

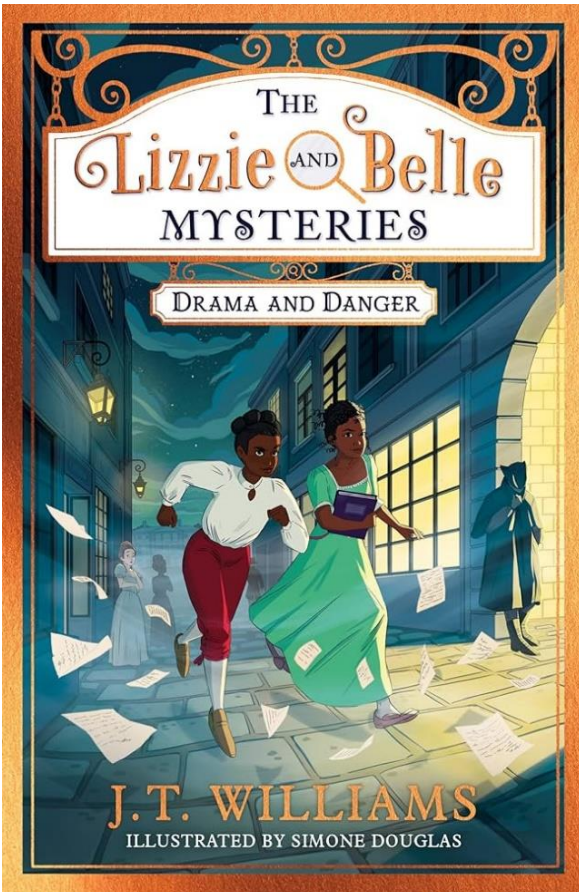
KINGSHILL READS



CIRENCESTER
KINGSHILL
SCHOOL

Welcome to the fourth edition of **KINGSHILL READS** and our second of this academic year! For those of you who are new to the school, **KINGSHILL READS** is our termly newsletter of reading recommendations to make sure you're never stuck for a book! As always, any member of staff at school would love to hear about what you are reading at the moment, and if you have any suggestions for books to feature in future editions, just let a member of the English Department know!

BOOK OF THE TERM



***The Lizzie and Belle Mysteries: Danger and Drama* by J. T. Williams**
Suitable for: Years 7 – 8

Bookbuzz is an annual initiative run by the Book Trust that provides a curated programme of books for secondary schools that has been specially developed to encourage young people to get reading.

We have participated in the scheme again this year and, just before half-term, we handed out a new book, free of charge, to every Year 7 student, so it seemed only right to select one of these titles as our **Book of the Term!**

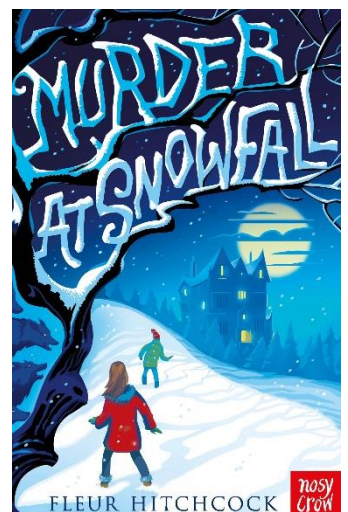
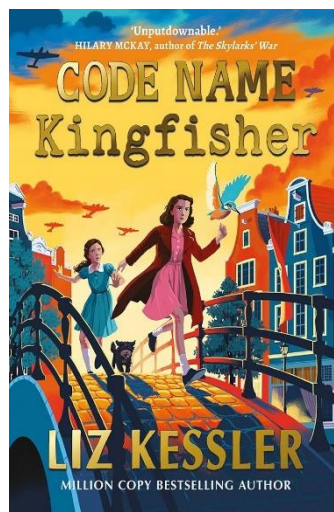
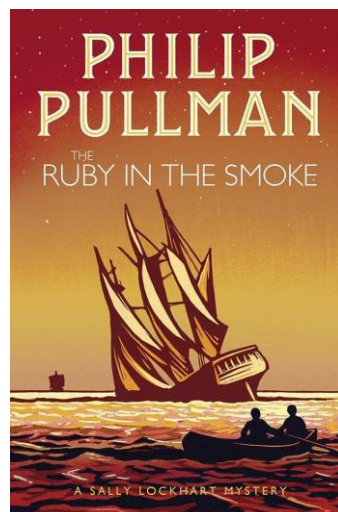
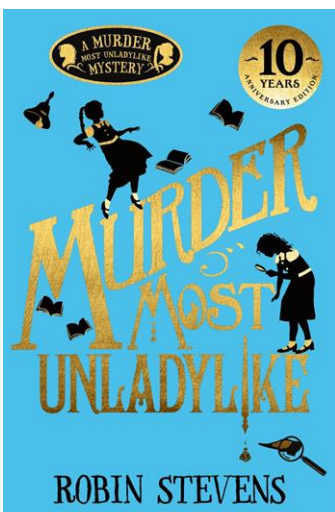
The Lizzie and Belle Mysteries: Danger and Drama, is the first in a series of action-packed and incredibly tense mystery stories, set in Georgian England.

