



OUR LADY & ST. BEDE  
CATHOLIC ACADEMY

# READING MATTERS



# Hello!



Touch grass, bring a book.

What comes to your mind when you think of summer? Sun, sand between your toes, grabbing a burger fresh off the grill?

Regardless of where you are and what you have planned for any well-deserved “you” time, one thing we can agree on is that books should be a part of your plans.

Stories can take you to any place and time, giving you the ability to move beyond your room, the high street, the beach, all for the fraction of the price of a plane ticket, or even, for free from your library. Check out a book that transcends your reality: trekking through futuristic forests, witnessing knights jousting in a medieval court, or remaining in more contemporary times; traveling to unfamiliar countries, hearing new and beautiful tongues, and tasting foreign flavours for the first time.

Stop by the library and grab a book or two to finish up the summer term, or even pick up a summer read. Please remember to return all library books or renew them if you need more time.

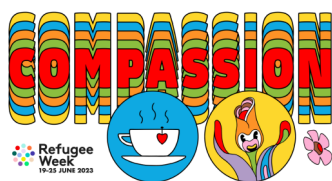
Happy Reading,

*Ms. Jawaid*

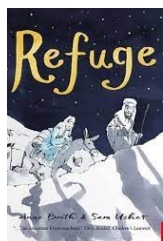




# Librarian's Recommendations



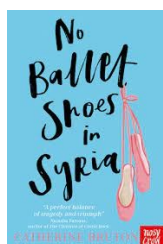
Refugee Week takes place from 19 to 25 June 2023 and the theme this year is *Compassion*. We are lucky to have authors that have been brave in sharing unique stories, perspectives, and experiences, all stemming from different places both literally and metaphorically.



Refuge

By Anne Booth

Refuge is the story of Jesus' birth, and travels to Egypt. Written to highlight his travels as a refugee - this book raised money for the War Child UK which cares for Syrian refugee children in camps and host communities in Jordan and Northern Iraq.



No Ballet Shoes in Syria

By Catherine Bruton

Aya is eleven and has just arrived in Britain seeking asylum from war in Syria. When a dance teacher spots her talent, Aya has the potential to go to a prestigious ballet school. But will her family be allowed to remain in the country?



When Stars are Scattered

By Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed

Omar and his younger brother Hassan live in a refugee camp, and when an opportunity for Omar to get an education comes along, he must decide between going to school every day or caring for his nonverbal brother.



Samira Surfs

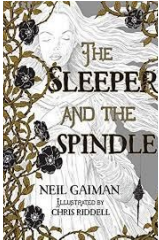
By Rukhsanna Guidroz

This verse novel tells the story of Samira, an eleven-year-old Rohingya refugee in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, who finds peace and empowerment in a local girls surf club.

# Student Librarians' Recommendations

In honour of Empathy day, here are some great picks about love and friendship.

*A story of courage. I like how brave the main character is. - Vania*

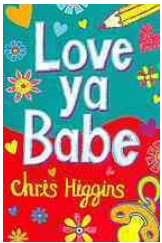


The Sleeper and the Spindle

By Neil Gaiman

In a magical land far away, a beautiful young queen prepares for her wedding, wondering if these will be the last few days she has control of her life and unsure if she really wants to get married.

*The journey of building fun, family relationships. - Phoebe*



Love Ya, Babe

By Chris Higgins

When Gabby's mum announces she is pregnant late in life, Gabby's life is turned upside down, both at home and in her social life.

*Thrilling and set around heart-warming friendships - Aryanna*



The Last Kids on Earth

By Max Brallier

After a monster apocalypse hits town, average thirteen-year-old Jack Sullivan builds a team of friends to help slay the eerily intelligent monster known as Blarg.

*Shows the ups and downs between friends. - Sophia*



Pig City

By Louis Sachar

When Laura Sibbie starts a club called Pig City, she incites a near-war among her sixth-grade classmates and generates the creation of a rival club that has designs on Pig City's precious box of secrets.

# Library Events



The Carnegie Medal Shadows held a debate, using the Medal criteria, to try to reach a decision as a group about which book most deserves to win the Medal. The group individually pushed their book of choice by taking a minute to share why they think their chosen book should win the Medal.

While they initially thought they had a clear winner, we found one voice of dissent from a reader who truly could not be convinced of changing their choice.



The highest vote count went to *Needle* by Patrice Lawrence. The book is about foster kid, Charlene. When the special blanket Charlene knitted for her little sister is ruined by her foster mum's son, she flies into a rage and stabs his hand with her knitting needle. Soon she finds herself in a cell and unable to say sorry. The story holds a lot of appeal for the myriad of feelings and opinions it evokes.



The Shadows watched the live Yoto Carnegie Medal live and agreed with the overall winner: *The Blue Book of Nebo* by Manon Steffan Ros, but the Shadows winner, Ruta Septys' *I Must Betray You* was controversial because not everyone liked it.

Check out the winners and all of the nominees in the library and see if you agree with the judges.





