

THE ORACLE

Autumn/Spring Term 2024-25 // ISSUE 27

YOUR LIBRARY NEWSLETTER



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YOUR SCHOOL LIBRARY

A Quiet Space in School for...
Independent reading, book exchange, homework, AR quizzing, and afterschool activities.

Open to all Year Groups...
For above purposes - no library card needed anymore.

Computer Use
Before School, Afterschool:
Homework and AR quizzing
Break and Dinner
AR quizzing only

In the midst of
the crowds,
the noise,
and the
busyness...
This is a
quiet place,
a peaceful
space,
to bury the
chaos.

Year 7 Accelerated Readers Lead the Way!

Year 7 have started their secondary school Accelerated Reader journey in spectacular fashion. Check out page 2 and 3 for all our Y7, Y8 & Y9 target achievers, new Word Millionaires, and recipients of Teacher Awards.

Congratulations to all our readers who have enjoyed their books, tried hard, and made progress this term.

Highest Target Achievers

Y7: Omair, Asad, Ibrahim
Y8: Aliza, Iqra, Holly
Y9: Lena, Rameen, Manoor



Pictured: Talal, Omair, Rafeh, Sophie, Usman



Well Done to Year 7, 8 and 9 students who met their summer term reading targets!

We were proud to award certificates, positives, and a special bookmark to all our target achievers. Year 7 – you outperformed all other year groups!!!



YEAR 7

Abdul Hadi	7E	143%
Adam	7M	110%
Alexander	7R	187%
Alfie	7T	231%
Alisha	7M	138%
Aliza	7R	195%
Amarah	7T	105%
Aminah	7T	137%
Andreea Raisa	7E	131%
Araf	7P	407%
Asad	7M	1126%
Bilal	7M	116%
Callum	7T	125%
Chloe	7A	147%
Colby	7P	176%
Darren	7M	133%
Eda-Gabriela	7E	110%
Emelia	7I	141%
Esmee	7I	160%
Ethan	7R	104%
Fajar	7M	112%
Finley	7A	240%
Henry	7I	167%
Hugo	7T	233%
Hunaina	7T	130%
Ibrahim	7A	894%
Imaan	7M	143%
Inaayah	7M	460%
Inayat	7T	179%
Ira	7P	110%
Jacob	7P	110%
Jamie	7E	202%
Khloe	7E	151%
Kiran	7A	278%

Leah	7I	111%
Lilli	7P	110%
Lucy	7P	229%
Maya	7T	301%
Mia	7I	127%
Mohammad Shaheer	7P	211%
Mohammed Bardin	7M	153%
Mohammed Haider	7M	421%
Muhammad Rafeh	7P	132%
Muhammad-Ali	7T	209%
Nafeesa	7I	144%
Natasha	7R	182%
Nattapon	7P	177%
Nazif	7I	186%
Nimra	7P	125%
Noal	7A	121%
Omair	7E	1214%
Oscar	7R	162%
Rafeh	7P	132%
Rory	7A	255%
Ruby	7R	129%
Saif	7T	158%
Savaira	7A	106%
Sophie	7A	148%
Sophie	7I	106%
Taha	7R	194%
Talal	7I	109%
Theoden	7M	127%
Thomas	7T	101%
Usman	7R	139%
Zain	7E	105%
Zohra	7E	327%
Zoya	7T	172%

YEAR 8

Aiden	8E	157%
Aishah	8P	113%
Ali-Akbar	8R	121%
Aliza	8E	274%
Barir	8E	144%
Daniel	8R	111%
Evie	8P	126%
Harley	8M	120%
Holly	8A	178%
Ibrahim	8T	106%
Iqra	8R	231%
Isabella	8A	134%
Logan	8M	108%
Lucas	8R	126%
Lucas	8T	124%
Martha	8A	116%
Muhammad Hasnain	8T	168%
Noah	8T	108%
Payton	8I	109%
Samuel	8R	175%
Sara	8E	130%
Umar	8E	105%
Vivien	8M	100%

