



## WELCOME TO THE 2018—2019 STUDENT LIBRARIAN TEAM -



Once again, we have welcomed a new cohort of student librarians and this year, **Years 7, 8, 9 and 10** are all represented among the librarian team.

Student librarians help to run the extremely busy **Learning Resource Centre**, by running the desk: issuing, returning and reserving books, adding books to the library catalogue, using the school library management system—the Reading Cloud, doing door duty at break times, shelving books, helping their peers to photocopy and print, decorating the LRC, helping with displays, making book suggestions—generally making a fantastic contribution to the running of the LRC.

**Here are some words from our 2018-2019 student librarians:**

### **Amelia, 10A**

*My name is **Amelia**. I am in **10 Angela**. I wanted to become a librarian as I love books and the stories they tell. My favourite book is either **Harry Potter** or **Skullduggery Pleasant**. They're my favourite because I love dystopian and mystical features. My favourite author is probably either **Malorie Blackman** as she is a very influential female writer, or **Derek Landy** as he wrote many of my favourite books.*

**Amelia also volunteers two hours of her time each week at her local library where she enjoys working in the children's section!**



# STUDENT LIBRARIANS AND LRC STUDENT LEADERS 2018—2019

## Layla, 9A

Hi, I'm **Layla** and I'm in **9 Angela**. I have wanted to become a librarian since I was little. I remember going to the library often in my local community. I found the library interesting and adventurous, it was like you could enter a completely different world, without even moving! Books are and were a place to escape to and a place to use my imagination. As a constant daydreamer, books are one of my number one priorities. I love to write my own books in my spare time. I also might want to become an author in the coming future, if I'm lucky. I love books and this one of the reasons why I wanted to be become a school librarian.

One of my favorite books is **My Sister Lives On The Mantelpiece** by **Annabel Pitcher**. It is so heart filling and relatable to our new London society. It shows different perspectives of characters and teaches us not to judge and label others. One of the most interesting point of views of this book is religion. It tells us more about others and lets our minds open a little wider. I love this book because it's realistic. It's relatable to me personally, and is very special. So please read it, even though it's quite sad. Thank you for reading this short description!

## Victoria, 7M

I wanted to be a librarian because I just love reading any type of book. I am currently reading a book called **Red Queen** and I am loving this book because it talks about a girl who has an extremely poor family and she always gets compared to her sister but then one day she gets taken away from her family and now she is a princess who has to act like one of the posh and mean people she is surrounded by. I really recommend this book because even though it is a fiction book with a lot of crazy fantasies, this book shows a drastic change of life of a thief and how she felt about it.

## Tara, 8A

I am called **Tara** and I am 12 years old (13 on January 28<sup>th</sup>). I have one sister who is 11. My hobbies are piano, chess, Maths, puzzles and brain games. I wanted to be a student librarian as I have done it before in Primary school. I really enjoyed so I thought it would be nice to do it again. My favourite book is **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire**. It was by far the most captivating book I have ever read. I like a lot of action and drama, and this book for sure had it all included. Lots of deaths and breath-taking scenes included! My favourite characters are **Harry Potter** and **Hermione Granger**. I like them because their personalities and hobbies are just like mine. This book is definitely the best book of the whole series and the most interesting. When I started reading it, I could not put it down!

## Sarah, 9M

Hi, my name is **Sarah** and I am in **Year 9 Margaret**. I have been a student librarian since Year 7. I have thoroughly enjoyed this, and I would recommend signing up for next year. My favourite book of all time would have to be **Black Beauty** because it is the most heartfelt book, and it is relatable to many people. I highly recommend it and I believe everyone should have read it at some point.

## Sophie, 9T

I wanted to be a librarian at school this year as I enjoyed doing it last year. I enjoyed helping people find books they wanted to read and helping them to borrow them. My favourite book series are the **Harry Potter** series and the **Maze Runner** series. Personally, I enjoyed the **Maze Runner** books because I liked all the characters and I found the plot very interesting. As a librarian, I hope to get others to read more books, and to recommend interesting books I have read.

