## **Reading Recommendations**

Welcome to our termly reading newsletter. Each term, we will recommend books from a range of genres and styles.

Don't forget to checkout our reading lists aimed at specific year groups. All are available from our website.

Mrs Woodcock

An empowering story about finding your identity and the courage to fight for it.

Aaliyah is an ordinary thirteen-year-old living in the Midlands. She's into books, shoes and her favourite K-pop boy band. She has always felt at home where she lives ... until a terrorist attack at a concert in her area changes everything.

As racial tension increases, Aaliyah is bullied, but instead of hiding who she is, she decides to speak up and wear a hijab. She's proud of her identity, and wants to challenge people's misconceptions. But when her right to wear a hijab at school is questioned and she is attacked and intimidated, she feels isolated.

Aaliyah discovers she's not alone and that other young people from different backgrounds are also discriminated against because of their identity, and feel scared and judged. Should she try to blend in – or can she find allies to help her fight back? Channelling all of her bravery, Aaliyah decides to speak out.

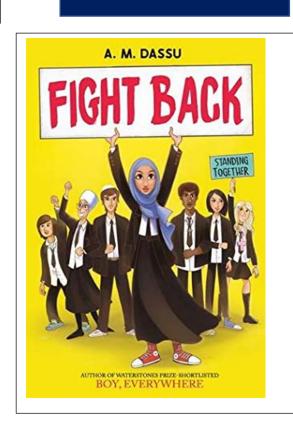
Together, can Aaliyah and her friends halt the tide of hatred rippling through their community?

Fight Back

Growing up

Prejudice

Racism



## **Our Students Recommend**



## "Packed with action"

"An inventive story with so many twists and turns. There are some really strong characters, who you cannot but help caring about."

## **Reading Recommendations**



Something happened last summer – something big – but Clara cannot remember what. She's fallen out with her best friend Gaynah because of it, and Clara feels like she's a problem that everyone is trying to fix.

As a new summer stretches out before her, Clara cannot help questioning the things she thought she knew about the adults and the world around her. And when magnetic, outgoing Rudy arrives and shakes things up, Clara begins to unlock her buried memories. Can she work out what happened last summer and why Gaynah is so angry at her? But if she does, what will that mean for Clara?

In the small community of Sycamore Hill, where Clara lives, everyone knows everyone else's business, but there are plenty of things nobody will talk about. Is it really true that no one here has any secrets?

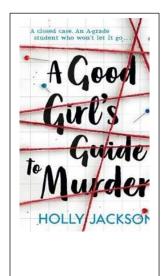


<u>10-14</u>

**Bereavement** 

**Friendship** 

Personal/social issues



Five years ago, Andie Bell, a girl in Pippa's village, was murdered by her boyfriend Sal Singh, but the body was never found. Pippa suspects it wasn't an open and shut case, and chooses to make a study of it for her final year project at school.

With the help of Sal's younger brother Ravi, Pippa is determined to find out what really happened that night. Neither of them thinks Sal was the murderer, but by trying to prove it, Pippa puts herself, her friends and her family in real danger. Someone in the village doesn't like her delving into the past, and the murder was a little too close to home.

<u>Teen</u>

Love and romance

**Thriller** 

**Crime** 



We love hearing about books you have read so let us know what book you think everyone should read!