YEAR 9

Abdul Muiz	9R	123%
Alexi	9P	180%
Cristina	9E	115%
Gracie	9T	108%
Imogen	9M	165%
Lena	9R	558%
Manoor	9I	275%
Molly	9M	125%
Rameen	9R	297%
Scarlett	9R	145%



Accelerated Reader



Teacher's Special Award for outstanding AR effort and progress

YEAR 7
Natasha 7R
Ibrahim 7A
Asad 7M
Inaayah 7M
Omais 7E
Araf 7P
Taha 7R
Mayssam 7M
Lucas 7I

YEAR 8
Muhammad Hasnain 8T
Ibrahim 8T
Isabella 8A
Holly 8A
Hafsah 8E
Martha 8A
Aliza 8E

YEAR 9
Gracie 9T
Rameen 9R
Abdul Muiz 9R



Accelerated Reader

NEW WORD MILLIONAIRES



Ibrahim 7A
1,332,393

Umar 8E
1,318,818



Mia 9M
1,046,313

Harry 9P
1,046,993

Christina 9E
1,012,469

OUR WORD MILLIONAIRES receive...

- A Word Millionaire Badge
- 20 Primet Positives Certificate
- A book of their choice up to the value of £10



Welcome to Our New Library Trainees



Lucas, Lucy, Ethan, Scarlet, Alexander, Arif, Asad and Sapphire join our senior Oracle assistants Annabel, Melissa and Alyan in helping to run the library.

The Work They Do

- Processing new stock
- Returning books to the shelves
- Customer care, including advice and support to students
- General stock management
- Book displays
- Book jacketing
- Administration
- Supporting at library events
- Choosing new stock for Oracle



As a reward for hosting Scholastic bookfairs last year, Oracle has been given £161 to spend at the Scholastic online shop.

Oracle assistants and trainees will be invited to choose books for the library. We will let you know soon what they have ordered for you.

ORACLE AFTERSCHOOL 3.20 – 4.15pm

EVERY DAY

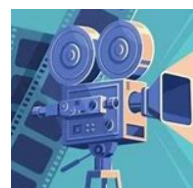
Reading/Homework incl on
Computers, Chess

MONDAY AND FRIDAYS ONLY

Board Games incl Dungeon and Dragons
Pool/Snooker (need to book)

SOME THURSDAYS (SEE POSTERS)

Oracle Film Club
Bring popcorn to a free film screening
(Parent permission letter needs signing)



Thank you Tabby and Lily for your incredibly generous donation of beautiful, unique decorations and baubles for the Oracle Christmas Tree.





POP-UP BOOK SHOP IN THE LIBRARY

Scholastic Bookfair: Wed 5th to Tue 11th February

~ Open in social times for 5 days~

OVER 200 BOOKS TO CHOOSE FROM

COME TO THE BOOK FAIR

EVERY BOOK PURCHASED EARNS FREE BOOKS FOR OUR SCHOOL

DATE: In Oracle Wed 5th to Tues 11th February 2025



NEW



Exclusive sprayed edge edition

£8.99

NEW



£8.99

NEW



£8.99

Exclusive signed edition from BookTokker @compulsivebookbuyers

NEW



Graphic novel

£10.99 £8.99

NEW



Read before Sunrise on the Reaping

NEW



£8.99 £4.99

NEW



Read before Fearless

£9.99

THE BEST NEW BOOKS FROM ONLY £2.99

SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS

3 HUGE BOOKCASES OF AMAZING BOOKS TO PURCHASE

~

If you see a book you want to buy from the fair...

1. Ask for a wish list form and write the title and price down on it.

*

2. Show your parent/carer the form.

*

3. If they pay for the book online, you will be able to collect it next day.

*

Sorry but we can't accept cash payments



We have 5 x £5 book vouchers to give away for the book fair. These will be awarded to 5 students who produce the best zines – (mini magazine). See the next page for more information, and please see Ms Dawson for a book template.

