

# READING MATTERS



AUTUMN TERM 2024

ISSUE 2

## Form Time Reading

This academic year we are reading a wide range of texts led by either the Form Tutor or a Sixth Form Reading Ambassador. We are also implementing 'Guest Readers', who drop in and share their expertise with the students. The books used as part of our 'Reading for Enjoyment' were chosen by the students and include a range of genres: crime, thriller, survival, humour and more! Books are swapped on a carousel once completed.

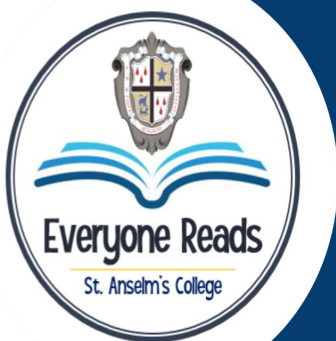


## Sixth Form Reading Ambassadors

A large number of our Sixth Form students have volunteered their time this year to mentor Year 7 students as 'reading buddies', helping them develop and hone their reading skills.

The students have enjoyed reading aloud with their partners who ask questions and guide the boys through the text. We are moving on to a more challenging book in the New Year as they have made excellent progress thus far.

Well done Boys!!!



## Reading Mission Statement

At St. Anselm's College, we prioritise both **ambitious academic reading**, as well as **reading for pleasure**.

We recognise the **powerful impact that reading has** on student wellbeing, as well as its enriching effect on academic achievement.

To this end, **reading is embedded into school life** so that our students are given every opportunity to develop a passion and curiosity for the written word.

# English-Beyond the Classroom



Year 7 had a sure start to their reading experiences at St Anselm's as they all attended a talk at BHSA delivered by Alexander Armstrong— comedian, singer, presenter, voice actor and children's author. Students listened to Alexander talk about his new novel 'Evenfall—The Golden Linnet' and they were able to ask him questions about his inspiration and the writing process. Lots of the boys purchased copies of his book and we have a multitude of copies available in the library which can be purchased or borrowed.



## Author Visit

We are eagerly anticipating the visit of Matt Oldfield who will be visiting the College in February in association with 'World Book Day'. Matt's *Football Heroes* books are the most popular in the college library, we look forward to hearing about his inspiration for becoming an author and his writing journey so far. I'm sure that the boys would love a copy of one of his books for Christmas!

This year, we studied a range of poetry from other cultures and traditions. We explored different traditions in our own English groups and have celebrated different ways in which we share special times such as Christmas and Eid. We have a fabulous display of books to commemorate Black History month which the students are able to read in library lessons and borrow to take home. Additionally, Students also created a 'Hello Yellow' display to focus on awareness of mental health issues.



## College Book Fair

In November, Ms Atherton - our College Librarian - ran a book fair for a full week!

This enabled students to explore the latest titles and buy their own books and stationery.

Students were involved in creating an anti-bullying display and created their own crazy combinations of 'Odd Socks' - in line with the whole school focus and lots of staff and pupils wearing odd socks to show solidarity for the cause.



# ~GREAT READS~

Keen to read further but unsure what to read next? 'Great Reads' is here to fill the void not only on your shelf, but in your life. A list of the College's recommended books are available from the library as well as you English teacher for all Year 7-9 students. These can also be sent remotely through Microsoft Teams. Now it begs to question....

## What Are Your Teachers Reading?

Recommended reads from your terrifically talented teachers:

**P.E** - You are a Champion: How to be the best you can' by Marcus Rashford

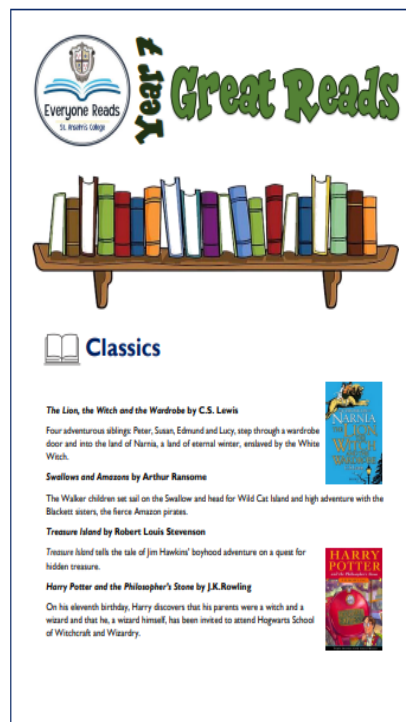
**Biology** - 'I contain Multitudes' by Ed Yong

**Geography** - 'Factfulness - Why things are better than you think' by Hans Rosling

**History** - 'The Silver Sword' by Ian Serrailler

"Books have to be heavy because the whole world's inside them."

-Inkheart by Cornelia Funke



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