Lizzie Sancho and Dido Belle come from very different walks of life. Lizzie lives with her large family in their tea shop in the heart of busy London. Dido is a lonely heiress living with her aunt and uncle in a mansion near Hampstead Heath. But when they catch each other's eyes at the theatre one night, each is delighted to see another black girl her own age. And when Lizzie's actor father is nearly killed by a falling chandelier, they both know it wasn't an accident!

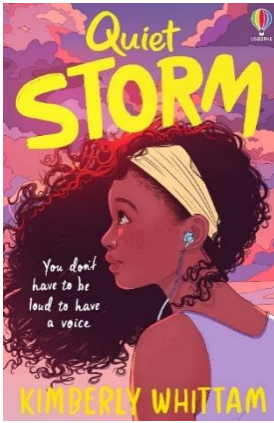
This is a really enjoyable and fast-paced mystery book, suitable for anyone in Year 7-8 with a sense of adventure!

Mr Smith, Head of English

IF YOU LIKE LIZZIE AND BELLE, TRY THESE...



STUDENT RECOMMENDATIONS



Quiet Storm by Kimberly Whittam

Suitable for Years 7 - 9

This book is about a girl called Storm. Most teachers just know her because her brother is Head Boy, but she keeps herself to herself.

However, in one PE lesson, Storm discovers what she is really capable of as she uncovers a hidden talent. The more you read this book the more you come to realise that you don't have to be loud in order to have a voice. I would give this book 5 stars! *****

Chloe Martin, 7C

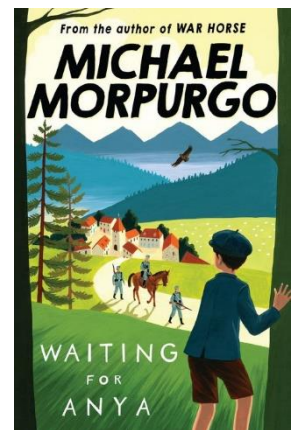
Waiting for Anya by Michael Morpurgo

Suitable for Years 7 – 8

This is a story about a boy called Jo who lives in France during the Second World War. There is a widow who lives just outside the village and Jo knows she has a secret.

When some Nazis arrive and set curfews and begin patrolling the area, Jo finds out about the secret and it is one that could cost lives, not least his own! I would give this book 4 stars! ****

Orla Danhieux, 7C



NEW LOOK LIBRARY

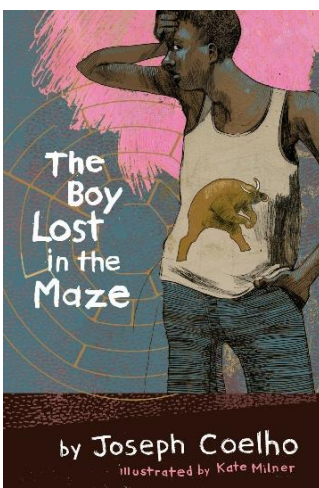
Our school library has undergone an exciting transformation over the half-term break. New seating, desks and book shelves have replaced the old furniture, giving the space a far more inviting and contemporary feel.

The first classes to use the library have been thrilled with the makeover and have relished the opportunity to read with their friends in far more comfortable and welcoming surroundings.

Mrs Evans is currently in the process of stocking the new shelves with exciting new titles, in addition to recruiting a new crop of student helpers for the library. We look forward to sharing more updates in the near future.