£5.00
£5 PRIZE VOUCHER

£5.00
£5 PRIZE VOUCHER

£5.00
£5 PRIZE VOUCHER

£5.00
£5 PRIZE VOUCHER

£5.00
£5 PRIZE VOUCHER

SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS

MY BOOK FAIR WISH LIST

IF YOU SPOT ANY BOOKS YOU LIKE AT THE BOOK FAIR, YOU CAN WRITE THEM DOWN ON YOUR WISH LIST BELOW

NAME:	CLASS:
Title	Price

Information for Parents and Guardians

If you'd like to purchase any of the books you can pay online at www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay
 You can find out more about the books available and confirm prices at bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases

Pay Online: (this is a payment platform only, you do not enter your order)
 Visit bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay

If you're at the Book Fair, or if your child has attended and chosen their books, you can now pay online using our secure parent payment system. Once payment is complete, to place your order return this wish list to your school so your child's books can be supplied from the book fair.

Reference number: _____
 Books Purchased: _____



Scan the QR code to pay online!



For your self-published books and zines

An



incredibly special part of Oracle is the **Student Voices** section - containing a collection of your self-published books.



Thank You to Our Newest Author and Illustrator - Lucy 7E
Lucy has created three beautiful zines for Oracle and earned 12 positives.

Try creating your own Zine (mini magazine) and winning a £5 book voucher.

Ask Ms Dawson for a template.

Ideas for your Zine: artwork, recipes, stories, jokes, poetry, manifesto, comic strip/graphic novel, instructions, quotes, favourite films/ books/ hobbies/specialist interests, quotes.

It can be computer created or hand-made (incl. cut and paste collages). You might like to use A4 or A3 paper (folded and formatted as /shown). It must be your original work only.



ORACLE FILM CLUB

INTO
FILM



It's not magic that takes us to another world – it's storytelling.

Val McDermid

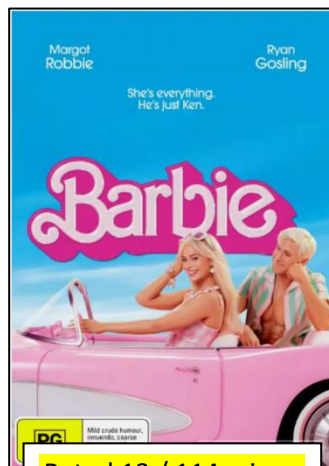
Taha, Arif and Inayat were amongst the students who thoroughly enjoyed the December afterschool Oracle screening of Timothee Chalamet's brilliant Wonka.

There will be 4 movie screenings in Spring term, and we hope you will help choose them from the options below.

See posters for more details.



