

Our Lady's Catholic High School Reading Newsletter - AUTUMN/WINTER 2021



Welcome to our Autumn term 'OLCHS Reading Newsletter'. This term's newsletter is full of updates about what we've been up to this term, recommended reads and, of course, a Christmas Reading Competition!

Fiction Addiction

Fiction Addiction, an exciting book club with a difference, began this half term for our Y7 pupils. Fiction Addiction aims to encourage our pupils to enjoy reading a variety of both challenging and engaging literature for pleasure. This book club with a difference includes puzzles, games and quizzes which will revolve around a new theme each week. Here are some pictures of our Harry Potter week! Remember, it's not too late to get involved! Sign up in the LRC and come and join us on Tuesday lunchtimes!



National Poetry Day 2021

National Poetry Day was celebrated in style on Thursday, 7 October 2021 within school. The theme this year was choice and our choice to launch National Poetry Day as an annual event in school was hugely successful. Poetry appeared all around school as staff chose to share their favourite poems with pupils and departments chose poems linked to their curriculum areas to share too. Pupils' poetry decorated some of our beautiful trees as their poems, written on paper leaves, were transformed into 'Poetrees'!



TOP TIP FOR PARENTS

Be patient as you try to find the book that engages your child! Some teenagers have a preconception that reading is largely about fantasy and adventure, and has very little relevance to their lives. In actual fact, young adult fiction is full of gritty and realistic stories featuring relatable teen voices. And our advice is not to worry about the mature content often found in these books - teens are bound to encounter discussion of adult issues through school or friends, and books are actually a great safe place for teens to explore their feelings about these issues.

Here are a few great places to find book recommendations:

- LoveReading4Kids website: www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk
- World Book Day parents' book finder: www.worldbookday.com/ideas/parents
- Common Sense Media: www.common Sense Media.org

RECOMMENDED READS

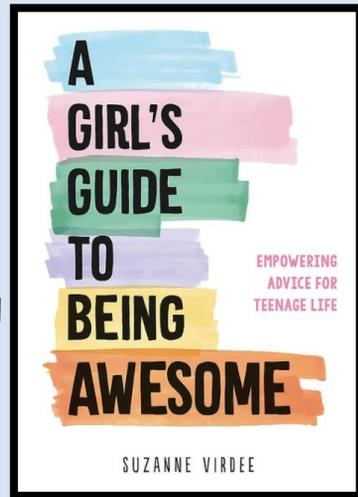
A Girl's Guide to Being Awesome: Empowering advice for Teenage Life by Suzanne Virdee

Let's face it: growing up is confusing. You're expected to get good grades at school, maintain an insta-worthy social life and somehow also hone a range of life skills which you *definitely* don't want to ask your parents about...

This book is here to act as your go-to guide on everything from social media to school life and from body image to self-esteem. Acting as your personal cheerleader, this book will teach you everything you need to navigate your teens with sass and style.

Remember, there is nothing more awesome than being you.

RECOMMENDED BY MRS ARDERN



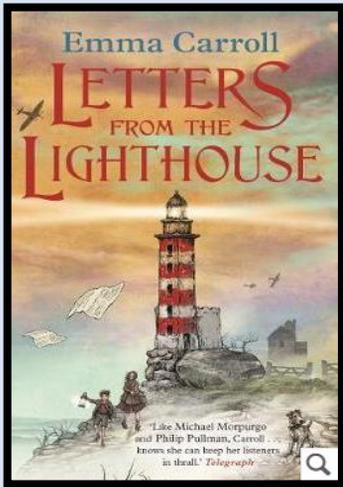
Letters from the Lighthouse by Emma Carroll

Olive and her brother have been evacuated to Devon, but her older sister Sukie is still missing from the night of the bombs. A mysterious note found in the coat of her sister suggests that Sukie was involved in something dangerous, but Olive can't make the pieces fit together.

Emma Carroll is a natural storyteller and her sixth novel cements her place as the go-to writer for historical fiction. Her writing is filled with well-researched detail that folds seamlessly into the story. This would make an excellent companion read to school lessons on war-time evacuees, although it is a definite read for pleasure.

Olive is a brave heroine and there's a good twist towards the end that even the most wily readers won't see coming

RECOMMENDED BY MRS HARDACRE



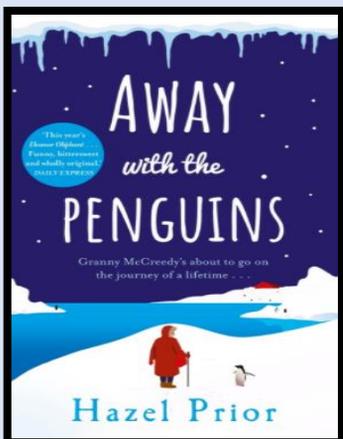
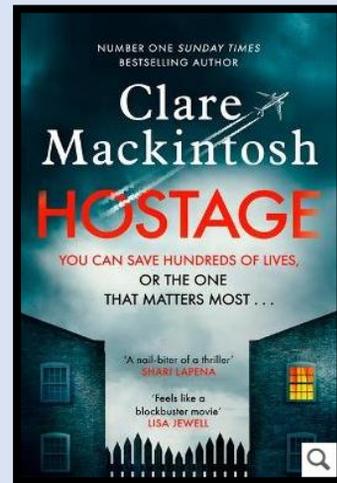
Hostage by Clare Mackintosh

A nail-biter of a thriller, set on the first non-stop flight from London to Sydney. It encompasses the contemporary themes of climate change and the dark side of social media.

Mina is trying to focus on her job as a flight attendant, not the problems of her five-year-old daughter back home, or the fissures in her marriage. But the plane has barely taken off when Mina receives a chilling note from an anonymous passenger, someone intent on ensuring the plane never reaches its destination. Someone who needs Mina's assistance and who knows exactly how to make her comply.

Suitable for KS4 pupils.

RECOMMENDED BY MRS AINSWORTH



Away with the Penguins by Hazel Prior

A glorious, life affirming story about 85yr old, reclusive, Veronica, who goes in search of a worthy cause in which to leave her considerable wealth. Her quest takes her to visit the penguins in Antarctica.

Although a novel, the current issue of climate change is a key element in this heart-warming read.

'Unflinching, stubborn, funny and moving, Veronica is an unlikely heroine who will sneak in and capture your heart.'



CHRISTMAS



Reading Challenge

Read **three books** over the Christmas break and be in with a chance of winning some of these amazing raffle prizes....



- Amazon vouchers
- Book of your choice
 - Chocolate
- Free snacks in the restaurant
 - Early to break pass



Complete the form below to enter!

<https://forms.gle/pQc7j3BtUNe2i7DC6>

All pupils who complete the challenge will be awarded **three** BOOO points and will be entered into the raffle!



Happy Reading!

