



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the December edition of the Henry Beaufort School Library Newsletter! We are excited to announce that we will be publishing a Library newsletter every month to keep you up to date with the latest library news, events, and competitions. We will also have some regular features every month such as our Book of the Month and Author of the Month. This month we have exciting news about the Scholastic Book Fair and some excellent recommended reads for the chilly, dark evenings of December! Finally, Mrs Smallwood and I wish you all a restful break and a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Mrs Ireland

THE STUDENT LIBRARIANS' BOOK OF THE MONTH (CHOSEN BY JOSHUA AB)

December: As Good As Dead by Holly Jackson (T+)

Pip Fitz-Amobi is haunted by the way her last investigation ended. Soon she'll be leaving for Cambridge University but then another case finds her... and this time it's all about Pip.

Pip is used to online death threats, but there's one that catches her eye, someone who keeps asking: who will look for you when you're the one who disappears? And it's not just online. Pip has a stalker who knows where she lives. The police refuse to act and then Pip finds connections between her stalker and a local serial killer. The killer has been in prison for six years, but Pip suspects that the wrong man is behind bars. As the deadly game plays out, Pip realises that everything in Little Kilton is finally coming full circle. If Pip doesn't find the answers, this time she will be the one who disappears...

Josh describes *As Good As Dead* as the best yet in the series, as well as being a fantastic stand-alone novel with a winding plot will keep you wanting to read on. Anyone who loved the first two books in this series (*A Good Girl's Guide to Murder* and *Good Girl, Bad Blood*) will not be disappointed by Jackson's excellent final instalment.





LATEST NEWS

Library Opening Hours

	Before School 8.00am-8.30pm	Break 10.35am-10.50am	Early/Late Lunch 11.50am-12.45pm	Home Learning Club 2.40pm-4.00pm
MONDAY	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
TUESDAY	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
WEDNESDAY	OPEN	OPEN	CLOSED	OPEN
THURSDAY	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
FRIDAY	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	CLOSED

Welcome to Mrs Smallwood

A warm welcome to Mrs Smallwood who started as the Friday Library Manager this half term. Mrs Smallwood is your Librarian every Friday whilst Mrs Ireland continues as Library Manager Monday-Thursday. Be sure to pop in and say hello to Mrs Smallwood on a Friday if you haven't already!

Student Librarians

Congratulations to the following students who have all been successful in their applications to become Student Librarians: Sahar G, Julia C, Joshua A-B, Austin P and Zac M-W.

Welcome back to the following Year 11 students in their new role as Senior Student Librarians:
Olivia F, Saba G and Lilly-Anne Y

Student Librarians are an extremely valuable part of the Henry Beaufort School Library Team. As such every month we choose a Student Librarian of the Month to reward the extra effort members of the team put in to keep our library tidy and welcoming.

Student Librarian of the Month: November

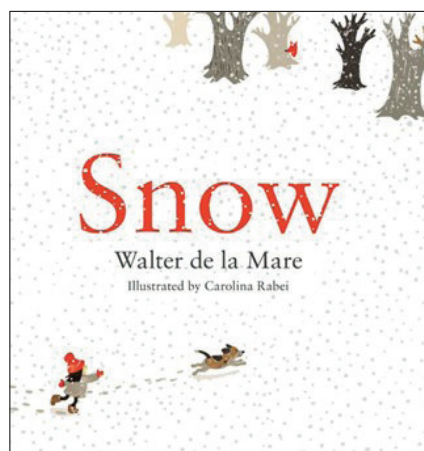
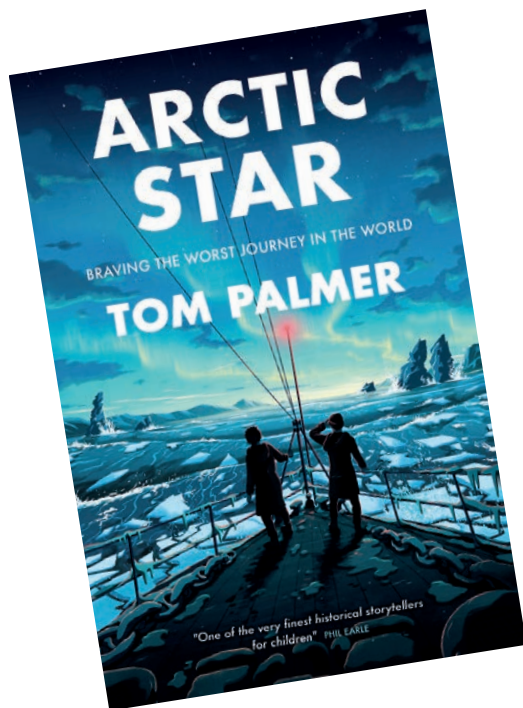
Our Student Librarian of the Month for November is Joshua. Congratulations Josh – you have worked really hard to keep the shelves tidy and make the library a welcoming place for all students.