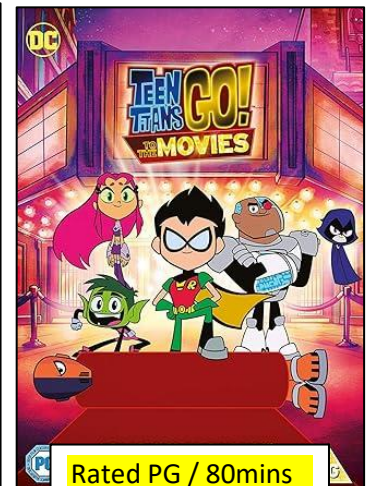
Rated PG / 98mins



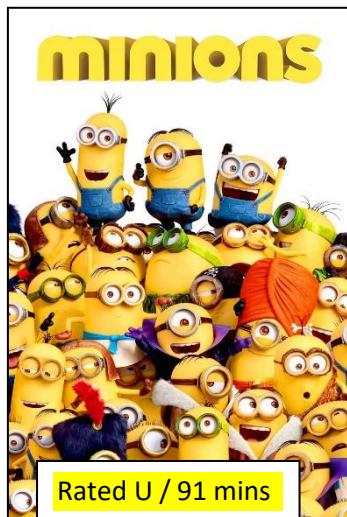
Rated 12 / 114 mins



Rated U / 104 mins



Rated PG / 80mins



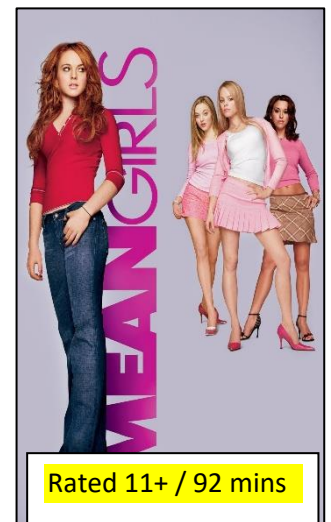
Rated U / 91 mins



Rated 11+ / 108 mins



Rated 12 / 113 mins



Rated 11+ / 92 mins



HOW TO BE A PRIMET



READING LEADER

1. Share books with someone

Friend, or
Adult learning English, or
Baby or Young Child

2. Then...

Guess/predict what the story's about
Share the story together
(with one reading, one listening or both taking turns)
Use questions / check understanding
Talk about the pictures

3. Fill in your Reading Leader Booklet



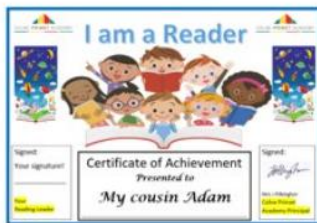
For 10 BOOKS SHARED:

Blue Blazer Badge and certificates *

For 100 BOOKS SHARED:

Gold Blazer Badge, free book and certificates *

*Certificates you present to your loved one or friend



10 PRIMET POSITIVES FOR 10 BOOKS SHARED
25 PRIMET POSITIVES FOR 100 BOOKS SHARED

You don't have to like reading
You don't have to love reading
You don't have to be
a good reader yourself
TO BE A READING LEADER



Some of Our Inspiring Reading Leaders



READING LEADERS

Fourteen students have earned their Reading Leader badge since September by encouraging and reading with loved ones. We are really proud of you!

Abdullah 77	Alba 7A	Anmarah 9B	Ansabel 9B	Areeba 10B	Ayisha 11B	Emman 9B
Eman 9B	Fatima 7M	Hajra 8M	Kalmit 9B	Sabbah 77	Savva 7A	Sehar 10A

AMAZING ALYAN

Our '100 Book' Reading Leader

Since being awarded his '10 book' Reading Leader certificate and badge - just a few weeks after starting Year 7, Alyan has now shared over 100 books with his young sister and achieved another special certificate and badge. What a fantastic achievement. We are very proud of you, Alyan.

"Reading is one of my favourite things, especially with someone who you know. I read 100 Reading Leader books with my little sister Anya who is in Year 2. Her teacher mentioned that she's really keen on reading, but when she started to read books with me, she has improved a lot.

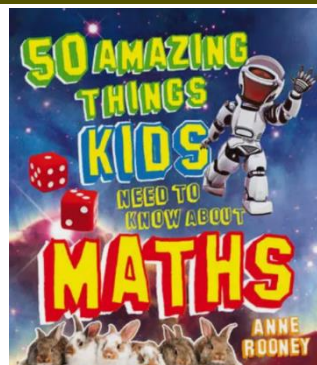
I started with the physics books first and then the difficult ones. She still can't read properly, but she's practising with me. One day she's hopefully going to read properly. I am so proud of myself because I am able to help her reach her goal!"

Primet Book Reviews

The Dragon Realm Series

Reviewed by Asad 7

This series is fantastic and full of cliffhangers. The stories are about Billy and his friends saving the world from evil, alongside their heart bonded dragons. My favourite character is Jordan because he has cool telepathy powers, and his dragon, Midnight who has lots of powers like summoning a force field and having blast powers with her super-hot horns.



50 Amazing Things Kids Need to Know About Mathematics

Reviewed by Alyan

This is such a good book for readers who love maths. It tells you things are impossible, but you can make them possible - like contacting an alien or making money by doing nothing. Now I know this might not be true but if you let a Y3 or Y4 try them it might become true for them. You also learn some interesting things like making a maze or how to break a world record. Overall, I rate this book a 9/10

because it's so interesting for people who like maths and science.

