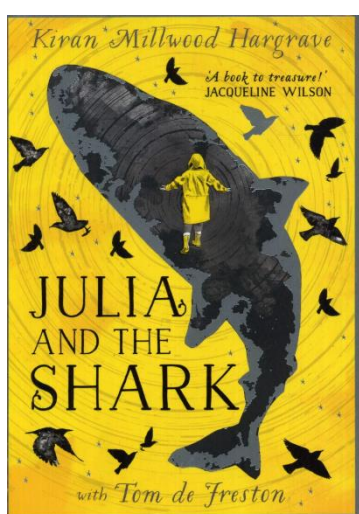


CHS Library Newsletter – Issue 50

“Loving God, Caring For Each Other and Achieving Excellence”

Welcome to a new academic year and a huge welcome to all our new students, parents and carers joining us at CHS. I hope you have enjoyed the summer. Issue 50 of the CHS Library Newsletter is ready to share I do hope that you enjoy it. September was a busy month settling back into normal school life and October is Mental Health Awareness Week, Black History Month and so many other literacy related activities planned in the coming months. You can find lots of great reading recommendations and resources within this issue and don't forget to check out Sora where an exciting new collection of great books has just landed.

Featured Book Reviews



Julia and the Shark – Kiran Millwood Hargrave

Fiction/Real Life/Mental Health/Family/Bereavement

Suitable for age 10+

Julia and her parents have just left their home to spend the summer at a remote lighthouse, far away from anyone they know. Whilst Julia's Dad is there for work, her marine biologist Mum is there for another reason – she wants to study the elusive Greenland shark, said to live in the waters nearby.

As Julia settles into their summer, her mother's search for the shark becomes more and more frantic - she's running out of time before they have to go home, but her obsession with the creature is beginning to pull her family apart. When Julia decides to save her family, she embarks on a journey through darkness and hope to find her mother again.

From the local bully with a painful secret to the hidden beauty in the night sky, Julia learns over her summer on the island that everyone has their own story to tell – and that it takes kindness and understanding to hear them.

Girl. Boy. Sea – Chris Vick

Fiction/Adventure/Journeys/Change/friendship

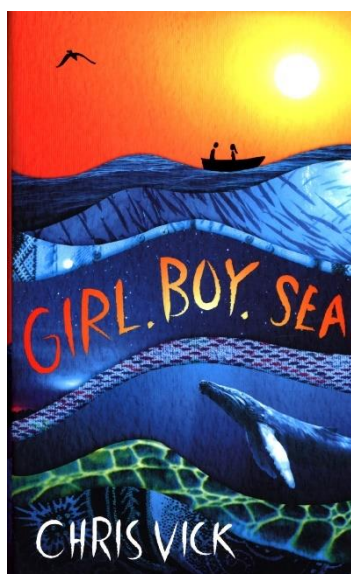
Suitable for age 12+

Bill is lost and alone on an endless sea after a storm sinks his yacht. His future seems as unpredictable as the ocean itself. Everything changes when he rescues another survivor from a different wreck. She is Aya from the nomadic Berber tribe.

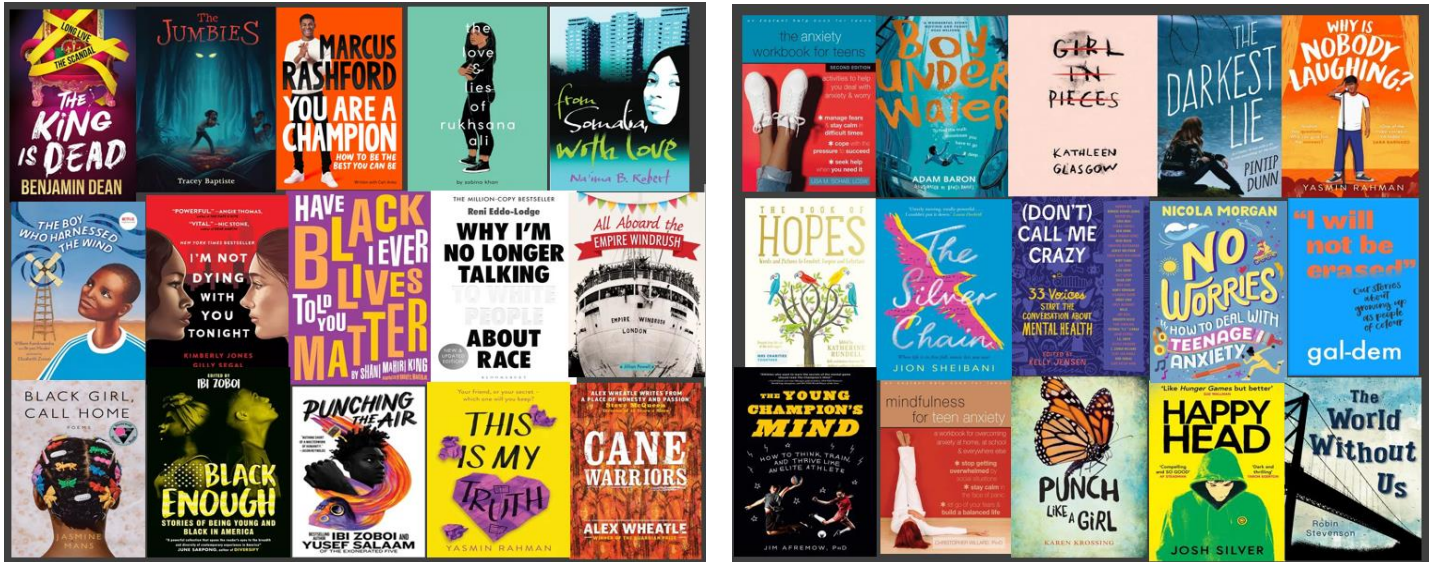
As hope of rescue fades, Aya tells tales of magic inspired by Shahrazad, who wove 1001 stories to save her life.

