

# READ LIKE US

S U M M E R 2 0 2 5



DRIFFIELD  
SCHOOL  
& SIXTH FORM



**SPOTLIGHT ON:**

**POET LAUREATE  
VISIT & REWARDS  
TRIP**

**AUDIOBOOKS**

Welcome to this year's final edition of the Read Like Us newsletter, where we celebrate all things reading at Driffield School. In this edition we'll be looking at how we're celebrating reading in school, consider some great books to take away on holiday over summer, and consider the benefits of audiobooks for improving students reading ability too.

# POET LAUREATE VISIT



After one of our wonderfully creative students won a local poetry competition, we were honoured to welcome the East Riding Poet Laureate Cassandra Parkin at Driffield School on the 24th June. Cassandra ran two creative writing workshops with Year 7, who thoroughly enjoyed crafting poems and humorous insults over an engaging two hours. Students were fabulous representatives of the school and all had a great time. Below is just some of the wonderful work produced on the day:



## Student Poetry

As I soar through the air  
To gather materials for my perfect nest  
For me and my friends to show I care.  
To make them see I'm the best.  
I look down below to see a cat.  
I can see it eyeing me from bottom to top.  
I decide I must seek vengeance in the form of a big splat  
So I release the beast with a great big plop!

DANI HEPTINSTALL

# Student Poetry

As I ran, my hair blew in the breeze,  
And I felt myself getting lower.  
I felt my body changing,  
Lower to the floor were my two knees:  
I was a leopard.

I looked down at my paws  
Then my body  
And I looked around me  
I was now in a Savanha  
It was very strange.

Suddenly I had an urge  
An urge to hunt down the zebra,  
There was a zebra in the distance.  
This was not normal,  
This was a new me.

ELI WINDSOR

It consumed me,  
Pain, greed, power  
Feathers sprouted from my arms and chest.  
Pain and struggle grew evermore  
A great beak shredded my nose  
And stayed in its place.  
I had changed,  
Physically, mentally  
I had changed into an eagle.  
The call of the wild took over,  
My desire to kill transformed me.  
My past self was non-existent.  
I needed death.  
I scanned the horizon for a meal;  
I scanned the horizon for a victim.

JACK ROTHWELL





# Student Poetry

A massive blue thing  
Searching through the vast  
oceans  
Constantly eating  
Never gets hungry.

Calling for my fellow amigos  
From always seeing fishing boats  
In the depths of the oceans  
I could hear for miles  
Sounds of peaceful waves.  
I can taste the salty water  
And I see the unspoilt coral  
beneath me.

WILL WEIR

Taking a step forward. Poof.  
The moment my foot hits the  
ground.

I come out in the dead of night. I  
flew upwards toward the moon.  
My murder behind me flying over  
the enchanted forest.

Gliding through the cold air,  
The wind pushing us back.  
Towering over the world  
Like I'm on top of it.

EMILY GARRICK





# Student Poetry

I transform, very swift,  
As I stood above the cliff,  
Waiting for my true form  
As my skin is torn.

Standing on all fours,  
I look at the moon,  
Holding back my claws,  
Falling into a swoon.

I hear wolves howls,  
Not regretting my vows,  
Because this is me,  
What I'm supposed to be.  
Myself.  
My true self,  
A wolf.

As I'm engulfed  
Into the standards  
Of what I'm not,  
Myself  
Is forgot.

AVA-LILY LONGLEY



# Student Poetry

On a rainy day  
I feel like a frog  
But soon I realise  
I am a frog.

I hop around  
Upon the floating leaves,  
I look at the sky  
And catch a fly.

I try to speak  
But make a creak.  
I swim through the sea  
Which is really a pond.

Flying through the air,  
Rushing into the wind,  
Over the grassy terrain.  
Grandma waves to the frog  
So I wave back.

FLORENCE JACKSON-PERRY



# Student Poetry

Poof

That's the sound my footfall makes  
When I land on the branch  
It croaks and aches at my fragile breath  
The dark night sky rains down its liquid stars  
Pitter patter  
The drops gather below me, flooding the field  
I am trapped here, the branch, though small and frail  
It's the largest on this bare tree.  
But I am smart, and my balance is strong

Click

A light flickers in the distance  
Taunting and haunting me  
It's too far to see me  
Maybe they can hear me  
I mutter a shout of help all that escapes  
Squeak  
Only now does it occur to me to look at my surroundings  
In doing so I see a tail  
How odd

A tail is something that belongs to an animal

Splash

That sound is me, falling in the water.  
The tail is mine, me, why?  
The shock causes me to stumble  
The sound of water against me awakens something: fear  
Brrr  
The water is tranquil, all the outside sounds dulled  
I understand now, why cats don't like water  
Fur keeps them warm but when it's wet it cools them down  
I understand now, that I am a cat.

