



St Christopher's School Library Bulletin

Term 1: 2023-24

"When I look back, I am so impressed again with the life-giving power of literature. If I were a young person today, trying to gain a sense of myself in the world, I would do that again by reading, just as I did when I was young."

Maya Angelou

Welcome to our third Library newsletter. We hope to inspire a love of reading in all our pupils, and see it as the key to unlocking the wonders of our knowledge rich curriculum. We hope you enjoy our termly updates, recommended reading from our school librarian, and an insight into the support our library offers.

KS3 Book Recommendations

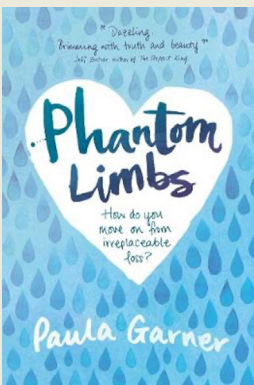


A young lad determines to change his ways when the consequences of his bullying prank on a homeless man are laid bare.

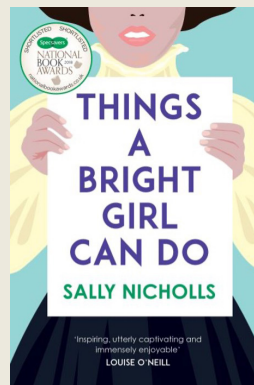


A young dragon discovers that he is one of five dragonets destined to stop an endless, ancient war, but must decide whether he wants to fight or not.

KS4 Book Recommendations

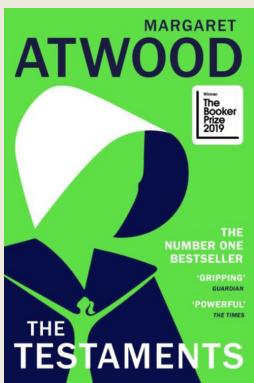


A sixteen-year-old boy must learn to swim against an undercurrent of grief - or be swept away by it.

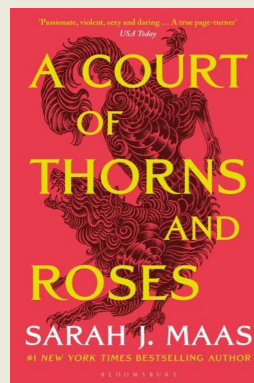


Three young women from different backgrounds join the Suffrage movement in the early 20th century just before World War I.

KS5 Book Recommendations

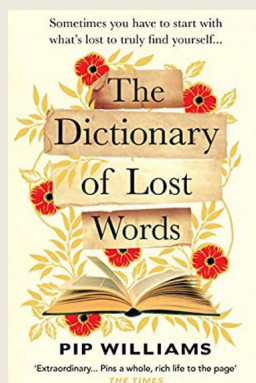


The Booker prize-winning sequel to The Handmaid's Tale.



Imprisoned for killing a faerie, a young huntress must find a way of escape before she falls in love with her guard.

Readers Recommend:



Mrs Spence recommends...

The Dictionary of Lost Words

by Pip Williams

"The Dictionary of Lost Words is a beautiful and captivating account of the history of the male dominated world of the first dictionaries, told from the perspective of a young girl as she matures into teenage years and then adulthood. She delves into the lives, and words, of the women she encounters, and in so doing, learns of love, loss, resilience and hope. A book you'll want to start again as soon as you finish it!"



Mr Allen recommends...

War Lord

by Bernard Cornwell

"War Lord by Bernard Cornwell grips the reader right from the beginning when his seemingly comforted retirement, back in his ancestral home is rudely disturbed once more by the age-old foreign invaders and the English monarchy. I was hooked from the off as this now ageing veteran tackles similar tolls, but its noticeable how time has caught up with him and leaves one genuinely fearful that this adventure could be his inevitable last."

Library News

An update from our librarian

The School Library continued the 'Reading Mentor' scheme. Pupils are encouraged to borrow picture books and share them with a younger member of their family or friend.

When pupils have shared 8 books with their child, they receive a 'Reading Leader' badge and certificate. Congratulations to Alfie Greenwood, Jasmine Robinson, Eliza Byrne, Poppy Chippendale and Paige Elleray (all Year 7 pupils) who have recently completed the scheme and received their 'Reading Leader' badges and certificates.



Young People's Book Prize 2023

'The Young People's Book Prize aims to promote literacy in young people and to inspire them to read about science. It also supports the writing of excellent, accessible STEM books for under-14s. The Prize is unique in that the winner is selected by judging panels made up of young people at schools across the country from a shortlist curated by an adult judging panel.'

- From the Royal Society website.

We have a judging panel made up of six Year 8 pupils, Marissa Cowen, Benny Boydell, Stephanie Rosu, Lexi Coates, Noah Walker and Marlie Akers who will read each book and submit a review. The judging panel have to choose from the following shortlist and will submit their favourite book to the Royal Society at the end of January.

You can find out more about the prize here:

<https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/book-prizes/young-peoples-book-prize/>

Creating a Buzz for Reading

All our Year 8 pupils had the opportunity to choose their own book to take home from a list of 16. All thanks to the #bookbuzz reading programme from the BookTrust.

This is all to inspire a love of reading. The favourite choice among our Year 8 pupils was 'Dread Wood' by Jennifer Killick, followed by 'Striking Out' by Ian Wright and Musa Okwonga.

You can find out more about the programme here:

www.booktrust.org.uk



What's coming up:

January 2024

Holocaust Memorial Day: 27 January 2024

Commemorated nationally with various storytelling events, click this link to find out more: [Holocaust Memorial Day Trust | What is Holocaust Memorial Day?](#)

National Storytelling Week: 27 January to 4 February 2024

A week-long celebration of stories – spoken or written – encouraging creativity and self-expression enabling children to tell their own stories. More ideas and resources can be found here: [National Storytelling Week 2024 Activities and Resources | National Literacy Trust | National Literacy Trust](#)

Wicked Writers: Be the Change writing competition: Launches 29 January 2024

In partnership with acclaimed stage-musical Wicked, this persuasive writing competition for pupils aged 9 to 14 focuses on positive changes they would like to make for the environment.

[Wicked Writers: Be the Change | National Literacy Trust](#)

February 2024

Children's Mental Health Week: 5 to 11 February 2024

Shining a spotlight on the importance of children and young people's mental health, and building on research findings that link literacy engagement with wellbeing. Find out more here: [About - Children's Mental Health Week \(childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk\)](#)

Safer Internet Day: 6 February 2024

Supporting children to develop critical and digital literacy skills helping them to navigate news, information and the digital environment safely: www.saferinternetday.org

March 2024

World Book Day: 7 March 2024

Find out what you can do to get involved at home here: [Families - World Book Day](#)

Want to find out more?

Visit our library website where you will find our guide to reading at home as well as recommended reading lists for KS3-4 and other useful links:




[St Christopher's - Library](#)

The link below is the shortcut for the new library management system. Pupils can request a password from Miss Holman and can access the library catalogue from home and also do book reviews:

[St Christopher's - Library Catalogue](#)



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