## Stella, 7M

My favourite book is **Pig Heart Boy** by **Malorie Blackman** because I found it totally gripping from the first page. The story follows Cameron's experience of having a heart transplant... but with a pig's heart! It is an intriguing and shocking story. I couldn't stop reading this book!

## Alice, 9A

I love reading, and once I have started I simply cannot stop, I was a librarian in Year 8 and I loved it so much I thought I should continue, I really enjoy being able to help in the library and help people to find books to read as well as working on the desk.

**Alice read Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde recently, as well as the French book Phobos (she is fluent in French). Her favourite French author is Timothee de Fombelle.**

### **Isabelle, 9T**

**Isabelle was a student librarian when she was in primary school and enjoyed reading to the younger students.**

*My name is **Isabelle** and I am in **9T**. I applied to be a student librarian because I really enjoy working with others to help make the library and school a better place for young, independent women to learn, grow and develop. I also enjoy learning through reading books and would like to contribute my ideas and put forward my ideas for the LRC. My favourite book series is **Harry Potter** because I love **J.K. Rowling's** writing and really loved reading all seven books. I enjoyed reading through all the elements of this book and, personally, action, magic and adventure were the most exciting genres for me to read. A book trilogy that I am reading at the moment is called **'The One Dollar Horse'** by **Lauren St. John**. It is about a girl called **Casey Blue** and her one dollar horse named **Storm Warning**. I really love this set of books.*

### **Yasmin, 8A**

*My name is **Yasmin**. I am in **8 Angela**. I like working in the school library because I like having a responsibility, and also helping the school. I also like working in the library because it is a calm and silent place, and also because I love reading. My favourite book is **Born To Run**, by **Michael Morpurgo**, because it is a book that tells us a story about a street dog and all the difficulties he goes through, and also is a book that the more you read the more you get into the story and not wanting to stop reading until the end. A book that I read recently was **Wonder**, by **R.J Palacio**. The book was about a 10 year old with a different-looking face and his journey to the middle school. And also how people judge him because of his looking. **Yasmin was a student librarian when she was in primary school.***

### **Charlotte, 9M**

*My name is **Charlotte** and I am in **Year 9**. My form is **Margaret**. I wanted to be a student librarian because I believe it's a great way to gain experience and meet new people. My favourite book is **Wonder** because it tells a story of a boy (**August**) and his adventures through school but his experience isn't so normal because his face is deformed, which makes it hard for him to fit in, but really he was born to stand out.*

### **Delina, 10F**

*My name is **Delina** and I was a student librarian in **Year 7** because I had a passion for reading, especially because I had a vivid imagination. If you do too, I strongly recommend signing up. Your name would be put on the rota so you can return and borrow books on the desk. My favorite category of fiction would have to be YA fiction, the best authors being- **Nicola Yoon, John Green, Angie Thomas** and **David Leviathan**. My favorite book would be **'The Hate U Give'** by **Angie Thomas** which has recently become an award winning movie. Inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, it involves the police shooting of an unarmed black teen. The book covers topics of race, political activism, grief, friendship, wealth disparity, police brutality, addiction, and the media's depiction of black people.*

### **Storm, 8B**

*My name is **Storm** and I am in **Year 8 Bernadette**. I like the school library because there isn't really any other place where you can just sit down and do your work comfortably without any distractions. It is also the one place we can get our books we need from; such as study books and books you read for fun. One of my favourite books in a series is **A Series Of An Unfortunate Events** by Lemony Snicket because it is very funny and there is a series on Netflix and a movie too so you can compare each. The series all end on a cliff-hanger, which creates suspense so you have to read the next, the size increases from first to last. A book that I read recently was **I am Malala** by **Malala Yousafzai**. It was about the biography of Malala who was the youngest ever person to win the **Nobel Peace Prize**. It was particularly interesting because it was a story of determination for girls to go to school and she showed she wasn't scared of **The Taliban** but was going to do what she wanted for girls like her.*

