

Harris Church of England Academy

Harris Drive, Overslade Lane, Rugby, Warwickshire CV22 6EA

Telephone: 01788 812549

office@harris.covmat.org | www.harris.covmat.org

Headteacher Mrs Roberta Harrison



October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Reading is a vital skill which we want to promote in school. In particular reading for pleasure remains an important pastime which has been proven to engage students in the world they live in. Students already read a diverse selection of texts which are essential to their understanding of the curriculum, however, we would like to see more of our students discussing important books; the books which can change their lives.

We are pleased to announce the launch of our new reading initiative, Harris 50. This is a list of 50 books which we believe everyone should read before they finish secondary school. The list currently stands at 45 with the final 5 books being any 5 books a student may read not already on the list. Students will be able to report their reading to our school librarian and will be rewarded with HAPs and lapel badges for every 10 books they read. We hope to see as many students as possible wearing their badges.

The challenge is designed to be undertaken over the whole 5-year period students would find themselves studying with us. As such, some texts would not be appropriate for our younger year groups. Please be assured that our librarian has knowledge of the content of each book and will always act with discretion when lending books to younger students.

To help support you at home, please find a list of the books below along with a recommended year group in which to read the book. This is only a suggested time to read the book, and we would always advise researching a book if you are unsure or getting in touch with us. I have also included links at the bottom of this letter to support If you would like to know more about the books on the list.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Mrs C Colbourne

Websites:

<https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/>

This website will give an indication of the reading age of the text. This will indicate if the text itself may be appropriately difficult.

<https://www.sparknotes.com/>

This website will provide an overview of the plot and the main themes. Please note that not all texts will be found here.



The Diocese of Coventry Multi Academy Trust.

An exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales No 8422015.

Registered Office: St James' Church of England Academy, Barbridge Road, Bulkington, Bedworth, CV12 9PF



The Shock of the Fall	Nathan Flier	9	The Children of Blood and Bone	Tomi Adeyemi	9
The Diary of a Young Girl	Anne Frank	7	To Kill a Mockingbird	Harper Lee	9
Boy, Everywhere	A.M.Dassu	7	Neverwhere	Neil Gaiman	9
Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone	J.K.Rowling	7	Becoming	Michelle Obama	8
Refugee Boy	Benjamin Zephaniah	9	The Black Flamingo	Dean Atta	9
The Dark is Rising	Susan Cooper	7	Persepolis	Marjane Satrapi	9
Windrush Child	Benjamin Zephaniah	8	Life of Pi	Yann Martel	9
The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy	Douglas Adams	8	Wuthering Heights	Emily Bronte	9
White Fang	Jack London	9	The Picture of Dorian Grey	Oscar Wilde	9
Holes	Louis Sachar	7	The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian	Sherman Alexie	9
The Ruby in the Smoke	Phillip Pullman	8	Rebecca	Daphne DuMaurier	8
The Book Thief	Markus Zusak	8	We Should All Be Feminists	Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie	8
The Hunger Games	Suzanne Collins	8	Brave New World	Aldous Huxley	10
The Hobbit	J.R.R.Tolkein	7	And Then There Were None	Agatha Christie	8
Hacker	Malorie Blackman	8	Never Let Me Go	Kazuo Ishiguro	10
Wonder	R.J.Palacio	7	The Fault in our Stars	John Green	10
The Bone Sparrow	Zana Fraillon	9	Some Places More Than Others	Renee Watcson	7
The Woman in Black	Susan Hill	9	Fahrenheit 451	Ray Bradbury	9
Chinese Cinderella	Adeline Yen Mah	9	1984	George Orwell	10
The Lord of the Flies	William Golding	9	The Hate u Give	Angie Thomas	10
I Am Malala	Malala Yousafzai	8			
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time	Mark Haddon	9			
Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen	9			
Jane Eyre	Charlotte Bronte	9			
Dracula	Bram Stoker	9			