GRACE GASKIN-TOLMAN



# CELEBRATING READING AT DRIFFIELD SCHOOL



## Reading Rewards Trips

On the 4th April and 24th June, we took a group of around fifteen students to the Little Book Emporium to collect a free book, and then back to school to enjoy a tasty treat and enjoy reading their new gift. Students were selected by their class teachers as avid readers who deserved a reward.



## Library Visit

Year 7 and Year 8 students visited East Riding Library's Driffield branch this July, to help them see the facilities and services on offer to keep them reading over the summer break. We are really grateful to the East Riding Libraries staff for hosting us and also adding lots of students as new members. These students now have access to East Riding Libraries (with a free membership), including access to ebooks and audiobooks through their BorrowBox and Libby apps.

Students are excited to make the most of their free membership, with them getting points for reading, listening to audiobooks and visiting East Riding Libraries (including mobile libraries) for their summer reading competition.



## Form Time Literacy

Every Thursday students complete a mini-literacy lesson in form, which normally involves class reading and discussion with the teacher. This term, however, we've changed to a range of fun activities and conversations designed to actively encourage reading at home. Students have completed a reading quiz based on what their teachers love reading (posters are all around the site), and also had an opportunity to listen to staff members read their favourite books in the LRC at lunchtime.

# THE JOY OF LISTENING TO BOOKS



Sharing stories as a family can be enjoyable for everyone. Often, parents stop reading aloud to their children when they can read; the problem with this is that many young people then lose that sense of connection and the pleasure of sharing a story with someone else, leading to reading being seen as less pleasurable. Young people can also listen to stories which contain much more complex vocabulary and concepts than they are capable of reading on their own. Reading aloud enables them to experience these more complex stories which may be more interesting to them than texts written for their reading level.



How could you introduce reading aloud in your home?

- Approach it through a 'normal' event. Over dinner, you could mention you've been reading something and would like your child's opinion on the topic. Read the text to them whilst they eat and discuss their thoughts. Short extracts from articles about current events are a great way to start this with older children who may have gone a long time without being read to in the home.
- If you are driving to school or the shops, you could put on an audiobook – the read aloud doesn't have to be your own voice! This has benefits from families with very busy schedules, who have longer car journeys as part of their week or parents who don't feel confident reading themselves.
- Suggest reading a novel aloud (or listening to an audio book), as a family, after dinner – they could sit drawing, painting, making models or doing the washing up.

You can access a range of free audiobooks:

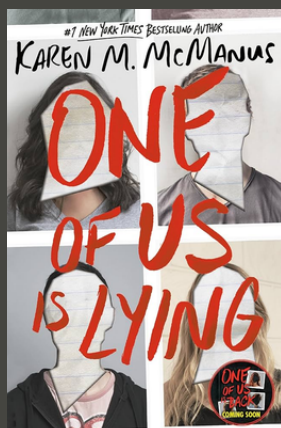
1. BBC Sounds
2. Audible
3. HarperCollins Children's Books



# SUMMER READS:

## NOTHING BAD HAPPENS HERE - RACHEL EKSTROM COURAGE

A carefree New England vacation is just what sixteen-year-old Lucia needs to chase her sadness away. At least, according to her mom, who whisks them away for the summer with her ridiculously wealthy new boyfriend. Nothing bad happens in Nantucket, a charming island with cobblestone streets and million-dollar cottages. But when Lucia stumbles upon the body of a teenage girl on a beach, the discovery reopens old wounds from her past. With the dead girl's identity a mystery, Lucia takes it upon herself to investigate and crosses paths with Selah and her pack of devil-may-care besties.



## ONE OF US IS LYING - KAREN MCMANUS

Five students go to detention. Only four leave alive. Yale hopeful Bronwyn has never publicly broken a rule. Sports star Cooper only knows what he's doing in the baseball diamond. Bad boy Nate is one misstep away from a life of crime. Prom queen Addy is holding together the cracks in her perfect life. And outsider Simon, creator of the notorious gossip app at Bayview High, won't ever talk about any of them again. He dies 24 hours before he could post their deepest secrets online. Investigators conclude it's no accident. All of them are suspects. Everyone has secrets, right? What really matters is how far you'll go to protect them.