### **Grace, 7M**

*My name is **Grace**. I am in **Year 7**, and my form is **Margaret**. I wanted to be a student librarian because going to the library is really fun and it's a quiet space to work in if need to do my homework or read. And I thought being a librarian would be fun and it is! I was also a librarian at my primary school. My favourite book is the **Polar Bear Explorers Club**. I 100% recommend it!*

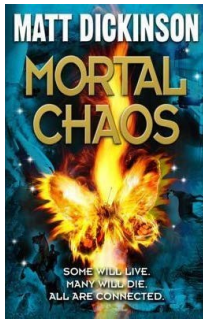
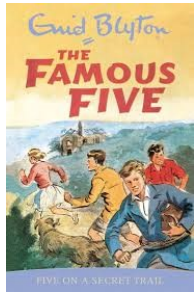
### **Zoe, 8M**

Zoe's favourite author is **Veronica Roth**—who wrote the **Divergent trilogy (Divergent, Allegiant and Insurgent)**. Her favourite genre is **dystopian fiction**, which comes under the general science fiction (sci-fi) genre.



## AND THE REST...

Francisca, 7M Mikaela, 8A( Mikaela read Angie Thomas' *The Hate U Give* recently, as well as 'Wonder', 'Pig Heart Boy' and *Death Note*). Phoebe, 7c Grace, 9M (Grace also was a librarian when she was at primary school) Aleena, 9T Alexandra, 7B Kirsty, 9F. Charlotte, 10B is an LRC Student Leader.



## ADVENTURE BOOKS DISPLAY



We've kept the displays very simple this Half Term—with both new displays being aligned with the **Year 7–9** English curriculum.

You will have been able to find some great adventure books on display, including many of the newly acquired **Famous Five** books, Anthony Horowitz books, the **Wind Singer** Series, William Golding's **The Lord of the Flies**, Matt Dickinson's **Mortal Chaos** and Cassandra Clare's **Mortal Instruments** series.

To complement Year 9 the LRC has housed a Fiction display, with a

## GOTHIC FICTION DISPLAY

English lessons, modest Gothic list of Gothic fic-

tion novels that can be found in the library, as well as a number of modern books that have been influenced by the Gothic genre. For those of you who don't know what is meant by the term Gothic—it is a genre of fiction, whose stories are usually set in old, abandoned buildings or ruins, featuring spirits and inanimate objects that come to life, as well as highly emotional protagonists. The first book to be officially classed as a 'gothic' novel was 'The Castle of Otranto' by Horace Walpole back in 1764. Gothic novels we've had on display in the LRC include:

**The Turn of the Screw**—Henry James

**Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde**—Robert Louis

Stevenson

**Dracula**—Bram Stoker

**Frankenstein**—Mary Shelley

**Jane Eyre**—Charlotte Brontë

**The Picture of Dorian Gray**—Oscar Wilde

**Rebecca**—Daphne du Maurier

**The Woman in White**—Wilkie Collins

**The Hound of the Baskervilles**—Arthur Conan Doyle





# RECOMMENDED READS

## PICK ME UP—PUBLISHED BY DORLING KINDERSLEY



With its fun 3-D cover, 'PICK ME UP: Stuff you need to know' is a non-fiction book like no other.

It may have been published twelve years ago, ( before some of you had even been born), but it really is a brilliant reference book, and one I hope more of you will read.

The book covers everything from science, technology and space, society, places and beliefs, history, the natural world, to the arts, entertainment and media, as well as the human body and planet earth,

