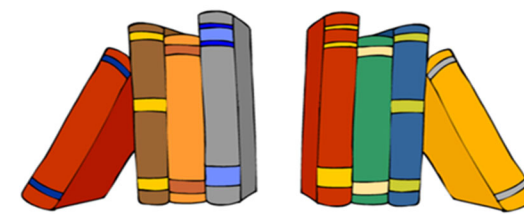


BVS Reading Newsletter

Autumn 2022



Welcome to our reading recommendations newsletter!

Each term, we will share with you reviews and information about books our pupils are currently enjoying. We encourage our pupils and their families to look through these to see if any may be of interest to them. In addition, we have reading lists by year group and genre on our website.

Happy reading!
The BVS Book Group

Reading Together

In our tutorials, we have the opportunity to read both independently and together. Mrs. Dorrell's tutorial read Marcus Rashford's biography together last term and we have now moved on to a new book.

We also read books together as part of our studies across the curriculum. Particular favourites from others in my reading group have included 'I Am Malala' which they read with Mrs Davies in Geography and 'Around the World in Eighty Days', with Miss Wilshire, also in Geography.

It is also good to have the opportunity to read our own books, which we can choose from the library, the vending machines or bring in with us. Each book really is a window into a whole new world.

Eguono Idiegbe, Year 8

Staff Favourites:

Mrs. Hansen (Head of RE):
'Emma'; Jane Austen

Mr. Jones (Data Manager):
'To Kill a Mockingbird'; Harper Lee

Mrs. Williams (ALN Department):
'Great Expectations'; Charles Dickens

Reading Rewards

We were delighted to take delivery in the Spring term of a book vending machine for each of our year bases!

Filled with books chosen by us as pupils on the basis of a whole-school reading survey we participated in, the books are available for the heavily subsidised price of £2 each! Each week, form tutors and the senior team give out dozens of reward tokens too, allowing pupils to select a book of their choice in recognition of achievement, effort or putting the school's values into practice.

Pictured here are the first pupils to use the machines! They chose 'Dork Diaries' books, plus a reading-themed treat bag each!



BVS Festival of Literature

On the last day of the Summer term, we held a Festival of Literature here at BVS! The day included a reading from storyteller Huw Davies on the set of our reading-themed school musical, 'Matilda', and we had an amazing pop-up branch of Waterstones in the Rosary Garden! £7 book tokens were distributed to every pupil, allowing us to take home a book of our choice for the summer break, and there was an ice cream van on site too! It was a great way to end the term!



BVS Book Group

When?

Wednesday lunchtimes

Where?

Headteacher's Office

What?

We meet each week to discuss the book we're reading together, to recommend books to one another and to plan reading-related trips and activities.

Currently Reading:

'Never Let Me Go' by Kazuo Ishiguro

You are welcome to bring your lunch with you.

All welcome!

Book Group Feedback

Since we formed our group in June this year, we've worked our way through some great books! Currently sitting at the top of our leaderboard, we have '[Ariadne](#)' at 85%! Jennifer Saint's fantastic re-telling of a Greek myth is one of several re-workings she has written, looking at ancient stories from feminist perspectives.

Coming a very close second at 84%, we thoroughly enjoyed '[They Both Die at the End](#)' by Adam Silvera (bet you can't guess what happens in this one! 😊).

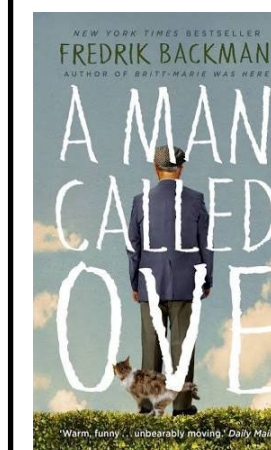
'[Everything, Everything](#)' by Nicola Yoon currently stands at 61%, though there are still a couple of us who haven't finished it and added our scores, and '[Where the Crawdads Sing](#)' by Delia Owens is at 57%. We are currently reading '[Never Let Me Go](#)' by Kazuo Ishiguro, a dystopian science fiction novel which was nominated for the Booker Prize in 2005, the year in which *Time* magazine also named it the best novel of the year! Why don't you join us and see what you think?

All book group members are provided with free copies of the books we read!

This Pupil Recommends ...

'Lessons in Chemistry' is in my opinion one of the best books of the year! It explores the sexism prevalent in the 1960's. It is also really witty and very poignant at times. My favourite character is the strangely-named 'Six-Thirty', the dog! You'll have to read it to find out why!

My overall rating would be 5 stars.



I also recommend 'A Man Called Ove', which talks about the small things in life ... and how even if you aren't particularly fond of all of them, they may still ultimately be important to your life. This is demonstrated through the experience of Ove himself who doesn't really like his neighbours, yet they are still important to him.

Throughout the book we learn to love Ove and all of the neighbours (well, maybe excepting a few), while learning their backstories through their interactions with Ove. My overall rating would be 5 stars.

Harrison Morgans, Year 10

Wise Words:

"The best moments in reading are when you come across something – a thought, a feeling, a way of looking at things – which you had thought special and particular to you. Now here it is, set down by someone else, a person you have never met, someone even who is long dead. And it is as if a hand has come out and taken yours."

Alan Bennett