AUHOR OF THE MONTH

December: Winter Stories by Various Authors

The Christmas holidays beckon and what better way to spend a few hours by a fire than with a winter story or two? We have an excellent selection of new books including *Sky Song* by Abi Elphinstone, a Second World War story, *Arctic Star* by Tom Palmer and a truly beautiful version of the poem *Snow* by Walter de la Mare. Please do come to the library before the end of term and have a browse!





LIBRARY EVENTS

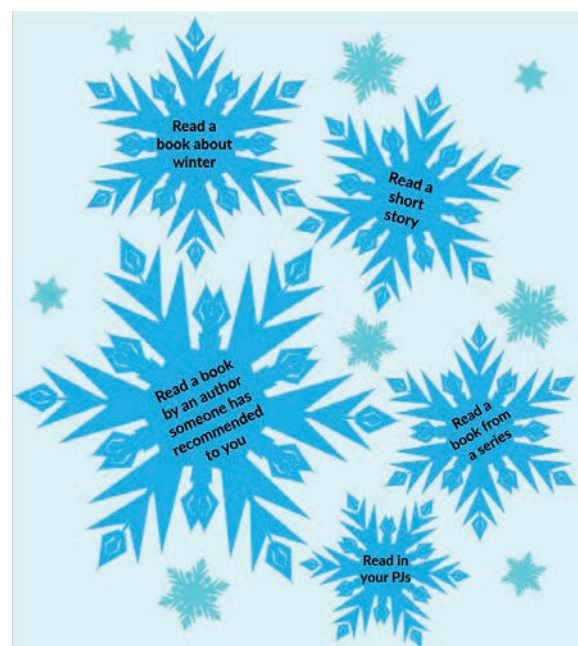
Scholastic Book Fair

We will be holding a Scholastic Book Fair from Wednesday 7th December until Monday 12th December in the library. Students will be able to browse and purchase books at break and lunch times on those days. The fair is open to all students and will have over 200 titles to choose from priced from £2.99 featuring authors such as Alice Oseman, Holly Jackson, Marcus Rashford and more!



December Challenge

December is 'Read a New Book' month – below we have some reading challenges for you to try this month. Can you complete one of the challenges below before you come back to school in January? Or even all of them?





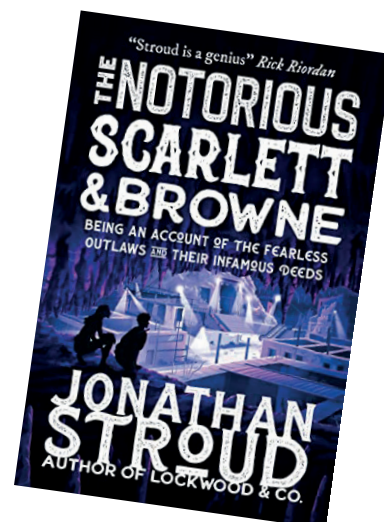
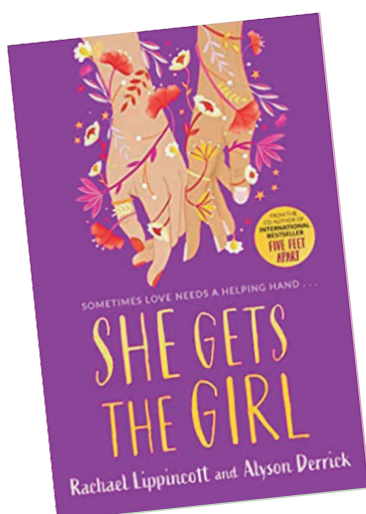
AUHOR OF THE MONTH

Launch of Teen Book Reviewer

Do you love reading fiction? Do you want to have a say on what we have on our school library shelves? Sign up to become a Teen Book Reviewer and get first refusal on new fiction throughout the year.

All you have to do is scan the QR code on the bookmark and leave a short review of the book once you've finished it. There's no pressure to read every new book throughout the year, you can review one or ten! See Mrs Ireland to sign up and choose your first book!

The first selection is pictured below. Books will be handed out on a first come first served basis but a reserve list will be kept for each book.

