



CHS Library Newsletter – Issue 51

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

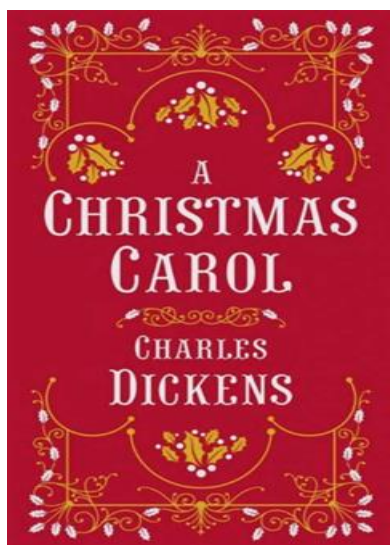
As the year draws to a close, we welcome you to issue 51 the final CHS Library Newsletter of the year. Library life has certainly been extremely busy over the last few months and so lots to share with you in this issue. We have visited authors, hosted bookfairs, created student/teacher VLOGS, run our famous 12 Days of Bookmas Advent competition and much more. Christmas is a perfect time to relax and curl up with a great book and so I have included lots of great reading recommendations and resources within this issue. Don't forget to check out Sora where an exciting new collection of magazines of have landed along with new book additions. Wishing you a very merry Christmas and a peaceful 2024.

Featured Book Reviews

A Christmas Carol – Charles Dickens

Christmas/Ghosts/Classic/Historical/Fantasy/Family

Suitable for age 10+



'If I had my way, every idiot who goes around with Merry Christmas on his lips, would be boiled with his own pudding, and buried with a stake of holly through his heart. Merry Christmas? Bah humbug!'

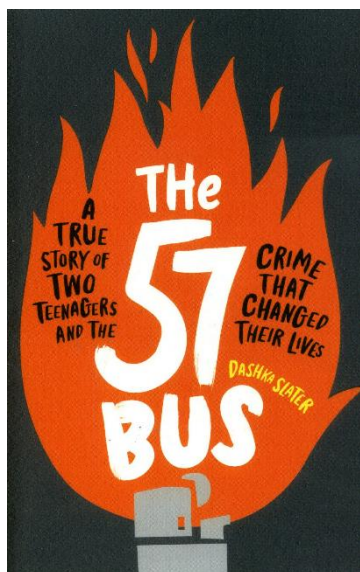
Miserly Ebenezer Scrooge is visited by the ghost of his former business partner, and he learns he will be visited by three spirits – Christmas Past, Christmas Present and Christmas Yet to Come – who reveal to him his own miserable existence, the opportunities he wasted in his youth, his current cruelties, and the dire fate that awaits him if he does not change his ways. Scrooge is faced with a choice: death or redemption.

I absolutely love this classic tale! This book is on the Always Available Ebook and Audio Book list on the Sora App.

The 57 Bus - Dashka Slater

Non Fiction/LGBTQ/Crime/Empathy/Race/Punishment

Suitable for age 14+



If it weren't for the 57 bus, Sasha and Richard never would have met. Both were high school students from Oakland, California, one of the most diverse cities in the country, but they inhabited different worlds. Sasha, a white teen, lived in the middle-class foothills and attended a small private school. Richard, a Black teen, lived in the economically challenged flatlands and attended a large public one.

Each day, their paths overlapped for a mere eight minutes. But one afternoon on the bus ride home from school, a single reckless act left Sasha severely burned, and Richard charged with two hate crimes and facing life imprisonment.

