

# Atherton High School

# AUTUMN TERM

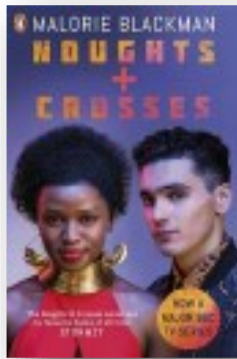
## Literacy Newsletter 2024

We are a reading school and proud to be so!

We know that reading is a crucial life skill, one that supports our daily activities, our mental health and the skills that get us through exams and into the world of work.

*"It is what you read when you don't have to that determines what you will be when you can't help it." — Oscar Wilde*

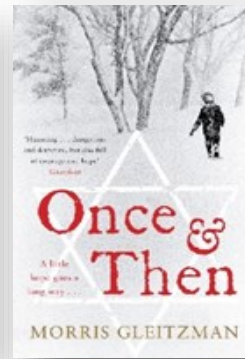
Our pupils are currently reading:



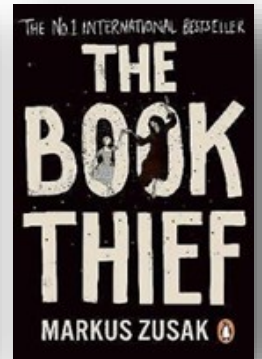
Year 7



Year 8



Year 9



Year 10

This year's books



This means that we have read:

Y7 – 106,000 words

Y8 – 136,000 words

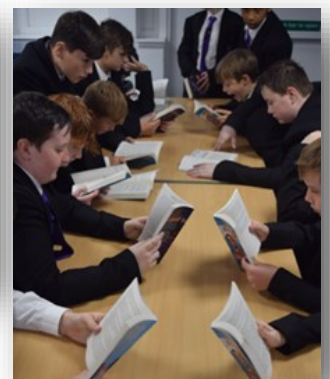
Y9 – 124,000 words

Y10 – 148,000 words

Through form time reading alone!



In October Year 7 students were introduced to this year's list of 16 book titles from Bookbuzz. After a painstaking elimination process and a lot of deliberation, each student in Year 7 was able to choose one book from the list that they got to keep forever.





## Here are some of the reviews from year 7s:

“The School of Good and Evil is a fantastic mystery book full of twists and turns and tricks!”

“Dread Wood has a lot of gothic elements in it like we are learning in English. It’s a perfect book if you like all things spooky and haunted”

“Swan Song is my favourite book, I’m not up to the swan bit yet but it was the book for me because I love nature and wildlife”

“my brother is in year 9 and has been reading Striking Out in form time, I couldn’t wait to show him that’s what I chose as my book!”

## **Virtual Author Visit from SF Said**

In November, a group of very lucky year 7 students were invited to a Live video call author visit with Childrens Book Award 2023 Winner SF Said.

Students were selected based on their engagement with Reading Interventions, the amount of hours logged on Reading Plus and for their contributions to form time reading.

The session involved the author SF Said talking live about how he approaches writing his books and everything that inspired him to write his award winning book Tyger!

Tyger is set in a dystopian future where all animals have been hunted to extinction... apart from one! The Tyger!

Students were then invited to write their own fictional piece about an encounter with an unexpected animal in a bleak future where there are no more animals.

The amazing prefect team who volunteered to help during the event also became the judging panel and after much deliberation... Three winners were chosen to receive a free copy of SF Said’s book Tyger.

A very informative and enjoyable afternoon which celebrated reading for pleasure! The Booktrust have since gifted us 50 copies of this book to add to our form time reading program, which we are very excited about.

## **Register Read Respond**

Every Friday during form time every form takes part in RRR. Each week a different department contributes a different article or fiction extract that explores an important event from that week in history or other very important days in the calendar. Since September we have found out all about; The Unknown Warrior buried in Westminster for Remembrance, we have read about the importance of learning a second language for languages day, we have read a selection of poetry and non-fiction texts during Black History Month, we have learned about Alan Turing’s legacy, we have learned about COP28 and how Climate Change impacts the environment through littering, the Gunpowder Plot, plus many, many more. We are looking forward to what we will learn about on Fridays next year!