First News – The UK's Leading Newspaper for Young People

Reviewed by Alexander Y7

I was asked to review this newspaper (which is available in Oracle every week). It reports on things from all way round the world and I like the writing style – lots of small articles – which is good for people who like short reads, and lots of great pictures. The lead article was amazing – all about an amazing 3-year-old Indian boy who has become the youngest rated chess player. I really liked the story "Will COP29 make a difference?" It's important for the environment and other countries. Another interesting article – "A Magical Festive Season Awaits" shows you Christmas events, and it's great to see the Movie Alert section. This time it was all about Wicked. There is a puzzles section, including crosswords and Sudoku. One of my favourite parts were the sports results at the back - including info about the English football team. I found this newspaper interesting and enjoyed reading it.

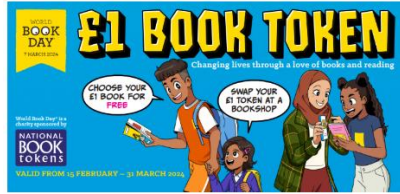
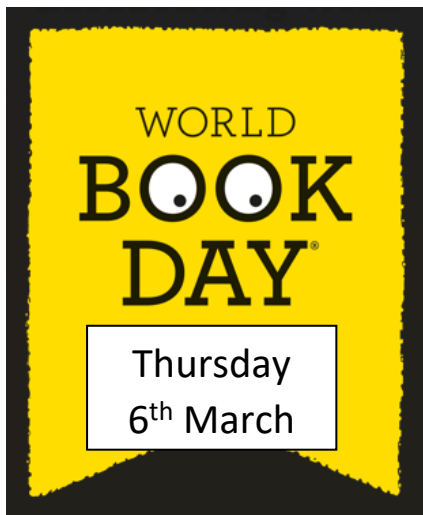


Run on Your New Legs (Manga Series)

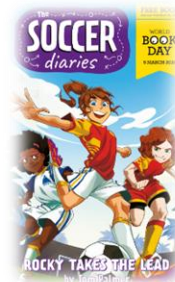
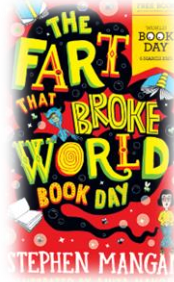
Reviewed by Lily 8T



I read this 5 book Manga series (available in Oracle) when I was in Year 7. The blurb reads: 'After the loss of his left leg, Kikuzato's dream of becoming the ace striker on the high school soccer comes to an end...permanently. But endings are always followed by beginnings-and so, armed with a prosthetic leg, Kikuzato finds a new dream. He's going to become a track star and win the gold at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics! A 60m race in Shibuya is only the first step.' For me, it's a Manga that makes people feel they are not alone if they are disabled, which is important. It's also unusual for storylines in Manga and most books generally. It focuses on teenagers mainly, and also on younger children by the end of book 2. I found it an interesting, rewarding read – and couldn't wait to work through all the books once I'd started reading. It makes you feel safe, happy, and comfortable in yourself. 9/10



In February, drop by Oracle for your £1 World Book Day token. It can be swapped for a free £1 book between 13 Feb & 23 March at certain shops like Asda.



250 copies of This Story is a Lie will be given away in Oracle on World Book Day

MARCH WORLD BOOK DAY THEME 2025



- In literature
- The natural world
- Conservation
- Wellbeing

More Details Coming Soon



HARRY POTTER THEMED READING NOOK

and extension of our quiet reading area



This will be a bookable space.



National Competition



DESIGN A NATIONAL BOOK TOKEN COMPETITION 2025

1. Design a National Book Token gift card on the theme of Read Your Way, using the A4 paper template in Oracle.
 - What does 'read your way' mean to you – and how can you explain this in pictures or designs?
 - What would make someone want to buy your gift card as a gift for someone else?
 - Look at real-life examples of gift cards in supermarkets and other shops – what do they have in common? Which ones do you like best and why?

