



OUR LADY & ST. BEDE
CATHOLIC ACADEMY

READING MATTERS



Hello!



Welcome to the library, pupils both old and new!

It has been amazing to see eager readers in the library after the summer. I have enjoyed watching students browse and check out books and materials from our first day back.

The Library is the heart of our school.

I became a librarian almost 12 years ago. I have worked in Chicago and Stockton. While my professional background is in law and politics, I wanted to embrace my true passion - reading! I've visited libraries all over the world and I have always felt at home, no matter where I am. I hope to instil that same feeling of comfort and belonging for you in our school library.

This year, since January 2023, I've read 68 books. I always get my books from my public library, so I'm waiting for the books I have on hold to read more! That means that if I find a book I like, I place a hold on it and my library lets me know when it's ready. You can do the same in our library! If the book is out, we can put you on a wait list and if we don't have the book, we can order it!

I am happy to help you find the right book for you – even if the only book you want to read is, "just something short!" Just ask.

Happy Reading,

Ms. Jawaid



Library FAQs

A reading book is an essential part of your school equipment, make sure 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 1:20 pm

After school from 3:20pm to 4pm (except Fridays, **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:

Wednesday lunch (second half): Pokémon Club

Thursday lunch (second half): Book Club

Friday lunch (second half): First Chapter Fridays

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.

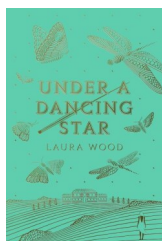
Books should be kept in good condition.

Late book? Lost book? Damaged book (accidents happen!) please speak to Ms. Jawaid.



Librarian's Recommendations

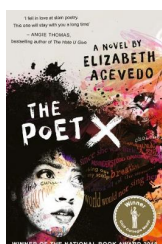
Growing up is messy, it's complex, and it's joyful. Navigating shifting priorities and emotions while staying true to yourself can definitely be challenging; however, the journey is invaluable. The protagonists in these books face questions and conflicts which, although trying, ultimately help them find the most authentic versions of themselves. A mix of YA classics and brand-new stories, these coming of age books are absolute must-reads.



Under a Dancing Star by Laura Wood

In 1930s England, 17 year old Bea's parents want her married off to keep the family estate alive. But she longs for adventure.

An homage to 'Much Ado' but works effectively in its own right. Explores themes of class, politics, race & sexuality.



The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo

A teenage girl uses poetry to write about her life growing up in a poor area of Harlem.

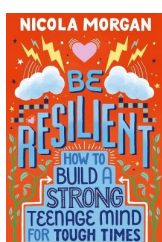
Striking coming of age story with strong, compelling characters & a vivid sense of place. Written in Verse.



Steady for This by Nathanael Lessor

A teenage boy who aspires to be a famous rapper finds new motivation to pursue his dreams when his family are in danger of being evicted

Warm, funny & often quite emotional read with an endearing character, a wholesome romantic sub-plot & a few genuine laugh-out-loud moments.



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.

Full of good constructive advice and ideas on how to develop resilience.



Student Librarians' Recommendations

Our Student Librarians have fantastic recommendations. Check out these realistic, gripping, and thrilling stories about growing up and choosing your own way,



Crumbs by Danie Stirling

Ray, a young seer struggling with her powers, discovers first love and friendship in her town's magic bakery.

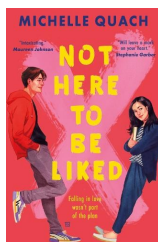
It was really cute. I loved it! - Phoebe



You've Reached Sam by Dustin Thao

When Sam dies in a car accident, his girlfriend Julie discovers a remaining link to him through supernatural phone calls.

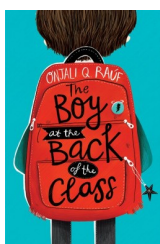
Heartbreaking story of a girl coping with her boyfriend's death - Lauren



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.

I love how the main character fights for equal rights in her school community. - Vania



The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Q. Rauf

A boy befriends a refugee who has started in his class at school and helps him settle into his new life in the UK.

Perfect representation of the hardships and troubles of refugees. - Aryanna



You Think You Know Me

By Ayaan Mahamud

Drawing on her own experiences of Islamophobia, Ayaan shines a light on the lives behind the headlines, in a story of how a racist attack leads one girl to speak up.

I love this story, it's very important. - Sophia

Student Librarians



Our team of Student Librarians are well on their way to completing their training programme. Their dedication to the library is admirable. Our Student Librarians are well read and actively participate in promoting literacy through library projects and events. Student Librarians work in the day to day running of the library as well as long term projects.

This year, we have 5 exemplary pupils from Y9 on the team: Lauren, Phoebe, Vania, Sophia, and Aryanna. As they complete their modules for the Student Librarian training programme, we will be choosing one of them to become Head Student Librarian. The competition is fierce, but so is the team!

Be sure to check out their monthly recommendations in the newsletter or stop by during break or lunch to have a chat. They are always happy to help!

We will be opening up applications to recruit new Student Librarians in December. This process involves a formal application, job interview, and probationary period. It is a great way for pupils to gain insight into the workings of a library while gaining precious experience through a tiny taste of professional life.

Student Librarians learn public relations, organisation, project management, and marketing skills through a carefully curated programme specifically designed by Ms. Jawaid. All Student Librarians receive a Certificate of Completion as they leave the programme at the end of Y10.

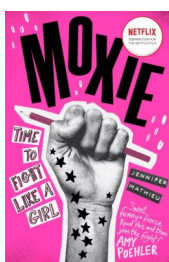


Library Events



SUMMER READING CHALLENGE WINNER

We had a great many entries for our Summer Reading Challenge. We are proud to announce our winner: Maria, Y9 who was awarded a certificate from our Head Teacher, Mrs Wilkinson. Maria also received a WHSmith gift card to get more books!



Maria read and reviewed:

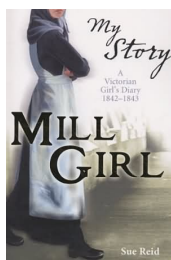
Moxie by Jennifer Mathieu

A teen girl stands up to sexism in her high school and unwittingly starts a feminist revolution that shakes her whole town.

I really liked how the protagonist was strong in her beliefs. She stood up for herself. I loved the story! - Maria



Maria is currently reading an inspiring, historical novel.



Mill Girl by Sue Reid

Written in diary form, a Victorian girl tells how she has to start work at the local mill to help her family's finances.

Be sure to check out these books and many more inspiring titles from the library/

We're very proud of Maria and all of our participants.

There will be many more library reading challenges throughout the year,



Upcoming Library Events

CELEBRATE NATIONAL POETRY DAY 5TH OCT 2023 in THE LIBRARY

The Library at Our Lady and St Bede Catholic Academy invites you to explore the concept of 'refuge' in all its forms, including:

Refuge from fear, danger, war
Climate change, extreme weather
Flight, escape, crossings of all kinds in search of safety
Mental refuge, security and peace of mind
Physical refuge and/or sanctuary

Discover your inner poet and get creative as we share poems based on the National Poetry Day theme for 2023: Refuge.

Participate in a choice of writing activities to help you explore your creativity.
Share your favourite poem or simply sit back and enjoy the event.

Activities will be taking place during break and lunch on Thursday, 5th October.



Upcoming Library Events

ARE YOU BRAVE ENOUGH FOR

SPOOKY STORYTIME

WITH MS. JAWAID

**31ST OCTOBER
DURING LUNCH. IN THE LIBRARY.**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

SEE MS. JAWAID FOR MORE INFORMATION.

COME FOR THE TREATS. STAY FOR THE FRIGHTS!