# Library Events



The library has undergone some changes to accommodate our patrons. We've got tables for group studying, comfy seats and lots of great book displays to show off our new stock. The library is also pretty cool so it's a great respite from the soaring temperatures. Pupils can come in during break and lunch to relax with a good book.

Pupils are quizzing on their AR books to gain points and ensure their entrance into our big AR Reward raffle—we're giving up three Gift Vouchers for £20 each for readers who complete 10 quizzes!

See Ms. Jawaid or speak to your English teacher for more details.



## Our Lady and St. Bede's Reading Buddy Programme

Do you love reading?

Can you share your love of reading and foster it in your fellow students?

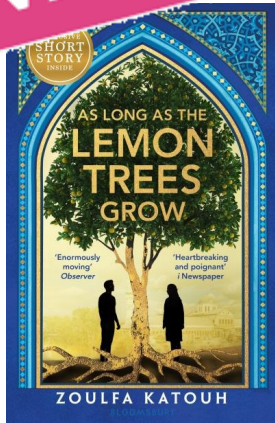
Can you support our incoming Year 7s in their reading?

Next year, we are looking to recruit reading buddies who will help our newer students develop their confidence in and love of reading.

This is also an excellent way for **you** to build up your own confidence and is a brilliant thing to put on college or apprenticeship applications in the future!

If you're interested, or for more information, please sign up in either the library, or with Miss Joyce in E8.

NEW

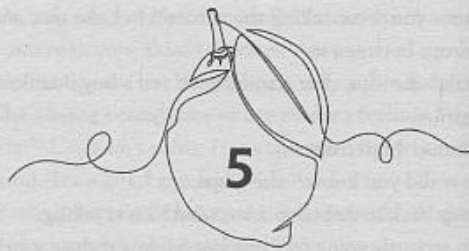


## As Long as the Lemon Tree Grows By Zoulfa Katouh

18-year-old Salama Kassab, works as a doctor and surgeon in a makeshift hospital in Homs during the Syrian civil war struggles balancing duty to her country and to herself.

An epic, emotional, breathtaking story of love and loss set amid the Syrian revolution. Burning with the fires of hope and possibility, *As Long as the Lemon Tree Grows* will sweep you up and never let you go.

## SNEAK PEEK



‘What are you going to do?’ Khawf asks from the dark corner, and I jump and press a hand to my heart.

‘What?’

He steps out, the shadows melting off him, eyes glinting. ‘What are you doing about Am?’

‘I don’t know.’

‘That means you’ll do nothing.’

‘It means I don’t know.’ I swallow down my anxiety. ‘Leave me alone.’

He chews his cheek, examining me from head to toe, and I press my legs to my chest in an effort to become smaller.

‘I did what you wanted,’ I say. ‘I asked Am. Is it my fault that the price is so high?’

He doesn’t answer me, simply takes out a cigarette and tucks it between his lips. His smoking mannerisms remind me of my grandfather. When asked a question, Jedo – may his soul rest in peace – wouldn’t answer until he took that drag of smoke. But

Jedo had a gentle smile and such a proud way of looking at me, and there’s nothing like that about Khawf. Nothing.

‘No, it’s not. But it seems like you’ve given up. Didn’t you tell Layla you’ll haggle with him?’

I shrug.

His eyes bore into mine. ‘While your apparent enthusiasm is admirable,’ he sneers, ‘it’s not enough. You *need* to get that boat.’

‘I’m at my limit here. What do you want, Khawf?’ I say wearily.

A plume of silver smoke obscures him from my view.

‘Why, your safety, of course.’ He grins. ‘Don’t you believe I’m some sort of a defence mechanism?’

I manage a pathetic snort.

He stands in front of me and I instinctively jerk back. ‘I, you should know better by now. Unlike you, I don’t tire, I don’t feel pain, and I won’t stop until I get what I want. Fighting me, fighting your *mind* –’ he twirls his fingers and my pulse races as pitch darkness envelops us until nothing is visible but his icy-blue eyes and the flash of his white teeth – ‘you won’t win.’


I can’t see anything. Can’t hear the faint voices of the protests outside. Nothing exists but Khawf and me in this black hole. He extends his hand to my chin and I flinch, but he doesn’t touch me. Yet his power over me is so great that I look up, shivering and frozen in place.

‘I am infinite, and you are not,’ he whispers. He trails a finger I don’t feel along the hollow of my throat, but my

# 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 

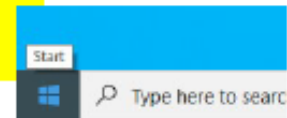
**5** Write your score down in your Reading Record

Reading Books Are Compulsory Equipment  
If you need a reading book, please see your English teacher or the librarian, Ms Jawaid.

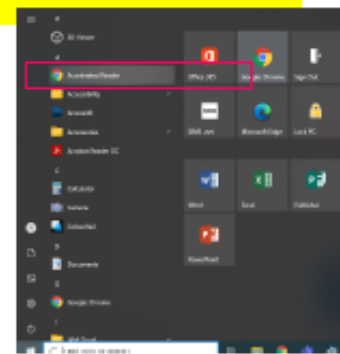
At school:

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.