FROM THE LIBRARY



The Boy Lost in the Maze by Joseph Coelho

Suitable for Years 8 – 11

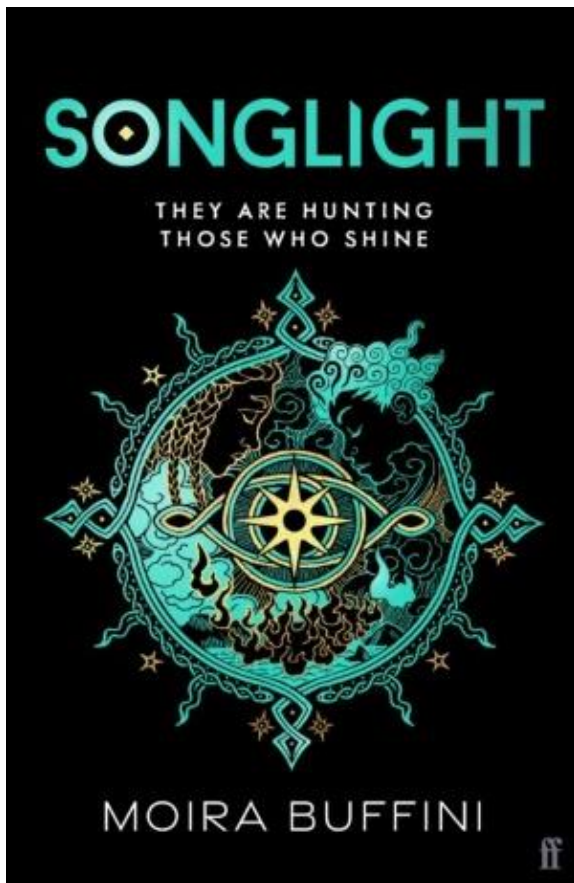
A unique book by Carnegie-winning Children's Laureate Joseph Coelho. It flits between the present and ancient Greek myth; Theseus and the Minotaur in the past, and Theo trying to find his father in the present.

As the book continues, the edges between past and present blur and you really feel for the characters as they grow into adulthood.

It is written in poetic prose with options for the reader to make their choice in the character's decisions and, with wonderful illustrations throughout, it is a really absorbing read.

Mrs Evans, Librarian

GUEST RECOMMENDATION



Each term we ask someone from outside our immediate school community, but with a passion for children's literature, to recommend a book they feel you might enjoy.

This term, Hannah Jensen, the Children's and YA Lead from Mr B's Emporium of Reading Delights in Bath, one of the most celebrated independent bookshops in the South West, has kindly offered a review of *Songlight* by Moira Buffini. <https://mrbsemporium.com/>

Songlight by Moira Buffini

Suitable for Years 8 - 11

In a near future world, Lark lives in danger: ever since her songlight emerged, anyone could betray her to the authorities - including her own family.

But there is freedom brewing... if those with the gift are brave enough to use it.

The Hunger Games meets *The Handmaid's Tale* in this standout YA dystopia! Full of romance, friendship, and adventure.

Songlight blew me away with its gorgeous writing and complex, heart-wrenching characters.

Hannah Jensen, Mr B's Emporium of Reading Delights

SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT

At Kingshill, reading is not just for English lessons, so each term a member of staff from a different department will recommend a book they think you might enjoy and that will enhance your understanding of their subject.

Our fourth SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT recommendation comes from our **Head of History, Mrs Couchman**.

The Butchering Art by Lindsey Fitzharris

Suitable for Years 9-11

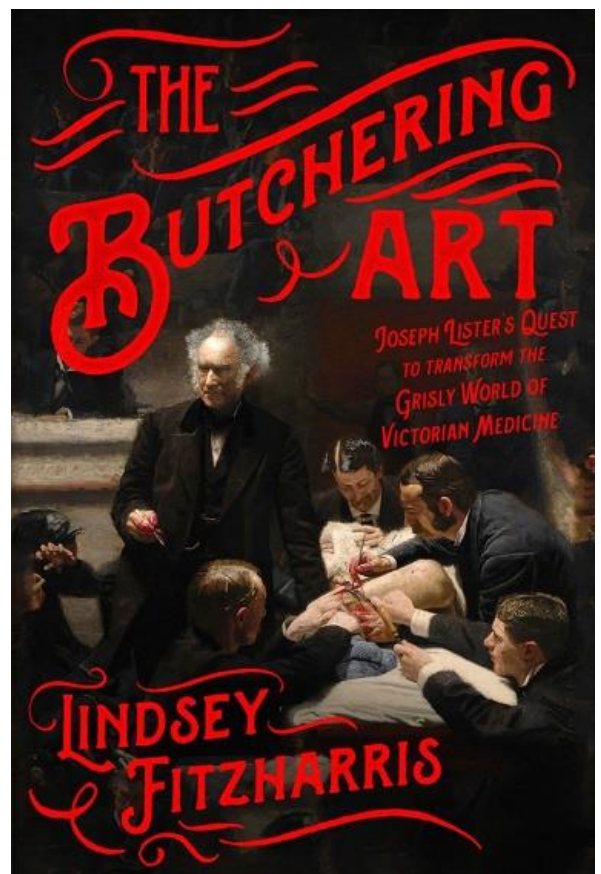
The Butchering Art is a gripping biography telling the story of the life of Joseph Lister, a surgeon living in the Victorian Era.