## THE EDUCATION OF KIA GREER - ALANNA BENNETT

Kia's life as a reality star's daughter is anything but normal. When a fake romance with teen heartthrob Cass starts to feel real, she faces the messy truth about fame, identity, and first love. A fearless, heartfelt story about finding yourself beyond the spotlight.



## THIS THING OF OURS - FREDERICK JOSEPH

Five students go to detention. Only four leave alive. Yale hopeful Bronwyn has never publicly broken a rule. Sports star Cooper only knows what he's doing in the baseball diamond. Bad boy Nate is one misstep away from a life of crime. Prom queen Addy is holding together the cracks in her perfect life. And outsider Simon, creator of the notorious gossip app at Bayview High, won't ever talk about any of them again. He dies 24 hours before he could post their deepest secrets online. Investigators conclude it's no accident. All of them are suspects. Everyone has secrets, right? What really matters is how far you'll go to protect them.



# RECOMMENDED READING:

## THE GHOST GARDEN - EMMA CARROLL

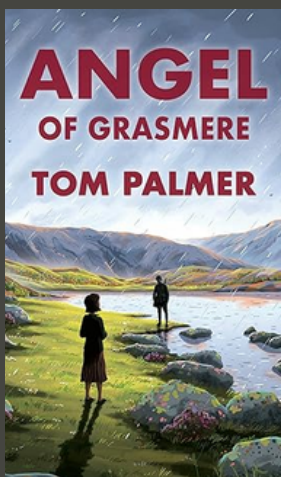
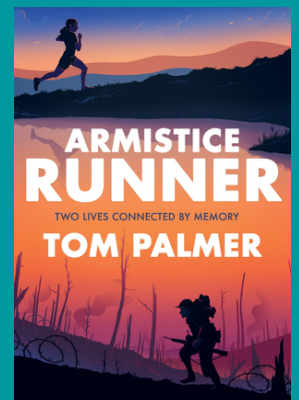
Summer 1914. When Fran unearths a bone in the garden of Longbarrow House on the same afternoon that Leo breaks his leg, it must surely be a coincidence. But Fran can't shake the uneasy feeling that the events are somehow connected, and there is a shift in the atmosphere that leaves her troubled and anxious. Roped into keeping Leo company, Fran is forced to listen to his foolish theories about the looming threat of war in Europe.



# DYSLEXIA FRIENDLY:

## ARMISTICE RUNNER - TOM PALMER

Lily has lots of worries. She's struggling to compete in her fellrunning races and, worse, she's losing her gran to Alzheimer's. But then she discovers her great-great grandfather's diaries from the First World War. Could his incredible story of bravery help her reconnect with her gran and even give her the inspiration she needs to push through to win?



## ANGEL OF GRASMERE - TOM PALMER

July 1940 - As Tarn struggles to come to terms with the loss of her beloved brother in the chaos of the British retreat at Dunkirk, she and her friends scour the hills around their Lake District home, watching for any signs of the long dreaded Nazi invasion. But, as the war drags on, with little good news from the front, the locals become aware of someone carrying out anonymous acts of kindness. With no one claiming credit, they come to think of this unidentified stranger as a kind of guardian angel, but when his identity is finally revealed, can Tarn come to terms with the truth?

# Accessing Free Books

Accessing books and ebooks via our school and local libraries is a great way of reading for free - perfect if you like to start reading a book before you choose to read the whole thing! Help on accessing these resources is below:

## East Riding Libraries:

Students that are 16 and over can register online here [Home \(eastridinglibraries.co.uk\)](https://www.eastridinglibraries.co.uk). Once registered they'll need to visit a local library within 31 days where the library team will move their temporary library card number over to a physical card. Anyone under 16 will need to sign up at their local library and will need a parent or guardian to sign a guarantor form too. Full information regarding signing up can be found at the above link.

Once signed up they'll have access to any services offered by the library branches as well as online services such as eBooks, eAudiobooks, eNewspapers and eMagazines. East Riding Libraries also host a number of events for all ages.

## Accessing our Driffield School & Sixth Form eBooks:

Access the site at [www.vlebooks.com](http://www.vlebooks.com)

Organisation name: Driffield

The username is the school username (for example: 18\_52145)

Password: Driffield1

If a student would like to borrow books over the break, they can see a member of the library team to arrange this.

