



CHS Library Newsletter

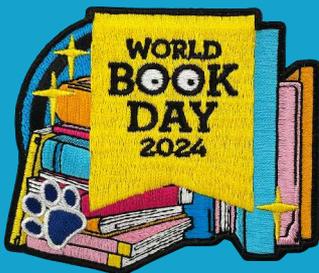
February 2024



World Book Day is coming!

Thursday the 7th of March

The countdown is officially on for World Book Day 2024! This is a fantastic day in which we can celebrate a shared love of reading as a school. Years 7, 8 & 9 are invited to dress up as a literary character to be in with a chance of winning the 'best dressed' competition. The winner will receive a box of chocolates for their efforts, as well as the possibility to feature in the next newsletter! Remember, if you are dressing up, you need to be an instantly recognisable literary figure and bring the book into school with you. We can't wait to see your costumes!



Book Bake Off

On World Book Day, we will be running a Book Bake Off in the library. We would like for students to get creative in the kitchen and design a literary themed bake. This can be anything from a Bruce Bogtrotter cake, to Harry Potter themed biscuits. Please bring your baked goods to Miss Marsh in the library on Thursday morning, and the bake sale will commence at dinner time. If you would like to buy any cake/buns, be sure to bring some spare change with you! The chosen Star Baker will be awarded a £20.00 Waterstones voucher, and three runners up will also receive prizes.



Raffle Competition

As Reading Week is taking place a couple of weeks after World Day, we will be running a competition from the library. For every book you take out in these two weeks, you will receive a raffle ticket. At the end of Reading Week, the winner will be drawn. The first name pulled out will receive a £20.00 Waterstones voucher, and the next 10 pulled out will receive a VIP queue pass for a week of their choice. We understand that some people read their own books at home. That's okay - just come tell us what you've been reading and write us a small review to receive a raffle ticket. Remember - the more books you read, the better your chances are of winning the voucher! Happy reading.

Reading Week 2

18th - 22nd of March 2024

Quotation, Quotation, Quotation...

How well do you know your quotes? This scavenger style competition is sure to test your literary knowledge! Split into year group areas, five departments will hide six quotes around their classrooms. These will all have a link - either a book or the author. All you need to do is figure out what the link is... Collect your answer sheet from the library or your tutor during reading week. Only complete your year group area. Every correctly completed sheet will receive twenty stamps, with the first ten students receiving the bonus prizes of a chocolate bar and queue pass. The areas are as follows:

Y7 - Technology

Y8 - Maths

Y9 - English

Y10 - Science

Y11- Humanities

Design a Bookmark competition

Are you a budding artist? Do you have a love for reading? Want to become the illustrator of the official library bookmark? Collect a template from the library or the art department and submit your bookmark design to Miss Marsh for the chance for it to be mass produced distributed around the library...

Drop Everything & Read (DEAR)

Drop Everything and Read will be taking place during reading week for the second half of period 5 every day for Y7, 8 & 9. After feedback from students, Y10 will be partaking in DEAR during the final 30 minutes of P5 on Wednesday and Friday, and Y11 will be taking part in the final 30 minutes of period 5 on Friday. Something that came up a lot in your feedback was that staff sometimes forgot about it. This time, Mrs Plater will be sending an email when the DEAR starts, and Miss Marsh will be checking that classes are taking part.

Book Swap

Back by popular demand! The library book swap will be taking place on the Friday dinnertime of Reading Week. If you have any old books at home that you want rid of, pop them into the library from now until Reading Week in exchange for a book token from Miss Marsh. If you don't have any books to exchange, you can buy book tokens from the library with your stamps.

Blind Date With A Book



Valentine's Day will take place over half term. Valentine's Day is a holiday that people celebrate on February the 14th. It is also called Saint Valentine's Day. On Valentine's Day people greet loved ones, close friends, family members, and classmates by sending them cards called valentines. People also give flowers, and other gifts to loved ones.

To celebrate this, the library has bought more than 40 new romance books that are on display now.

