

Library News

November 2024



CROWN HILLS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
A Specialist Sports College



Crown Hills Community College
Gwendolen Road, Leicester LE5 5FT
Tel: 0116 273 6893
office@crownhills.leicester.sch.uk
crownhills.com



8 for 8

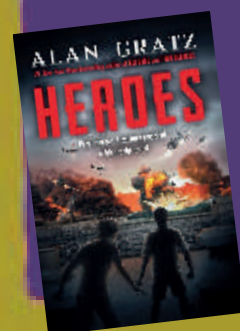
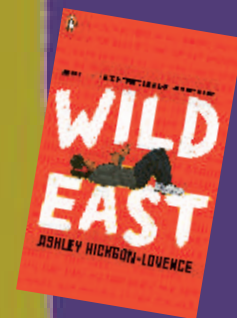
Between November and January, Year 8 students at Crown Hills Community College are taking part in the 8 for 8 Book Challenge organised by Creative Learning Services. The shortlisted books have been selected by librarians at Creative Learning Services specifically for their appeal to Year 8 students.

They will be encouraged to broaden their reading horizons by exploring a variety of genres and styles from adventure, fantasy, mystery and romance to contemporary and historical, and tackle a number of themes including prejudice, identity, and politics. We hope these books will inspire our students, engage their minds, inspire critical thinking, and ignite their passion for reading.

Copies of all of the books are available to borrow from the school library. They will be exclusively available to year 8 students during the challenge.

At the end of the challenge, students will be encouraged to rate the books that they have read and decide which of the books is number one amongst CHCC students.

All CHCC students who read and review at least one 8 for 8 book will receive a participation certification.



BOOK Challenge

Library News

Welcome to the latest edition of Library News. This termly newsletter will keep you up to date with all the news, reviews and events associated with the library. It has been a busy term already in the library. In this first edition of the 2024/2025 school year, we look back at the activities that have been going on, as well as look forward to those that will be starting soon.



Stephanie Vann
Librarian

Have you tried ebooks ?

As well as the physical books in the school library, Crown Hills students also have access to ebooks in the school elibrary. Ebooks are electronic books which can be read on a smartphone, tablet or computer. They can be accessed from anywhere and at any time.



To get started:

1. On your smartphone, computer or tablet at home, download the ePlatform by Wheelers app from the app store of your device or go to the website: <https://eplatform.co/uk>
2. Go to Find Libraries and search for Crown Hills Community College. Select Crown Hills Community College from the results and it will take you to our e-Library.
3. Sign in with your Crown Hills username and password – this is the same one you use to login to the school computers. You can now browse, borrow and read!





Reading Rampage

The most borrowed book of Reading Rampage 2024 at Crown Hills was 'Bite Risk' by S.J Wills, but which book was the most popular with our students? To find out, at the end of the last school year we asked our year 7 and 8 students to score each of the shortlisted books they had read out of five. These results were combined to create the CHCC Top 10 for Reading Rampage 2024.

We take great pleasure in announcing that the most popular book of Reading Rampage 2023 was 'Safiyyah's War' by Hiba Noor Khan.

Where did your favourite come in our Top 10?

CHCC Top 10

1. 'Safiyyah's War' by Hiba Noor Khan
2. 'Hetty and the Battle of the Books' by Anna James
3. 'The Piano at the Station' by Helen Rutter
4. 'Bite Risk' by S.J Wills
5. 'The House Trap' by Emma Read
6. 'Bad Influence' by Tamsin Winter
7. 'Glow Up Lara Bloom' by Dee Benson
8. 'Deadlock' by Simon Fox
9. 'Kofi and the Rap Battle Summer' by Jeffrey Boakye
10. 'Finn Jones Was Here' by Simon James Green



These results were submitted to the Reading Rampage 2024 organisers and combined with those from other participating schools to determine the overall winners.

These were:

Most Borrowed Book: S.J Wills, 'Bite Risk'

Most Highly Rated Book: Helen Rutter, 'The Piano at the Station'

All Crown Hills students who read at least one Reading Rampage book and submitted a short review of it to Miss Vann has received a participation certification.

Reading Rampage 2024 will be starting in the New Year and will be open to all students in year 7, so keep an eye open for more details.

CHCC Top 10 Current Most Borrowed Books



1. Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban by J. K. Rowling
2. A Good Girl's Guide to Murder by Holly Jackson
3. Dog Man: The Scarlet Shedder by Dav Pilkey
4. Diary of a Wimpy Kid: No Brainer by Jeff Kinney
5. Dork Diaries: Puppy Love by Rachel Renee Russell
6. Crater Lake by Jennifer Killick
7. 1984 by George Orwell
8. Bite Risk by S. J. Wills
9. The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
10. One of Us is Lying by Karen McManus

CHCC Most Active Form Groups by Number of Students Reading

Yr 7 – 7C
Yr 8 – 8I
Yr 9 – 9H
Yr 10 – 10C
Yr 11 – 11S

CHCC Most Active Readers by Number of Books Borrowed (Physical and E-Books)

Yr 7 Abdullah Bukera 7H

Yr 8 Karolina Ferkova 8C

Yr 9 Fatimah Zahra Wahab 9N

Yr 10 Fatimah Nasim 10W

Yr 11 Mohemad Ayan Zulfikar 11N

Library Lessons

All students in years 7, 8 and 9 will be coming to the library this term through the Humanities faculty as part of a programme of library lessons intended to promote a whole school reading culture. During these lessons, students will be introduced to books and authors that they might not otherwise have been familiar with across a wide range of genres and styles, both fiction and non-fiction, on themes relevant to the topics being studied this year in Humanities.



