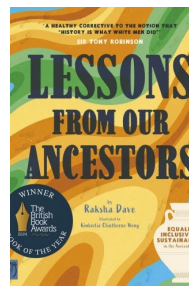
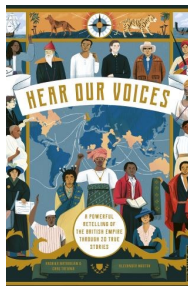
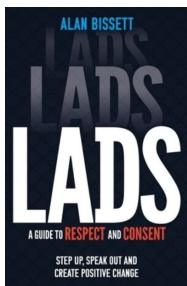
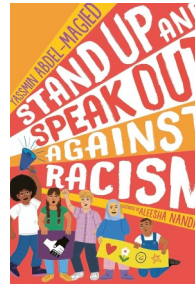
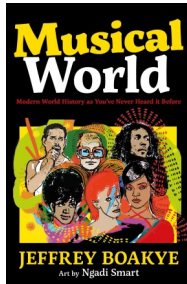
A brief look at the lives and achievements of 30 people with disabilities, from artists to activists, from history and the present day.

Well illustrated, empowering book that highlights diverse role models.—Ellie

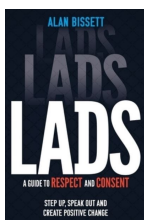
INFORMATION BOOK AWARD

The School Library Association's' Information Book Award is an annual event, now in its twelfth year, and is a major development for information books. It has been designed to reinforce the importance of non-fiction whilst highlighting the high standard of resources available.

Here are some of the nominees in our collection:



And the winner is...



Lads by Alan Bissett

A guide for teenage boys, helping them navigate relationships.

Alan Bissett, author of Lads, said: "I am absolutely delighted to have won this award... I am well aware how vital and important school libraries and librarians are, so it's a real honour to receive this from people who work in a vocation which I respect so much, and who make it their business to read everything! Lads can spark a positive conversation among young men (and women) about respect, relationships and consent in an often-confusing and ever-changing world."

STUDENT LIBRARIANS

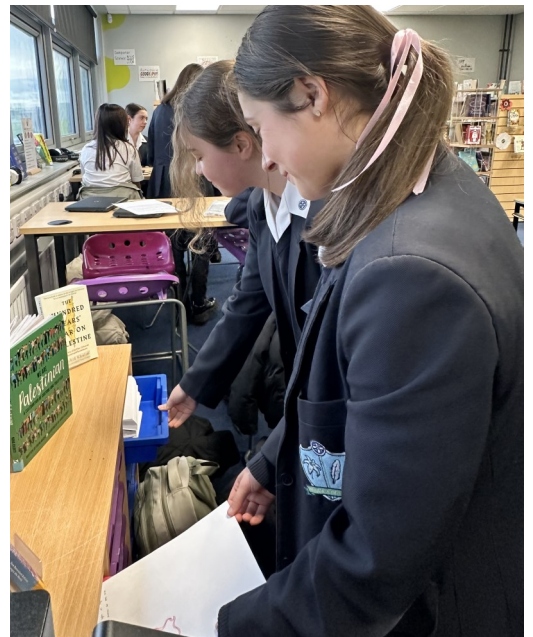
A very warm welcome to our newest Student Librarians: Chloe R in Y9 and Ellie T in Y8. Both pupils have been volunteering in the library since September and we are happy to have them on board.

Ellie loves to read graphic novels, her favourite is the *Heartstopper* series. She is always eager to help other pupils find books to read and enjoys using the library as a place to work with likeminded friends.

Chloe is a crime and mystery enthusiast. She enjoyed *At the Speed Lies* and *Sleepless*. She is well organised, polite, and a wonderful addition to our team. Her knowledge of the library's shelving system is fantastic!

The Student Librarian team works hard to help promote library programmes, organise library shelving, and providing excellent recommendations to other pupils.

They are a vibrant, friendly, and well qualified group. They meet every Thursday in the library for their training but you can always find them in the library working on one exciting project or another during break and lunch.



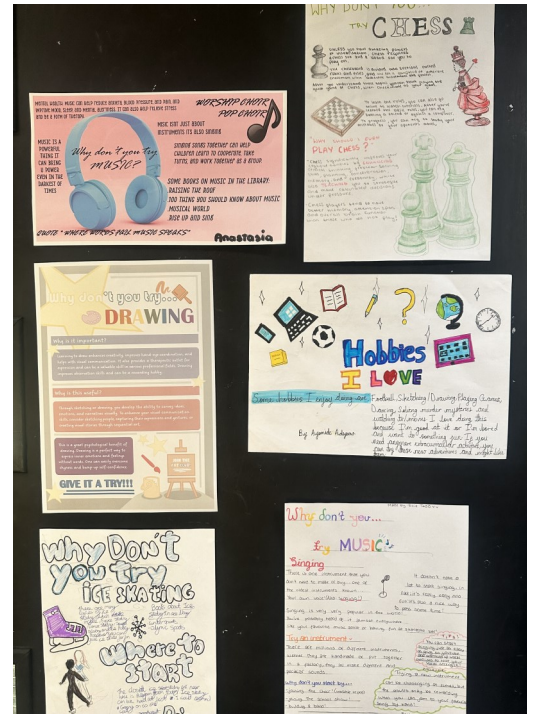
LIBRARY EVENTS

As November draws to a close, the library has been a bustling hub of activity! From creative contests to cultural collaborations, this month has been filled with inspiring events and opportunities for our students to explore, learn, and connect.

This month, we celebrated Non-Fiction November with a poster contest encouraging students to share their favourite hobbies. The creative entries highlighted a wide range of interests, from chess to ice skating. The posters are now displayed in the library, and we invite everyone to stop by and take a look! You just might find your next hobby—or at least a great book recommendation to get started.

The Multicultural Club is hard at work planning a Christmas Around the World presentation. This exciting event will explore the diverse traditions, foods, and customs of how the holiday season is celebrated across the globe. Students from various backgrounds are contributing their personal experiences and cultural knowledge, creating an enriching and festive program. Keep an eye on our bulletin board and newsletter for the official date and time—we guarantee it will be an event to remember!

One of the most popular activities in the library this month has been the Dungeons & Dragons Club. Weekly sessions are drawing a crowd of enthusiastic participants eager to embark on imaginative adventures. Players are not only learning



storytelling and strategy but also building teamwork and problem-solving skills.

As we head into December, there's plenty to look forward to at the library. From festive book displays to holiday crafts and new events, we hope you'll stop by and stay connected to all the excitement.

Thank you to everyone who made November such a memorable month. We're thrilled to see our library community thriving and can't wait to see what the next chapter brings!