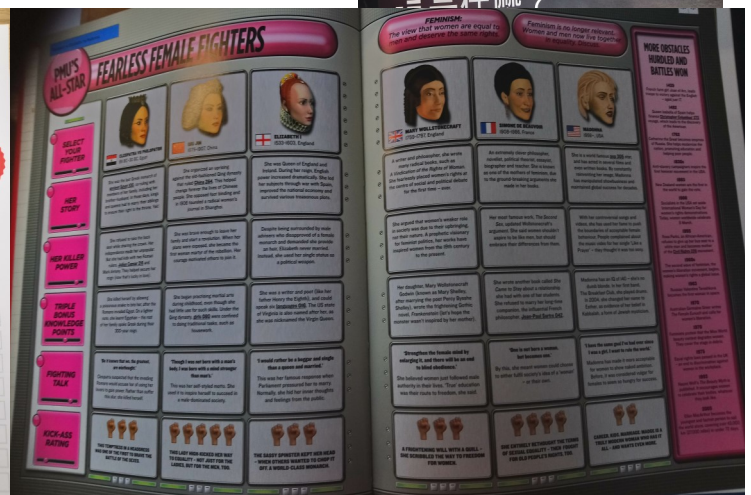
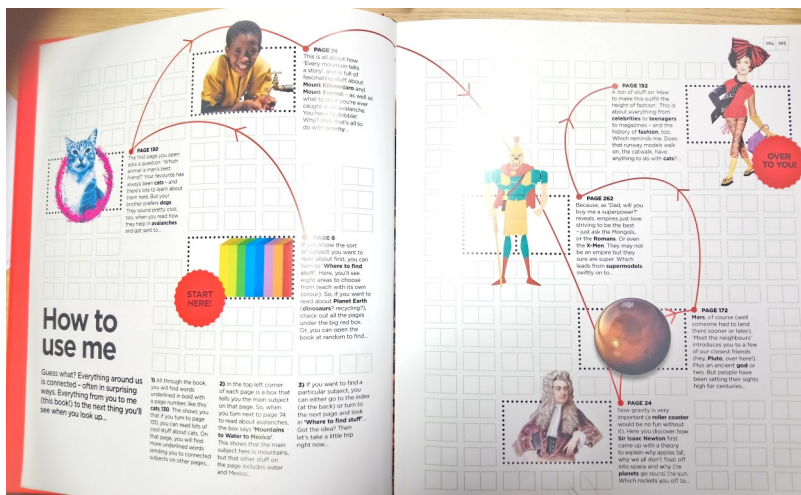
Throughout the book, you should notice that some words are **underlined in bold** with a page number next to them. If you turn to that page, you will be able to find lots more interesting facts about that particular topic.

On the same page, you will find more underlined words that direct you to connected subjects on other pages. **Think of it as a paper version of Google.**

I found particularly pages 16—17 particularly

**interesting**—with the double spread featuring a selection of the world's languages, as well as the double page spread on fearless female fighters , on pages 30—31.

Belonging to the non-fiction genre, this is a book that you can dip in and out of, and even if you spend a mere five minutes reading this book, you will no doubt learn a few things you didn't know before.



# LOOKING AFTER YOUR MENTAL HEALTH

With its eye-catching and appealing cover, this brilliant book from **Usborne Publishing** teaches you all that you need to know about mental health: what it is, why having good mental health is important, where to get help if you think that you need it, all the while dealing with what can be quite serious subject matter, in an upbeat and light-hearted way.

'**Looking After Your Mental Health**' looks at how different experiences can negatively effect your mental health, from challenging life situations such as parental divorce, loss and bereavement, bullying, including cyberbullying, to suffering from serious mental health conditions like depression, anxiety and eating disorders. It also takes a look at how peer pressure, alcohol, social media and having an online presence, relationships including physical relationships, sexuality, self-esteem and stress can all impact on your mental health.

You will find a handy glossary towards the back of the book, along with illustrations scattered throughout the book, and plenty of information about the human brain: the parts of the brain that are involved in emotions, as well as the hormones and neurotransmitters that play a role in influencing our mental health.