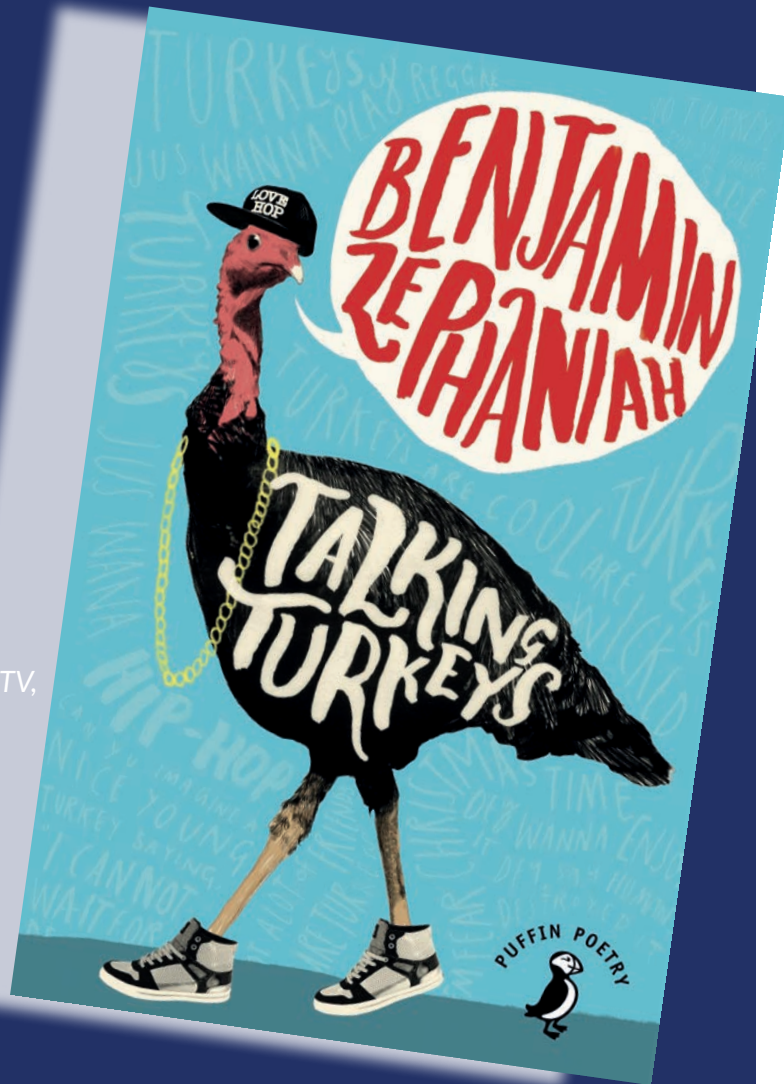




MRS SMALLWOOD'S POEM OF THE MONTH

December: Talking Turkeys by Benjamin Zephaniah

Be nice to yu turkeys dis christmas
Cos' turkeys just wanna hav fun
Turkeys are cool, turkeys are wicked
An every turkey has a Mum.
Be nice to yu turkeys dis christmas,
Don't eat it, keep it alive,
It could be yu mate, an not on your plate
Say, Yo! Turkey I'm on your side.
I got lots of friends who are turkeys
An all of dem fear christmas time,
Dey wanna enjoy it, dey say humans destroyed it
An humans are out of dere mind,
Yeah, I got lots of friends who are turkeys
Dey all hav a right to a life,
Not to be caged up an genetically made up
By any farmer an his wife.
Turkeys just wanna play reggae
Turkeys just wanna hip-hop
Can yu imagine a nice young turkey saying,
'I cannot wait for de chop',
Turkeys like getting presents, dey wanna watch christmas TV,
Turkeys hav brains an turkeys feel pain
In many ways like yu an me.
I once knew a turkey called..... Turkey
He said "Benji explain to me please,
Who put de turkey in christmas
An what happens to christmas trees?",
I said "I am not too sure turkey
But it's nothing to do wid Christ Mass
Humans get greedy an waste more dan need be
An business men mek loadsa cash'.
Be nice to yu turkey dis christmas
Invite dem indoors fe sum greens
Let dem eat cake an let dem partake
In a plate of organic grown beans,
Be nice to yu turkey dis christmas
An spare dem de cut of de knife,
Join Turkeys United an dey'll be delighted
An yu will mek new friends 'FOR LIFE'.



I love this poem; it does make me chuckle every time I read it. I don't think it will surprise you to discover Benjamin is a vegan! I love the way Zephaniah gives the turkeys human characteristics. The mood is comedic and really captures the way British Brummies speak. Zephaniah is also inspiring because he suffers from dyslexia and struggled at school before becoming a successful poet and broadcaster.