Closing Date: Wednesday 2nd April
9-12 years and 13-16 years age categories

FIRST PRIZE:

£100 of National Book Tokens for the pupil and
 £350 of National Book Tokens for their school

SECOND PRIZE:

£50 of National Book Tokens for the pupil
 £200 of National Book Tokens for the school

OVERALL WINNER:

Receives a £10 National Book Token gift card (in their design) for every child in their class, and the opportunity for their class to visit a real bookshop, virtually or in person, to spend them.

HOW TO ENTER

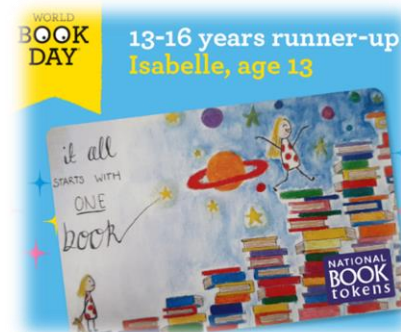
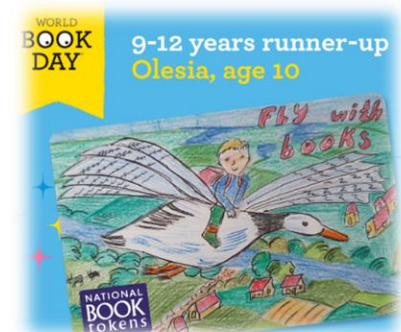
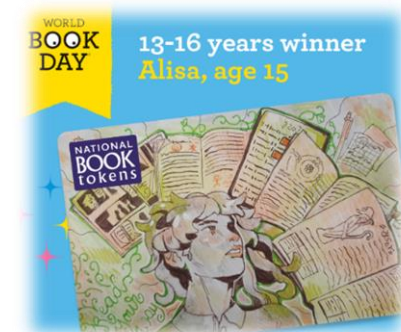
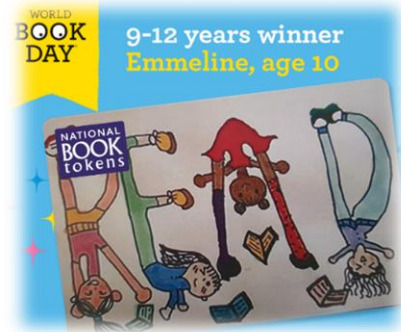
Collect your paper template from Oracle.
 Once completed – return to Oracle no later than Wednesday 2nd April, and Ms Dawson will post it to the competition organisers.

All entries must use the A4 template

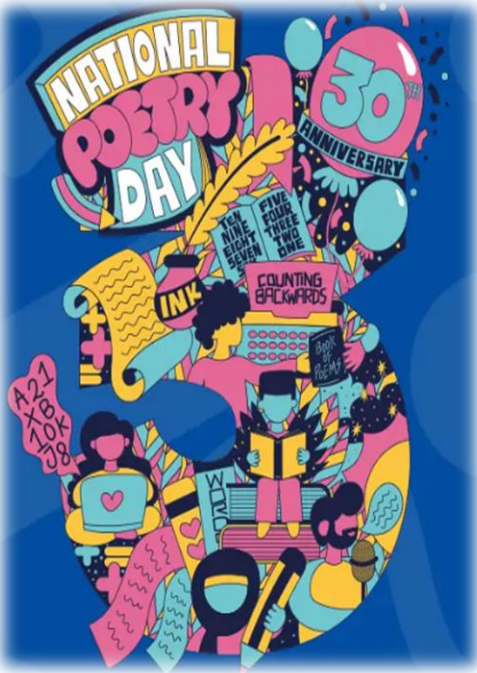
Pen, pencil, paint allowed but not glitter or other glued-on extras.

No copying. Your design must be all your own work.