**Looking After Your Mental Health** was sent to me by the publishing house, **Usborne**, and it really is a book that should be read by everyone. Books such as these didn't exist ten years ago, although they have always been needed, but with the ever-increasing pressures placed on young people today, this highly informative and interesting read, which debunks the stigma that sadly still persists around mental illness, is more important than ever. One chapter particularly caught my attention: chapter nine— '**On the Internet**', which explains the downsides of the internet, especially social media. The negative impact on your mental health resulting from excessive social media usage is explained with the following: **'For a lot of people, self-esteem and confidence is tied up with numbers of 'likes'. More likes = more confidence. The trouble with that is not getting enough 'likes' can dent your self-esteem, and that can have a negative impact on your mental health..... you are not dependent on how many 'likes' you get, and you're more than the photos you post online'**. The authors also urge us not to attach too much importance to what others post on social media, because their photographs and/or posts are not wholly representative of their lives: **'The photos and videos you see on people's social media accounts are just selected snapshots of their lives—the best outfits, views, meals, their best hair days... What you don't see is the other 90% of their life—the arguments, the sniffly colds, the cranky days, the little failures. For every happy photo you see, there were probably lots of unhappy moments—you are not the only one who feels sad, bad, ugly or a bit of a failure sometimes. Even celebrities whose accounts you might follow, for all their money, fame and support, will have those down days, or weeks. Comparing yourself to the people you think you see online will probably make you feel miserable. People might be looking at the pictures you post and thinking the same.'** Certainly food for thought!!!





# NOTICES

## Accessing the Reading Cloud

Since the last the LRC Newsletters last edition, the **school website has changed**.

This means that the steps you must follow to access the **Reading Cloud** are a little different to what they were before. To access the Reading Cloud Website:

1. Go to the **school website**.
2. Click on 'About Us'
3. Click on 'Our Facilities'
4. Click on the 'Learning Resource Centre' link
5. Click on the 'New Library system' link.



You will now be on the Reading Cloud website.

If you wish to check when your books are due back, see how many books you've borrowed since you joined the Ursuline, or see which books you reserved, simply click on the 'Login' button at the top right-hand side of the website.

Your **USERNAME** is your **SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS** e.g. [alice.williams@uhsw.com](mailto:alice.williams@uhsw.com)

Your **PASSWORD** is your **DATE OF BIRTH AS AN EIGHT-DIGIT NUMBER** with **NO SPACE/DASHES OR DOTS** e.g. **03/05/2006**

## PRINTING PDFs AND PICTURES IN THE LRC

Please be aware that if you wish to print **PDFs** using the **LRC printer**, you will need to **SAVE** the **PDF document**, then open it using **Acrobat Reader** and print from there.

**DO NOT TRY TO PRINT A PICTURE OR PAGE OF TEXT STRAIGHT FROM THE INTERNET** as the LRC printer will simply print blank pages.

Instead—copy the text to a **Microsoft Word document** or save the picture and then **INSERT** it to the **Microsoft Word** document.

## LRC LAPTOPS AND INTERNET CABLE

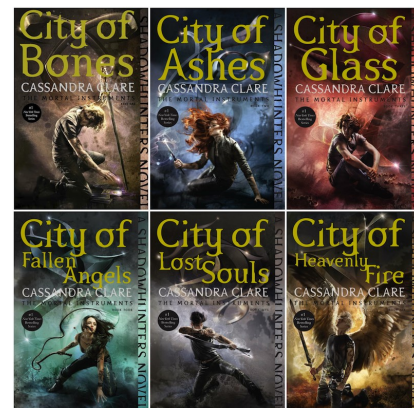
If you find that you are unable to log on to an **LRC laptop** because you receive a domain name error message—the usual reason is that the Ethernet cable (the clear plug) is not fully pushed in to the left hand side of the laptop.

By ensuring that it is fully inserted, you should be able to log on to your computer.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to **Sheryll Ward** of the **Finance Department**, who has kindly donated a number of books to us, including a fabulous collection of **Enid Blyton's Famous Five Series**, the **Mortal Instruments** series from **Cassandra Clare**, books from **James Dashner's Maze Runner** series, as well as stories from **Caroline Lawrence's 'The Roman Mysteries'** among others!

These books have proven to have been popular among our students over the past



# UPCOMING GLOBAL READING PROJECT

## Making the library collection more diverse

Next year, we will be launching our **Global Reading Project** – an exciting new initiative to encourage you to read more diverse books.

