

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to inform you that your child will begin reading a new novel as part of their AM registration sessions every Monday morning. We hope that students will enjoy beginning the week with an engaging page turner. Whilst each text has been carefully selected to ensure it is tailored to each year group, they are all linked to the central themes of tolerance and diversity.

**Year 7 - 'Wonder' by R.J. Palacio**

August Pullman is a young boy who has to navigate starting a new school whilst living with a severe facial disfigurement. The novel follows his journey during his first year of school from trips away to making friends. It is a story about growing up, making friends and kindness.

**Year 8 - 'Once' by Morris Gleitzman**

This book describes the Nazi occupation of Poland through the eyes of a young Jewish boy called Felix. We follow Felix's journey to find his family and, along the way, learn about prejudice and persecution.

**Year 9 - 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time' by Mark Haddon**

This story begins with the discovery of a dead dog that has been stabbed with a pitchfork late at night. Fascinated by puzzles, the narrator Christopher decides that he will investigate the murder of Wellington the dog. Although it is never directly stated, the reader learns that Christopher has an Autistic Spectrum Condition. We see his incredible ability to solve problems whilst trying to navigate family challenges. This novel is not only a fantastic story but it encourages students to consider different perspectives and the challenges that others may face.

**Year 10 - 'To Kill a Mockingbird' by Harper Lee**

Set in the small Southern town of Maycomb, Alabama, during the Depression, 8 year old Scout Finch describes the arrest and trial of a young black man who is accused of attacking a white woman. She learns through her father Atticus, a defence lawyer, about justice, racism and inequality. This is not only the individual story of a child growing up but a strong social commentary and critique of inequality.

To ensure each text is taught sensitively, all tutors have received additional training. If you would like any further information on our text choices, please do not hesitate to get in touch via email or phone. I hope your child really enjoys reading their new novel.

Kind regards,

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