



11th September 2026

EAB/tmi

Dear Parents/Carers,

This year your daughter will be participating in the 'Tutor Reads' programme, where all students in Year 8 will be reading the same book: **The things we leave behind** by Clare Furniss. This book is a **Carnegie shortlisted YA novel** and winner of the '**Southern Schools Book Awards**'. It is suitable for young people of 12 years and above.

This book tackles themes of loss and death amidst a tale of hope, resilience and the importance of community and love. In this novel, one of the characters uses an expletive on p57, and so I would like to advise you of this in advance. The word will not be read aloud.

The book will be read aloud by the form tutor, with students responding to comprehension questions around the plot, characters and themes. This method is called 'reciprocal reading' and is important in cementing a love of reading and developing skills in comprehension.

I hope your daughter enjoys reading this book and we look forward to the interesting responses to it.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Elizabeth Bailey

Assistant Headteacher