[Talking Turkeys!! - YouTube](#)



MRS IRELAND'S RECOMMENDED READS

December's Fiction Focus is 'Read a New Book Month'
How about trying one these new reads in the Henry Beaufort School library?

Enola Holmes Series, Nancy Springer

When Enola Holmes, sister to the detective Sherlock Holmes, discovers her mother has disappeared, she quickly embarks on a journey to London in search of her. But nothing can prepare her for what awaits. Because when she arrives, she finds herself involved in the kidnapping of a young marquess, fleeing murderous villains, and trying to elude her shrewd older brothers-all while attempting to piece together clues to her mother's strange disappearance.

Amid all the mayhem, will Enola be able to decode the necessary clues and find her mother?

Enola Holmes is the perfect series for fans of the original Sherlock Holmes novels and the Murder Most Unladylike books or anyone who likes a good mystery. These books are already very popular in the library - could Enola Holmes be your new favourite series?





MRS IRELAND'S RECOMMENDED READS CONTINUED

Rebel Skies, Ann Sei Lin

Kurara has never known any other life than being a servant on board the Midori, but when her party trick of making paper come to life turns out to be a power treasured across the empire, she joins a skyship and its motley crew to become a Crafter. Taught by the gruff but wise Himura, Kurara learns to hunt shikigami - wild paper spirits who are sought after by the Princess.

But are these creatures just powerful slaves, or are they beings with their own souls? And can a teenage girl be the one to help them find their voice - and change the course of an empire?

Rebel Skies is a perfect read for anyone who loves a bit of fantasy and magic. It's beautifully written but still pacy and full of adventure. Great for fans of Harry Potter and His Dark Materials.



Heartstopper Series (T+)

Charlie and Nick are at the same school, but they've never met ... until one day when they're made to sit together. They quickly become friends, and soon Charlie is falling hard for Nick, even though he doesn't think he has a chance.

But love works in surprising ways, and Nick is more interested in Charlie than either of them realised. Heartstopper is about love, friendship, loyalty and mental illness. It encompasses all the small stories of Nick and Charlie's lives that together make up something larger, which speaks to all of us.

Heartstopper is not only a hugely popular Netflix series but is also a BookTok fan favourite. This graphic novel is great for those who love a bit of romance. Heartstopper is a perfect for fans of The Art of Being Normal and Love, Simon.

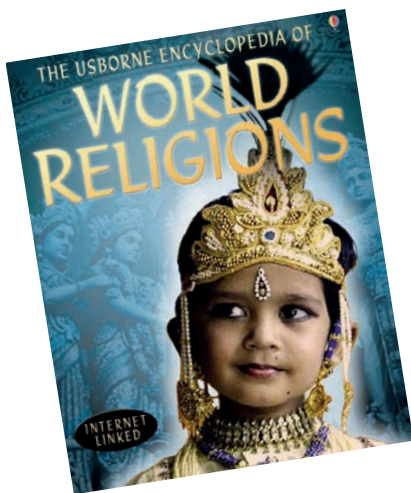
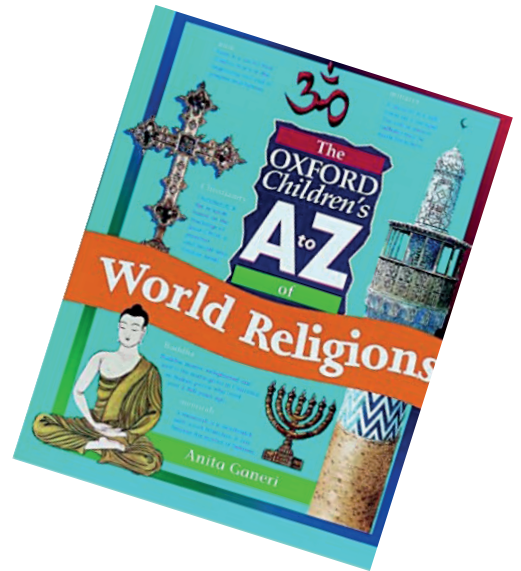
This month marks a number of religious festivals, from Bodhi Day to Hannukah to Christmas. Our December Non-Fiction Focus is 'Religion & Culture' to celebrate all beliefs in the world.



MRS IRELAND'S RECOMMENDED READS CONTINUED

The Children's A-Z of World Religions

This volume contains full-page features on the six major world religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, and Sikhism. It provides detailed information on the various beliefs, festivals, places of worship, gods, and religious tracts.



Encyclopaedia of World Religions

A balanced exploration of the beliefs, history and customs of all the major world religions, as well as many lesser-known faiths. Beautiful photographs and engaging illustrations complement the informative thought-provoking text.