As a young student, Lister got to witness the horrors of pre-antiseptic surgery, where the chance of patients dying of infection far exceeded the chance of survival.

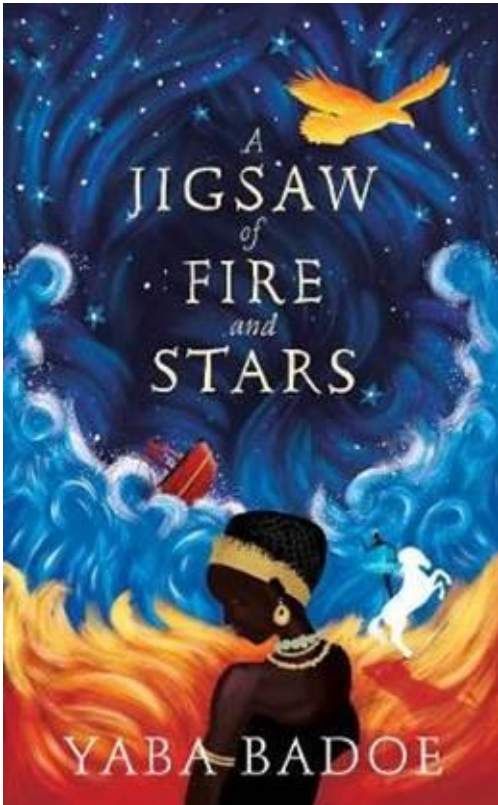
Determined to improve the experience for his patients, Lister sets out to discover a solution to prevent infections and with it transform surgery forever.

An engaging journey into the blood-splattered world of medical history, this book will keep all historians riveted to the end with all of the vivid details!

Mrs Couchman, Head of History



NEW CHAPTERS



Each edition of *KINGSHILL READS* will showcase some of the books you are enjoying with your tutors twice a week as part of our **NEW CHAPTERS** reading programme.

***A Jigsaw of Fire and Stars* by Yaba Badoe** (Year 10 New Chapters book)
Suitable for Years 9 - 11

Sante was cast adrift as a baby, the sole survivor of a terrible shipwreck – her only companion a golden eagle named Priss.

Since then, she has found a family with Mama Rose and her circus. But now she is 14, and history has come back to haunt her – literally, as the ghosts of those drowned in the shipwreck demand justice. It turns out that the wreck was planned, and Sante is caught up in a dangerous adventure, where she must use all her circus skills to survive.

This book takes matters as grave as child exploitation, as fantastic as ghosts, and as romantically escapist as circus life, and braids them into a unique and convincing story.

The setting is vividly described, reflecting the real multiculturalism of the Mediterranean.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/book/a/a-jigsaw-of-fire-and-stars/>

BOOK BOXES

In October we very generously received a box of brand-new books for the library from our friends at local charity, **Read for Good**. Mrs Evans and Mrs Dyer have been hurriedly getting them catalogued and out on the shelves for everyone to enjoy. There is a range of fiction and non-fiction (including the brilliant *The Stolen Prince of Cloudburst* – see right) so please come in a browse the new stock.

Then, at the start of November, we received notice from the **Cheltenham Literature Festival** that we will also be receiving a new box of books from them as well! Miss De Carles entered the school into a competition when she took some groups to visit the festival last term and Kingshill were selected as the winner!

As soon as these books are in school they will be opened by Mrs Thomas's Books and Biscuits Year 7 reading club and then will hopefully hit the shelves of the library before Christmas! More good news for everyone searching for their next read!



BOOKISH THOUGHT FOR THE TERM...

"Reading is an exercise in empathy; an exercise in walking in someone else's shoes for a while."

– Malorie Blackman