In addition, students in years 7 and 8 have visited the library during their English lessons to familiarise themselves with the Accelerated Reader system and what they need to do to complete their half-termly reading homework.

Students were given an opportunity at the end of each library lesson to browse the library shelves and to borrow books. It was wonderful to see how many students took advantage of this opportunity, many borrowing books featured in the lessons, as well as exploring others upon the shelves.



National Poetry Day

National Poetry Day is the annual mass celebration on the first Thursday of October that encourages everyone to make, experience and share poetry with family and friends in order to encourage a love of language and celebrate poetry's power to bring people together.

At CHCC, we held a Poetry Reading Challenge in the library at lunchtime on Thursday 3rd October 2024. This was open to students from all year groups.

Many chose to perform one of our selected poems which fitted in with the theme as announced by the National Poetry Day organisers; this year, this was Counting, and poems included 'Numbers' by Mary Cornish, 'The Square Root of Three' by David Feinberg, 'Ratios' by Dean Martin, and 'Total' by Anna Gilmore Heezen.

Some of our students, however, recited poems which they had written themselves.

All of the students did really well and are to be applauded for their hard work, enthusiasm and courage in standing up before an audience to speak out loud, something which not everyone finds easy. They have all received merits for their efforts.



Carnegie Shadowing Scheme 2024

At the end of the last school year, year 9 and 10 students participating in the Carnegie Shadowing Scheme got together to debate which of the seven shortlisted books to vote for. Their favourite was 'The Boy Lost in the Maze' by former Children's Laureate Joseph Coelho, a verse novel which portrays a coming-of-age story blending the Greek legend of the Minotaur with the quest of a modern-day teenager to find his biological father.

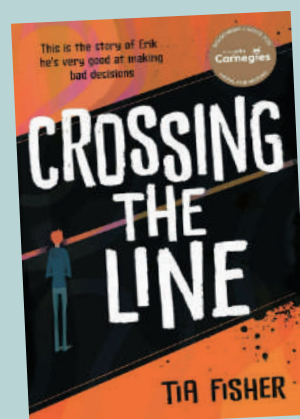
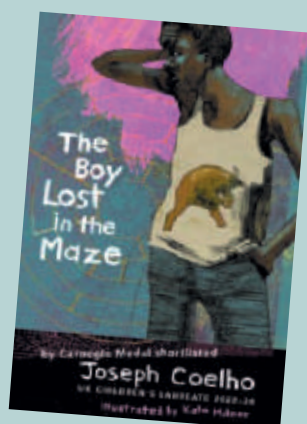
Their vote was combined with those from students at other participating schools around the country to determine the Shadders Choice for 2024.

The 2024 medal winners were:

Judges Choice: 'The Boy Lost in the Maze' by Joseph Coelho

Shadders Choice: 'Crossing the Line' by Tia Fisher

These books are available to borrow from the school library, so come in and check them out for yourself. We look forward to shadowing the next shortlist with more CHCC students in March 2025; keep an eye open for more details later in the school year if you are interested in taking part.



Magazines

Did you know that, as well as books, the library also had magazines? A selection of popular magazines catering to a variety of interests – including BBC History, National Geographic Traveller, Horrible Histories, Top Gear, PC Gamer, Empire, How It Works and All About Space – are available for students to read in the library.



This Months Recommended Reads....

Year
7



Keedie – Elle McNicoll

Keedie and her twin Nina approach their fourteenth birthday, they seem to only be growing further apart. Keedie instead feels drawn to, and fiercely protective of, their quiet younger sister Addie – who on the surface is the opposite of loud and fiery Keedie, but in fact they have more in common than anyone knows.

Available from the school library.

Year
8



Adam 2 – Alastair Chisholm

The robot Adam-2 has been locked in the basement of a lost building for over two hundred years - until one day he is discovered by two children, and emerges into a world ruined by a civil war between humans and advanced intelligence. Hunted by both sides, Adam discovers that he holds the key to the war, and the power to end it - to destroy one side and save the other. But which side is right?

Available from the school library and as an e-book.

Year
9

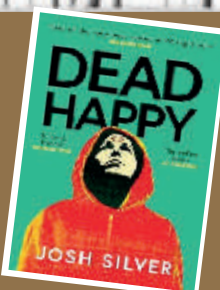


Murder on a Summer Break – Kate Weston

When school outcasts-turned-detective duo, Kerry and Annie, attend the Festival of Fame, it's the chance to meet their favourite feminist influencer IRL – along with a host of social media stars. But then one of the influencers ends up dead. The festival goes into lockdown, Annie is delighted that she and Kerry are trapped in a yurt with celebrities – Kerry is more concerned that there's a killer among them. Will the girls find out who it is before they strike again?

Available from the school library.

Year
10



Dead Happy – Josh Silver

The sequel to 'Happy Head', 'Dead Happy' finds Seb stranded on a remote island under the guidance of a freakishly beautiful couple. Far from home, Seb reluctantly teams up with Eleanor again and the pair are forced to compete in a series of ever stranger trials. Can he escape the island and expose the sinister truth behind Happy Head?

Available from the school library.

Year
11



Marple – Agatha Christie and other authors

Miss Marple made her first appearance in a full-length novel in 1930's The Murder at the Vicarage. It has been over 45 years since Agatha Christie's last Marple novel, Sleeping Murder, was published posthumously in 1976, and this collection of ingenious new stories by twelve Christie devotees – all bestselling authors in their own right – reimagines a character who remains the most famous fictional female detective of all time.

Available from the school e-library.

Crown Hills Community College
Gwendolen Road, Leicester LE5 5FT
Tel: 0116 273 6893
office@crownhills.leicester.sch.uk
crownhills.com