In the grip of hunger, at the mercy of the burning sun and the deadly deep, they begin a heart stopping journey to find home...

This book was featured in our Year 7 Summer Reading Challenge. You can find out more and view our student teacher video review featuring Georgia Lett year 8 here. <https://bit.ly/GirlBoySea>



I have put together a collection covering both topics in our school library and detailed below some of the books you can access at home 24/7 on our online library Sora. You can find out more about Sora here [Log-on-instructions-2022.docx \(live.com\)](#)



The Staff Summer Reading Challenge returned in force for 2023. Staff request a reading preference and I select a middle grade or young adult title based on what they enjoy often with a few surprises thrown in! Books are read over summer, reviews written and a 'Book selfie' taken in their favorite places to read. Some of the books and recommendations have travelled all over the world and then brought back to school along with photos and reviews to be displayed and shared in our school library. This enables colleagues to create a dialogue about the books they have read and recommend to our young people.



Mental Health Awareness Week October 2023

Research shows that reading for 10 minutes every day can have a huge impact on our mental health. On World Mental Health Day 9th October, we are carrying out a DEAR 'Drop Everything and Read' activity where whole school staff and students stop what they were doing and read a book of their choice for 10 minutes. This will be accompanied by our CHS #WriteaSmile student lead video combining literacy and reading for pleasure with awareness of mental health and wellbeing (details above). Year 7 will be writing postcards to their old primary schools and all other students and staff can pick up a postcard in the library and send a positive message to someone in need. You can view our #WriteaSmile video [here](#)



Book Swap in the Library

Here at CHS we love reading for pleasure and we are always looking for new ways to promote within our school community. CHS currently runs a 'Book Swap' in the library where children can bring along a preloved book that they no longer want and swap for another totally free! There is also a 'Book Swap Box' in the school grounds offering free books to students who may not want to visit the library but do want to read. If your child has a book at home that they no longer want but would like to give another student the opportunity to read what they have loved, they can bring it along to the library and swap for another totally free. **Look for the 'Book Swap' signs around school.**



Books around Neuro Diversity

We are very proud of year 7 student Thoryn Evans who asked if we could create a display of books in the library featuring Neuro Diverse authors and characters. Together we put together a selection to celebrate and raise awareness, the collection has been very popular and has sparked lots of discussions. Well done, Thoryn!



Sora Update

Spooky season is on its way time to scare yourself silly with a good book! A reminder that Sora is our totally free online library packed full of over 3000 e and audio books for our students to use. Sora have just added over 260 fabulous paranormal, supernatural and horror books there really is something for everyone. You can find a reminder on how to log onto to Sora on our school website here <https://bit.ly/429sGtiSoraLogOn>



Great websites and Information

- Book Trust is a fabulous website full of reading related resources and activities <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/>
- National Literacy Trust have some great information, activities, and a competition for younger readers <https://literacytrust.org.uk/>
- The Reading Agency developed the 'Reading Well' initiative which is a selection of books chosen by health officials helping young people to manage health and wellbeing including bullying. You can find out more about the title <https://readingagency.org.uk/> but we do have some of these titles in the school library.
- Sora our online E and Audio Book free library over 3000 e and audio books to choose from. More information about Sora <https://fast.wistia.net/embed/iframe/x1crca6t1n?videoFoam=true>



Share Your Literacy Activities with Me!

Share your book reviews, activities, artistic creations, or any other literacy related ideas, I would love to see them. You can contact/tweet me and email reviews etc. on the details below. Happy reading.

For more information contact Mrs Cullen - c.cullen@cromptonhouse.org
Twitter: @CLearningzone #CHSFamilyReads #WriteaSmile

