

Library Spring Term Newsletter



Royal Society Science Book Award

West Park have been taking part in the Royal Society Science Book Prize this half term! This award aims to promote literacy and inspire pupils read more about science. The winner is selected by judging panels across the UK. Our West Park pupils spent two break times reviewing the books, and then had an off-timetable afternoon to complete the judging process.

Their two favourite books were 'Can You Get Rainbows in Space' by Sheila Kanani, and 'Mission Arctic: A Scientific Adventure to a Changing North Pole' by Katharina Weiss-Tuider. We can't wait to find out the overall winner and share it with the group when it is announced!



Reading Mentors

We currently have some wonderful year 9 pupils helping out in the library for their Duke of Edinburgh volunteering hours. They are taking part in our reading mentoring scheme, and have been paired up with some lovely year 7 pupils.

The aim of the scheme is to support the year 7s reading, boost confidence and share their own enthusiasm for books. They have also been helping with other library duties, such as creating displays and supporting our lively Book Club. Some of our previous reading mentors from last year have also returned to help out in year 10, which has been lovely to see!

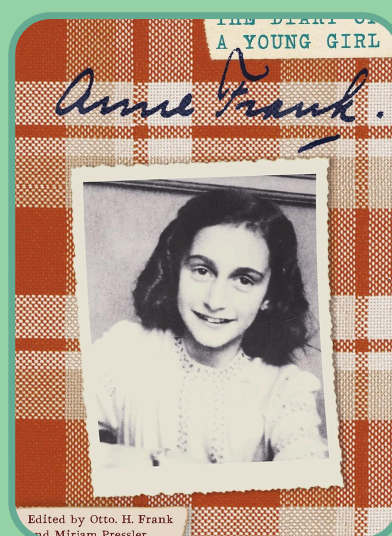
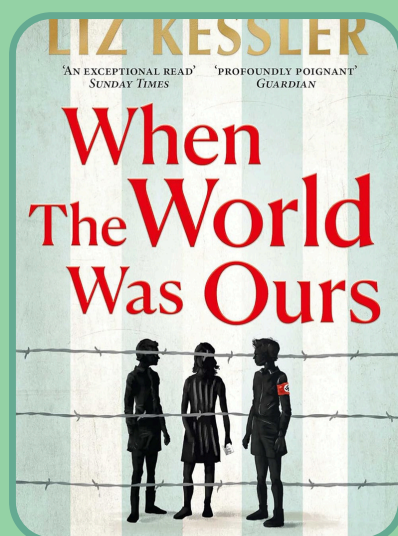
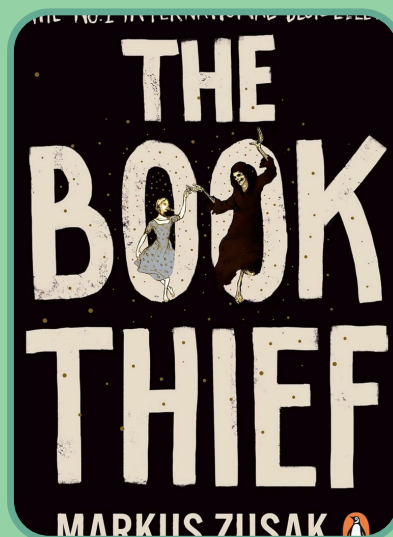
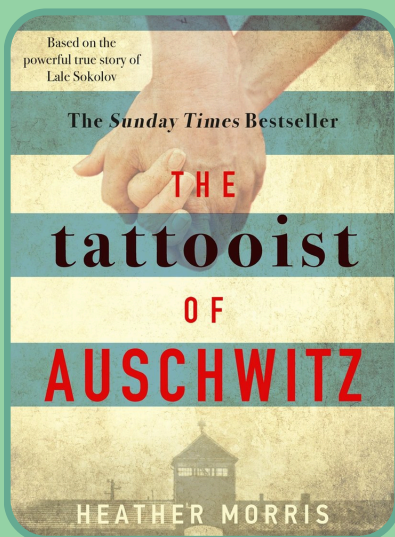


Trench Research

Year 9 history classes have been coming to the library to conduct research on WW1 trenches. It is wonderful to have other departments in, and a great opportunity for the pupils to practice their research skills!

Holocaust Memorial Day

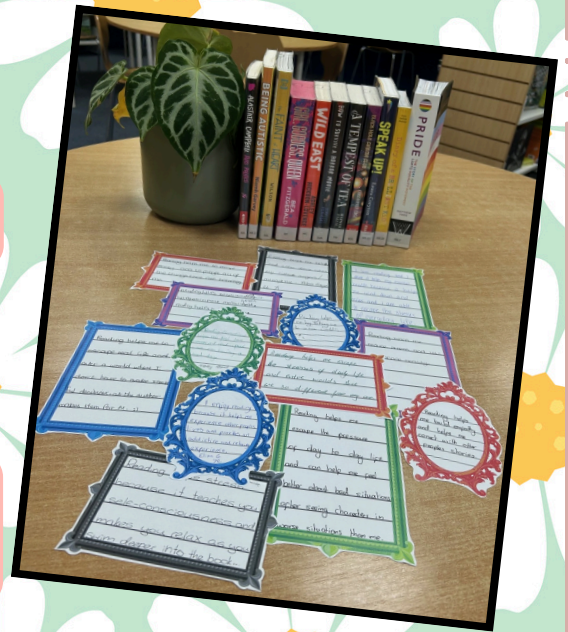
Monday 27th January was Holocaust Memorial Day. This year marked the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. Our 'Book of the Week' on the school screens in January focused on this, showcasing some of the amazing literature that has been written about the Holocaust.