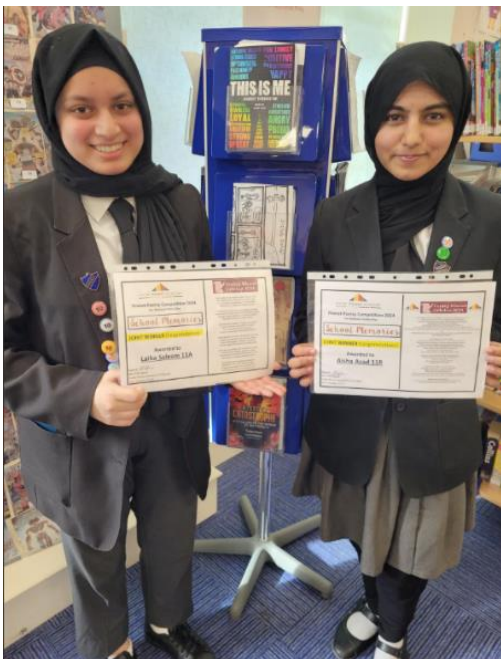
LAST YEAR'S WINNERS AND RUNNER UPS



CELEBRATING NATIONAL POETRY DAY



Congratulations to Aisha and Laiba from Y11 who were worthy joint Primet winners of our poetry competition which challenged students to write about any aspects of their school experiences.



Poetry Winner October 2024



In the halls where laughter echoes, I tread so light,
But shadows linger close, turning day into night.
From nursery's innocent play, a journey begun,
Yet whispers of cruelty overshadow the fun.

Friendships like fragile glass, they shatter and break,
Trust turned to whispers; hearts ache with each mistake.
Through laughter and tears, I search for a friend,
Hoping for kindness, a hand to extend.

But within this struggle, a strength starts to rise,
A spirit unbroken, I will reach for the skies.
For every harsh word, a lesson I learn,
In the fire of hardship, my heart starts to burn.

In the classroom's corners, where silence can sting,
A tale of my school life, the hurt that it brings.
From nursery giggles, I thought I would soar,
But the laughter turned bitter, leaving me sore.

Each day a new battle, with words that cut deep,
Friendships like mirages, promises to keep.
I searched for connection, a bond that was true,
But shadows of bullying clouded my view.

Yet through all the heartache, a fire ignites,
Resilience is born in the darkest of nights.
I'll gather my strength, let my spirit be free,
For this journey of mine is just part of me.

Laiba 11A



Poetry Winner October 2024



Covid kept us home so coming back to school was not the expected norm,
With random ties we were all disorganised, sick to the bone,
We were thrown into random forms, with our blazers new and shiny.
Looking back, it felt like such a cruel attack,
To be pushed with year 11's and crushed by the other 7's,
We were afraid. I imagined thousands of friends to write cards for in glittery pens,
But I came home with trembling fingertips and a mask that slipped every second like a record's strumming tip,
Being tested weekly with cotton swabs along with catching covid which felt like a slop,
I was nothing, so I believed....

Reaching year 8 felt like a break,
Our masks being free of being stuck to our faces like soil to trees,
Now with a fancy red badge my confidence glowed without a scratch,
Falling in love with reading was more expensive above a ring.
Books of all sorts helped with my vocab along with my snappy retorts,
Being a library assistant helped me be persistent,
Friends and peers slowly became clear,
We were all the same, our energy burning like a flame.

Flying over to year 9 was like a long and agonising vine,
Fall outs and frustration was a common destination,
Stress was not the best,
Yet my attention to it was an obsession,
"Two years left," I told myself.
Quicker than an engine, I'm now in year 11,
My height progression was as invisible as the night,
Although, my pride is as high as the stars,
Now I have a role never boring or old,
It gives me meaning and makes me place hope in believing, I am not nobody.
I am not better than everyone, some are smarter, and some are more talented,

Rusted is what we all start as,
Until we come to school to find our true self in such an ominous pool,
Now covid has taken me to the end, where will you go?

Aisha 11R