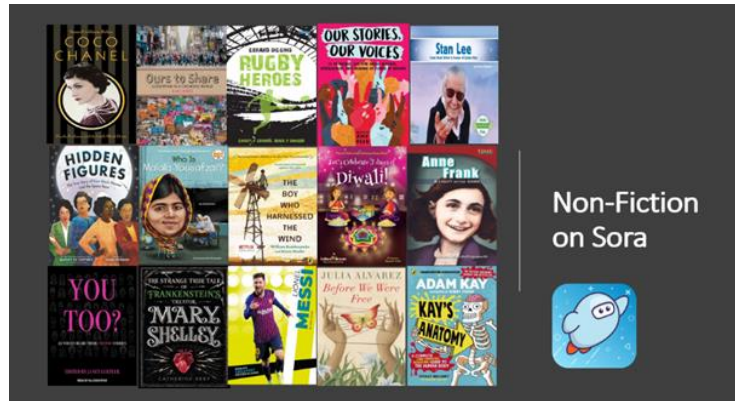
This book was featured during 'Nonfiction November' and our Take 5 student/teacher VLOG which you can view here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HXax83HQbe4>



Non-Fiction November 2023

Non-Fiction November is an annual celebration of information books for children organized by the Federation of Children's Book Groups. The whole month celebrates all those readers that have a passion for information and facts and attempts to bring nonfiction celebration in line with those of fiction. The theme this year was 'Wonderful Water' and you can find out more on the website [here](#). The National Literacy Trust also have great resources around NonFiction November click [here](#) for more information. I have listed some recommended reads below.



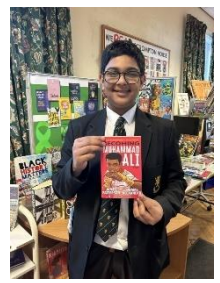
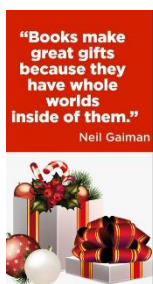
Scholastic Book Fair

In November, we once again hosted our annual Scholastic Book Fair. Students had a great time browsing new books from our Scholastic Book Fair last and thanks to parents, carers, and staff, we managed to raise almost £300 towards free books for our wonderful school library! A huge thank you to everyone who supported the Book Fair this year! If you are looking to gift books this Christmas, you can continue to support us by purchasing from the Scholastic online shop and nominating our school when making payment. A percentage of the sale again contributes towards free books for school. [Scholastic Book Fairs - Scholastic Book Fairs](#)



12 Days of Bookmas

Students are enjoying our '12 Days of Bookmas' reading for pleasure advent calendar during the last days of term. Each day, form tutors have shared the book blurb for a recommended read with their class and one lucky student has won a copy of the book to take home and keep. Early Christmas presents! You can view our Bookmas Advent calendar here. <https://www.cromptonhouse.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/12-Days-of-Bookmas-Advent-Calendar-2023-final-with-names-121223.pdf>



Author visit and Black History Month



October was Black History Month, intended to recognize and celebrate the contribution and achievements of those with African or Caribbean heritage. It's also an opportunity for people to learn more about the effects of racism and how to challenge negative stereotypes.

As part of the celebrations, we took a group of students to visit Oldham Sixth Form College to see award winning author Danielle Jawando. Aspiring authors and literacy students asked Danielle questions on her success, thoughts on different cultures within fiction and what it takes to become an author. Danielle also shared her personal journey from a background of struggle growing up in Moss Side to being rejected for work to finally her success to finally becoming a published author.

In school, we also enjoyed a talk from Deputy Mayor of Oldham Eddie Moores and Mrs Sandra Samuels OBE who visited the school as part of our Black History Month celebrations and the school library to talk to students about our #WriteASmile postcard project. You can view our #WriteASmile video [here](#)



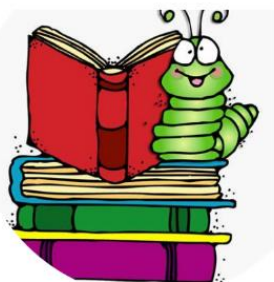
Library Success – Autumn term 2023

Since September, we have been monitoring which students are really enjoying reading for pleasure and hence borrowing the most books from our school library. I am pleased to announce the following students have borrowed the most books and will look forward to receiving a reward during our 'rewards Assembly's' next week!

In addition, we have our library superstar of the term **Calum Coleman** 8Co2, an outstanding new librarian. Callum is a regular in the library who sees what needs doing and gets on with it so pleasantly. Callum uses his own initiative to complete jobs without prompting. Well done!