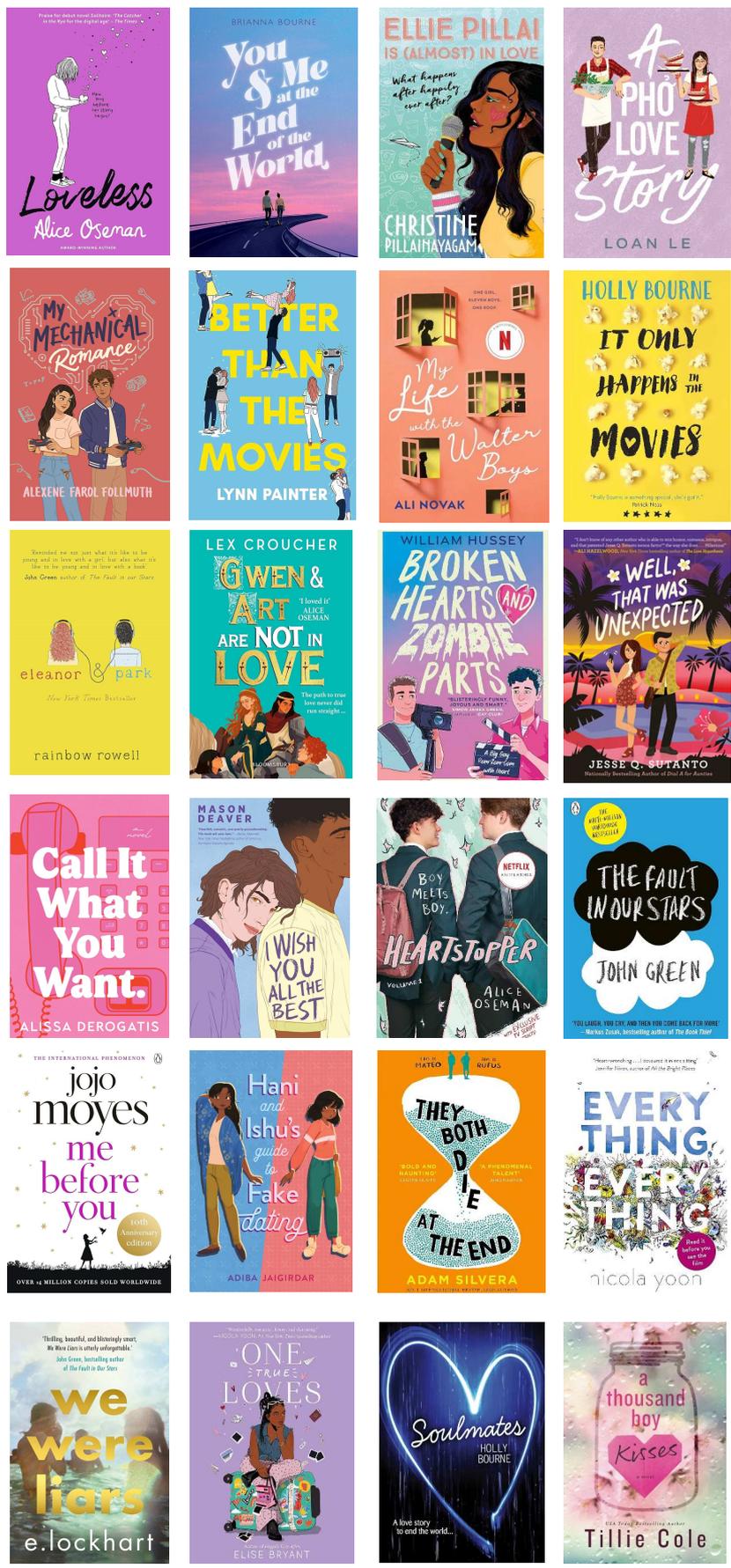
As well as this, we also have 'blind date with a book'. This is an interactive display where you can choose a book you like based on either quotes or a synopsis, rather than the front cover. If you would like to take one of these books out, we ask that you write us a short review which includes what you thought the book would be about, what it was about, did you enjoy it, would you normally choose a book like this, would you recommend this book?





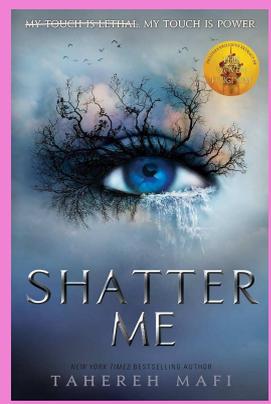
Why not try the....

New Romance Reads



Miss Marsh's recommendation:

Shatter Me Tahereh Mafi



'A fragile young teenage girl is held captive. Locked in a cell by The Reestablishment - a harsh dictatorship in charge of a crumbling world. This is no ordinary teenager. Juliette is a threat to The Reestablishment's power.

A touch from her can kill - one touch is all it takes. But not only is she a threat, she is potentially the most powerful weapon they could have. Juliette has never fought for herself before but when she's reunited with the one person who ever cared about her, the depth of the emotion and the power within her become explosive.'

Genre: Fantasy & Romance

Age Rating: 14+

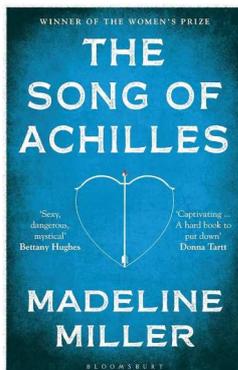
Rating: ★★★★★

KS3 Romantic Reading Recommendations



The Song of Achilles - Madeline Miller

'The Song of Achilles' is a retelling of Homer's Iliad from the perspective of Achilles' lover, Patroclus. It is an LGBTQ+ love story set in the ages of Ancient Greece, which is based around the story of the war over Troy. Achilles 'aristos achain' (the greatest warrior of his time) is destined to invade Troy's walls and assist in the claiming back of Helen, who was kidnapped from her husband. Patroclus, an exiled young prince, is sent to Achilles' father as an exile as he is not fit to rule and Achilles claims Patroclus as his companion and takes him to war. The two grow to love each other, though it is forbidden by Achilles' sea nymph mother. Despite this, they grow up together whilst the fear of conflict looms over their heads. This story is one of my favourite retellings of Greek mythology. Madeline Miller has written other similar novels, such as Circe, a story based on a nymph daughter of titan Helios who was banished to the island of Aiaia for witchcraft.