Book Club



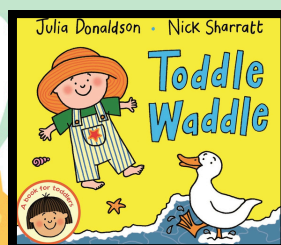
Book Club continues to be fantastic! January 20th was 'Blue Monday', said to be the most depressing day of the year. We asked Book Club to write down how reading helps their mental wellbeing to help combat these January blues. We had some amazing suggestions, and have since created a lovely big display in P-Block to share these tips with our wider school community.



Our headteacher Mr McGregor gave a talk- what a treat they all had! Mr McGregor spoke about his love of reading from a young age, including some particular favourites such as Enid Blyton and Roald Dahl's *The BFG* (which he did a fabulous reading from!)

Now that Mr McGregor is a parent, he has the pleasure of passing on his love of reading to his children. One of their current favourites is "Toddle Waddle". We had a very dramatic reading from Mr McGregor - by the end, most of Book Club were joining in! We have had many requests to have "Toddle Waddle" in the library.

Mr. McGregor's final thoughts for Book Club were: "Keep a love of books; a book can take you anywhere."

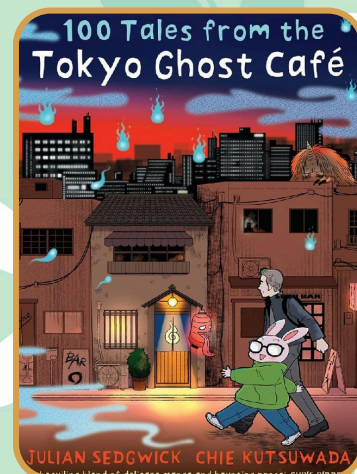
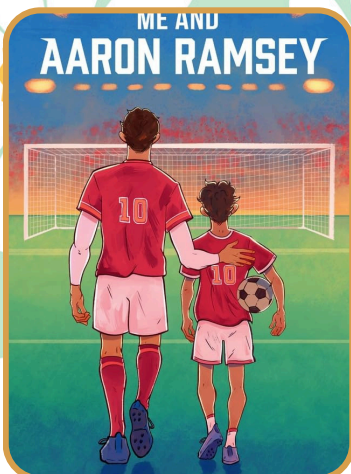
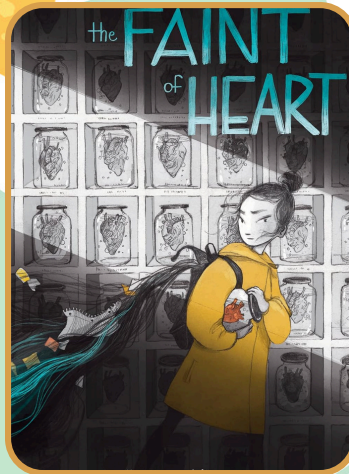
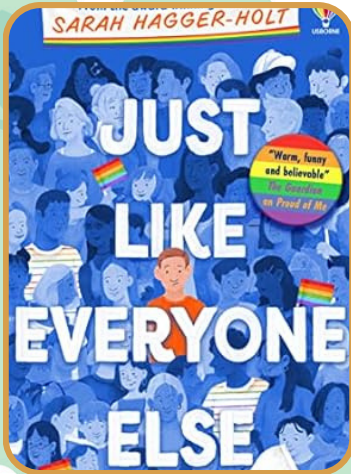




Book Club

Derbyshire Schools' Book Award

Pupils in Book Club are continuing to read for the local Derbyshire Schools' Book Award. The winner of the award is chosen by pupils from schools all across Derbyshire, and will be revealed in an action-packed finale celebration event at the University of Derby on 27th March. We will be taking 14 pupils with us for an exciting day!



Preparations for Book Fest

Our annual Book Fest preparations are well underway! Book Fest will be 3rd-7th March, and we are already busy organising lots of fun book-related activities! There will be competitions, events, and an inter-house form quiz. We have author Steve Skidmore joining us in school on Friday 7th March, where he will be giving talks to all of our year 7 and 8 pupils.

Steve specialises in graphic novels and shorter accessible texts for more reluctant readers. He has also co-written a fantasy series called 'Dragonsdale'. We have been running a ParentPay pre-order scheme which has recently closed. All pre-ordered books will be delivered to school for the day of the event, where Steve will sign them for our pupils!