Library Books borrowed- Autumn Term

No of books borrowed by year group
Y7 – 641
Y8 – 217
Y9 – 167
Y10 – 54
Y11 – 48
Totals 1127



Top Library Borrowers by Year and Form – Autumn Term

Top borrowers
7Ri2 – Hachimeru Wobo Wobo – 36
7Ri2 – Alayna Rasool – 30
7Ri2 – Inaaya Jahangir – 23
8Cr1 – Emma Cowling – 15
9Co3 – Gift Omogodo – 9
9Ri1 – Zoya-Aisha Iltaf – 8
10Ri2 – Layla Metcalf – 15
10Cr2 – Shreya Sisodia – 15
11Ri2 – Ruby Wilson – 11

Top Form – Books Borrowed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7Ri2 – 203 • 7Ri1 – 62 • 8Ri1 – 36 • 8Cr1 – 34 • 9Ri1 – 27 • 9Co3 – 24 • 10Cr2 – 16 • 10Ri2 – 15 • 11Cr2 – 12 • 11Ri2 – 9



So far year 7Ri2 are smashing it by a mile, again.

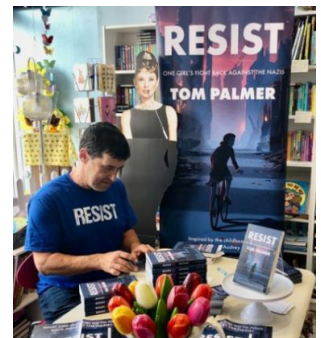


Tom Palmer – Children's author – Gift a book for Christmas

Tom Palmer is a brilliant children's author of some of my favorite books. Tom visited CHS in 2022 and gave a fantastic talk to our year 7 and 8 children. Every Christmas Tom Palmer gift's 50 signed, giftwrapped books to children across the UK who may have experienced or experiencing a particularly difficult and challenging time. It is a wonderful initiative that has brought great joy to CHS students who were selected to receive a book following staff nominations. Stevie and Bailey both in year 8 received a signed copy of *Armistice Runner* and Tom also gifted Bailey's sister Sienna who is age 9 and currently undergoing hospital treatment also received a signed book. A massive thank you to Tom and family for this incredibly thoughtful gesture, wishing you a very merry Christmas from the CHS community.

Tom has a great website full of free resources and information, you can find out more about Tom here

<https://tompalmer.co.uk/>



#WriteaSmile and Oldham Parish Church Christmas Tree Festival

The #WriteaSmile postcard project created by our Student Book Council is going from strength to strength. Students wrote festive messages of kindness, support, and encouragement which we used to decorate the CHS tree donation which was on display at the church. Visitors to the Oldham Parish Church Christmas Tree Festival were able to take a card to keep and hopefully raise a smile whilst enjoying the wonderful carol services taking place during the festival.



Sora Update



The festive season is on us, time to relax and unwind with a good book! A reminder that Sora is our totally free online library packed full of over 4000 e and audio books for our students to use. Sora have recently added a fantastic magazine package, everything from National Geographic to baking, sport, fashion, crafts, it really is great! There really is something for everyone. You can find a reminder on how to log onto Sora on our school website here <https://bit.ly/429sGtiSoraLogOn>

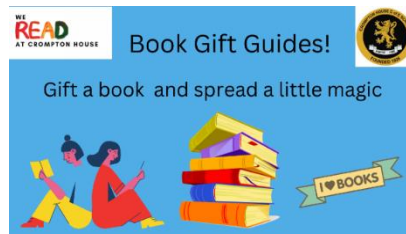


Gift a Book this Christmas.

As a final note to you, as the year draws to and close, why not gift a book for Christmas. Books take us on magical journeys, they are educational, inexpensive, and great for our mental health and wellbeing. I have attached a link to a list of book recommendations to help you a little on your way. Wishing you a happy and peaceful Christmas!

[LAST MINUTE BOOK GIFTS! \(cromptonhouse.org\)](https://www.cromptonhouse.org/last-minute-book-gifts)

“The more you that you read the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you will go” – Dr Seuss.



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.



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