Are you bored of seeing the same stories crop up in our library's books—reflecting the woes, trials and tribulations of American teenage girls plagued by boy troubles or familial conflict? Do you agree that there are not enough books in the LRC, whose protagonists are of colour, or whose cultures are vastly different to our own?

Well, that is about to change because as of next year, there will be plenty of new and exciting books available for you to borrow, whose stories are set in many different parts of the world, and whose authors come from across the globe.

To complement the new collection, a new, permanent display will be erected in the LRC, which will highlight key books that we have in the library, as well as books from authors who come from different countries of the world.

We will also have a revolving display of books, which will change monthly and whose books and display materials will showcase books that focus on a particular part of the world.

More than half of the countries in the world are represented in these books, with stories set in and or authors coming from countries such as Iraq, Iran, Colombia, Saudi Arabia, the Philippines, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Ghana and Australia. Books include '**Secrets of the Henna Girl**' – the story of a British-Pakistani girl, '**Girls of Riyadh**' – told from the perspective of four Saudi girls, '**Pride**' by Ibi Zoboi, Linda Sue Park's '**A Long Walk to Water: Based on a True Story**' set in the Sudan – and told from the perspectives of two different children, as well as '**The House on Mango Street**' - Sandra Cisneros - a radical book that familiarized readers with the lives of Hispanic women growing up in America. Of course we couldn't leave out Michelle Obama's newly published memoir '**Becoming**' and Angie Thomas' '**The Hate U Give**'.

There will be more information about this initiative in the New Year - so be sure to keep an eye out for posters and information about the launch then.





I am pleased to announce that, as part of its **Reading for Pleasure** initiative, the charity **BOOKTRUST**, will be sending us a box of thrilling new titles, which are expected to arrive in January. All books have been carefully selected by **BookTrusts' panelists**, are all **FREE** and I must say that this year's selection looks better than last years'.

Last year, we were sent some great reads such as Jess Butterworth's '**Running on the Roof of the World**', Sara Pennypacker's '**Pax**', Jenny McLachlan's '**Stargazing for Beginner's**', Kwame Alexander's '**Booked**', Luke Pearson's graphic novel '**Hilda and the Troll**', Darryl Cunningham's '**Science Tales**', Mary Hooper's '**Ring of Roses**', Zana Fraillon's '**The Bone Sparrow**' – the book we have been reading at our Monday Book Club), as well as brilliant non-fiction books such as Juno Dawson's '**Mind Your Head**', (a book all about our mental health) and '**100 Things to Know About Space**', among others.

Yet, this year's collection seems to top that of last year's with Juno Dawson's '**What is Gender**', South African author Jaco Jacob's '**A Good Day for Climbing**', Jewell Parker Rhodes' '**Ghost Boys**, which examines the impact of historical racism and which I particularly recommend to **Year 7 and 8** students, for whom Angie Thomas' '**The Hate U Give**' could be too advanced. Also included is '**Boy 87**' by Ele Fountain and '**The Children of Willesden Lane**'—Mona Golabek—both which cast light on the plight of refugees, more accessible reads from the publisher **Barrington Stoke** with Chris Priestley's historical horror '**Flesh and Blood**' as well as Steve Cole's thriller '**Mind Writer**'.

Perhaps the most exciting book on this year's list however is Usborne's '**Politics for Beginners**' described in **The Sunday Times** as an “entertaining” book that “does an admirable job of explaining politics... an excellent trigger for debate.” This is certainly a book that will prove popular in our library.



## Journalism Club

**COME ALONG TO JOURNALISM CLUB—THURSDAYS AFTER SCHOOL IN THE LRC**

Our journalists have so far produced some great work—an article on the dangers of plastics, an interview with one of our art teachers, an account of the Year 7 PGL trip, an article on the history of the school, as well as some book reviews. Students are also working on an account of performing in the school musical 'A Little Shop of Horrors', the Christmas Carol service, the Year 7 Commissioning service as well as a comic.