

# Welcome Back To The Library!

Our school library reopened on 1<sup>st</sup> September with new Librarian Mrs Dufton. As well as borrowing books for in and out of school use, pupils have access to computers, can join after school clubs, and should see the library as a comfortable and supportive place where they can read for pleasure and study.

The library is open to students at break, lunch and after school until 4:30pm. Students may borrow books for two weeks with the option to renew them if they haven't finished at that point. Students are not fined for late books we just ask that they are returned so that other students have a chance to borrow them.

**Library lessons:** Students in years 7, 8, and 9 have an hour reading lesson in the library once a fortnight (Year 10 and 11 are given opportunities to change books twice per half term). During this lesson students are encouraged to read for pleasure. The English teachers and librarian keep track of what books students are reading, help them select books that they will enjoy and are appropriate for their age and level, and also check that they understand what they are reading.

Many exciting things are already happening in our library, and we have great plans for the future to inspire and encourage students to read for pleasure!

**Clubs:** We have several after school clubs running in the library (please note that students are still welcome to use the library for study even if they are not taking part in the club).

Monday – All Things Magical

Tuesday – Wirral Book Awards

Wednesday – Manga, Comic & Illustrations

Thursday – The Book Is Better Than The Film

Friday – Around The World

Growing our Manga collection:



Showcasing our amazing illustration skills:





Over 30 Students regularly join in our Manga Club!

**News:** In October we celebrated Black History Month and we received the wonderful news that we were one of the lucky schools, out of 1600 applicants, who would be receiving 135 books by authors of colour. Penguin Books donated these so that our library and literature can reflect the rich diversity of today's society. The bundle included five copies of the hardback edition of Barack Obama's autobiography worth £35 each!



**Authors:** On 21<sup>st</sup> October some lucky Year 7 classes joined in a Halloween special event with two of the best contemporary writers of horror and suspense for young people - Bryony Pearce and Alex Bell. The authors read an extract from their latest novels, explained how they started their writing careers, and answered questions such as which is their favourite genre or book apart from horror. They also gave us an insight into their creative writing process, and they both have quite different styles which was very interesting for the students to listen to and see how people think differently.





**Competitions:** We will be running many competitions throughout the year to encourage and excite pupils about reading and writing. Our first competition was tied in with National Poetry Day and the theme of ‘Choice’. The following three poems were our winners and the successful students got to choose a new book of their choice:

*Spring choices*

I'll have many choices to make today,  
as calendar squares hurry towards  
the spring sun of mid May.

On that first day many,  
echoing patterns will fill breezy hallways,  
I'll have many choices to make today

Many decisions will sway,  
but my choices are decided by  
the spring sun of mid May.

What to do and where to stay  
will it be right or will it be wrong?  
I'll have many choices to make today.

Makes term and exams won't delay,  
but I must make choices before,  
the spring sun of mid May.

Before long I will move away  
with the final scores from  
the Spring sun of Mid May,  
I'll have many choices to make today.

Life is like a board game, 2021  
you never know where your going till you roll the dice,  
Whether your number is high or low,  
You move to the future whether its Daugthy or nice.

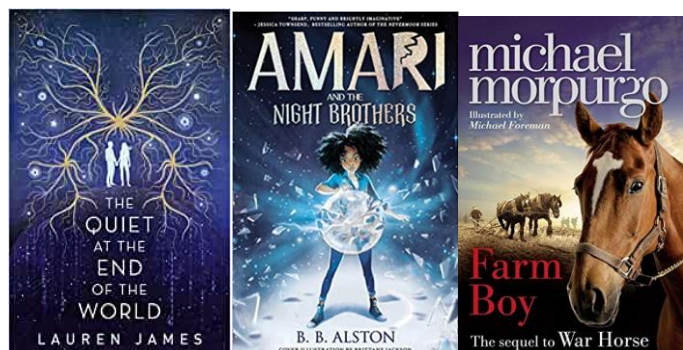
Lifes like a crossroad,  
You have to choose to go left or right,  
No matter which way you go,  
You can still make choices day or night.

Choices are like authors,  
They determin what will happen in your story,  
Chapter to Chapter day to day,  
Choices make up lifes jury.

Life and choices go hand in hand,  
You cant have a life without choices,  
And you cant have choices without life,  
So take a left turn every once in a while  
You never know where that choice will take you.



*Meghan Year 11  
Amelia Year 8  
Ava Year 7*



The journey of life, for both you and I  
Is littered with choices, every blink of an eye  
the choices we make, determines the path we tread  
From the day we are born to the day we are dead  
When I'm faced with all of these choices, it makes my stomach churn  
for every decision I have made, has led me to a lesson I must learn  
You're not here for long, so make every minute last  
live in the moment and forget the past.

Our second competition was a ‘Spooky Reading and Caption Competition’. Three Year 7 students were the winners! Luca, Zara and Bethany each received Halloween themed books:



The next competition will be to win vouchers to spend at our book fair and then a Christmas themed one - details to follow!

### Ideas that can help your child's reading:

- Read aloud to your child, you may think that they are too old but many would welcome it (hearing a story helps with meaning/context, pronunciation and new vocabulary is learnt). Try taking turns, reading a page or chapter each.
- Reading aloud not for you? Try reading the same book and then discuss as you go along, what's happened, what do you think is going to happen next, who's your favourite character or event and why?
- Listen to audio books or follow along with a book and audio. Try listening together as a family in the car on journeys.

These activities will help your child's reading, confidence and education but not only that, it creates bonding, gives them attention, can help behaviours, and promotes good role modelling.

**Book Fair:** From Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> until Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November we will be holding a book fair in the Library. Students will have an opportunity to browse the books during break, lunch, after school and in library lessons, parents are also invited to the library after school to shop. Every book you buy can help us get free books for the school!

Parents and students can take a look online, order and pay:

[www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/parents](http://www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/parents)