- Eve Dunn Y9

Romeo & Juliet - William Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet is a story about two star crossed lovers. The characters are so driven by their love, that they face very serious and grave consequences. The play is written by William Shakespeare. The genre's are romance and tragedy. This play has lots of plot twists and will leave you are a reader wanting to read on.

- Elizabeth Caulfield Y8



Heartstopper (Volume 1) - Alice Oseman

This is the story of Charlie Spring and Nick Nelson. It is a five part graphic novel collection. In volume one, the boys meet each other and fall in love. The two boys start as friends and become closer as time goes on. In this book, there is a theme of LGBTQ+, high school life and romance. This is a 12+ rated book and I recommend it to people who enjoy romance novels with a twist. If you want to read it, there is a display of the whole collection in the library.

- Ivy Soumati Y8

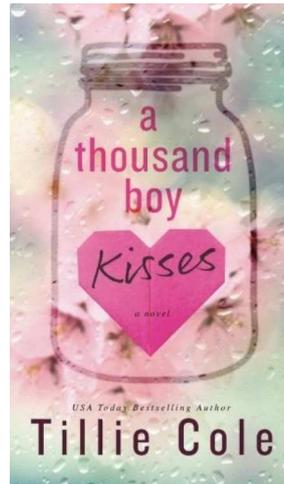


KS4 Romantic Reading Recommendations



A Thousand Boy Kisses - Tillie Cole

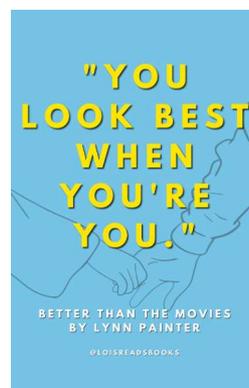
'A Thousand Boy Kisses by Tillie Cole' is a gut-wrenching and heartfelt young adult love story. It follows two childhood best friends, Rune and Poppy, who face difficult challenges as they grow up but fight for each other and their love. This book will have you crying, laughing and smiling all the way through and it should definitely be at the top of your 2024 to be read!



- Izzie Lutkin Y10

Better Than The Movies - Lynn Painter

"Better Than the Movies" is a young adult romcom novel that follows Liz Buxbaum, a high school senior, navigating the ups and downs of love and friendship. Liz sets out to turn her own life into a movie-worthy romance, but soon discovers that real love is more unpredictable and meaningful than any scripted story. With humour and genuine emotion, this book explores the complexities of relationships and the beauty of embracing life's imperfections. If you found joy in reading or watching "To All the Boys I've Loved Before" or "The Summer I Turned Pretty," you'll likely adore the captivating narrative and relatable romance in this book!



- Lily Hocking Y10

Binding 13 - Chloe Walsh

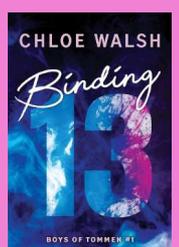
This is as much a love story as it is a drama/family saga. Shannon and Johnny (the main characters of Binding 13 - the first book in the Boys of Tommen series) fall into a friendship upon Shannon's arrival to Tommen College after facing severe bullying at her previous school. Johnny is her protector, looking out and caring for Shannon as she grapples with the challenge within school and also at home.

Shannon and Johnny's chemistry within this story redefines the meaning and the stigma behind young love. Their real, raw and unwavering support of one another heals the wound this story will inevitably leave in your heart.

A slow burn romance filled with love, rising fame, horrifying secrets, and pain all fuel together in Binding 13.

My number one read of 2023. 5/5 stars.

- Ava Kleinhout Y11



Faith Cresswell's Valentine's Classic...

Pride & Prejudice - Jane Austen

'Witty, smart, and challenging, yet romantic, vivacious and entertaining, 'Pride and Prejudice' not only delves into an unlikely romance between two opposing characters, but simultaneously criticises Victorian society. The novel follows the character development of Elizabeth Bennet, who, due to her father having no male heir to inherit their estate, must find a suitable husband. Unlike others in the book, Elizabeth strives to find a genuine, loving partner, and not someone her social superior, of whom she can gain status and wealth from. Alongside setting an example to younger readers of what love in matrimony looks like, Austen also plays on traditional gender stereotypes that marginalised women into objects of beauty, by making Elizabeth an outspoken, intelligent young woman who depends only on herself. Austen additionally attacks the social hierarchy and martial expectations of the period. As Elizabeth refuses to be swayed in her beliefs by a large fortune, and reject proposals from men who think that, simply because they are above her, she should give up her petty desires and make the arrangement efficient for them by just saying 'yes'. After all, 'what are men to rocks and mountains' anyway?'

Faith Cresswell Y11



Matilda Keane's 'Lovey Dovey Greeks'



- Ariadne fell in love with Theseus of Athens and gave him the gifts he needed to kill the Minotaur.
- Orpheus followed his love Eurydice to The Underworld.
- Menelaus marries Helen and then she was stolen by Paris and they fought an entire war trying to get her back.