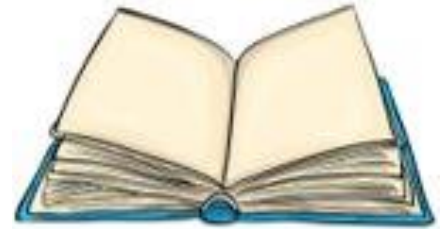


DROP EVERYTHING AND READ



WHAT IS DEAR?

- DEAR is a regular time set aside in the classroom schedule for both students and teachers to simply 'drop everything and read'.
- Repetition of DEAR across a school week will not only promote the importance of reading but also highlight that it is an essential life skill, not just a requirement of English lessons.
- DEAR tends to be scheduled at the same time each day or week, so that students recognise that reading is a priority and can also look forward to reading for pleasure.
- DEAR allows students to take ownership of developing this essential skill through reading something of their own choosing. Ultimately, DEAR has the capacity to accommodate a variety of interests and abilities as students must select books for themselves.

WHY DO WE NEED TO READ?

- First and foremost, we want to inspire students to read and help them to simply enjoy a book.
- However, we must also seek to equip all students with core literacy skills. There has been a noticeable increase in reading required to access GCSE exam questions across all subjects; many questions now require students to read, understand and infer information from extended pieces of text before attempting the subject specific task.
- Research has proven that one of the best ways to develop literacy skills is through extended periods of reading. DEAR time is just one of the reading initiatives in place to support the improvement of student literacy.

DEAR AT TRINITY

- Reading should be communal, shared. Initially, the form tutor will read to the students from the year group book e.g. The Giver by Lois Lowry. All students will read along as the teacher reads.
- Students should be used to reading aloud in English lessons – so that as confidence and familiarity builds students could be asked to read short sections. Reading of students is often not as engaging as that of the adult.
- Either prior to, during or after reading, students will be asked questions of their reading - simple recall, to recap questions and predictions, to inference and deduction.



EXAMPLE POWERPOINT

YEAR 10

FAMILY

HONESTY

TRUST

DETERMINATION

SUSAN HILL
THE WOMAN IN BLACK
The Classic English Ghost Story

Arthur Kipps, a junior solicitor, is summoned to attend the funeral of Mrs Alice Drablow, the sole inhabitant of Eel Marsh House. The house stands at the end of a causeway, wreathed in fog and mystery, but it is not until he glimpses a wasted young woman, dressed all in black, at the funeral, that a creeping sense of unease begins to take hold, a feeling deepened by the reluctance of the locals to talk of the woman in black - and her terrible purpose.

ABOUT THE WOMAN IN BLACK

- EVERYONE MUST READ ALONG.

- BE PREPARED TO READ ALOUD.

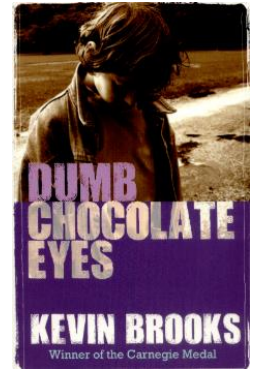
- BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS.

IF YOU ARE ENJOYING READING THIS BOOK...

- The Haunting of Hill House by Shirley Jackson
- The Little Stranger by Sarah Waters
- The Turn of the Screw by Henry James
- The Raven by Edgar Allan Poe

YR10 DUMB CHOCOLATE EYES BY KEVIN BROOKS

A brutally honest and effective story about adolescent boredom and destructive friendships, from Carnegie medalist Kevin Brooks. It was one of those childhood friendships of convenience - two lads in the same village who go to the same school. But then Cassidy gets it into his head that they should set traps for the rats in his garden, and things start to go very, very wrong. A gritty teen drama.



YR10 A SUDDEN STORM BY BALI RAI

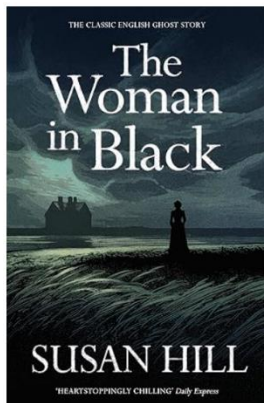
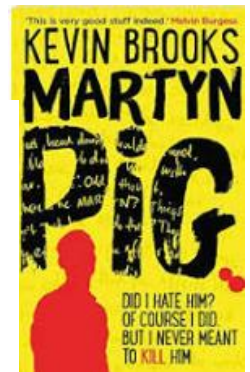
It's Arjan's sixteenth birthday and he's celebrating with his mates - going to see a film and then get a Nando's. He's looking forward to some good banter and wondering what might happen with Jem, who's been looking at him differently these days ... But the night comes to a dramatic and violent end when Arjan is targeted by a group of racist thugs, who single him out due to the colour of his skin and the turban that he wears, a symbol of his commitment to his faith and culture. Is the life of a good friend and beloved son really worth so little?

YR10 MARTYN PIG BY KEVIN BROOKS

Meet Martyn Pig. A boy caught in a miserable world whose life just got worse.

Trapped by events following a single, shocking accident he makes a decision with breathtaking consequences. And Alex. Talented and ambitious, she's his only friend, an older girl with wild dreams and a foolhardy streak of recklessness. Witness the mounting craziness as things spiral in and out of control in moments of mind-numbing confusion, powerful drama, tenderness and humour.

But nothing will prepare you for the last surprise.



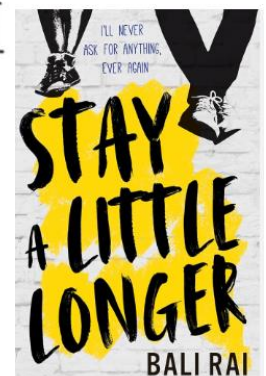
YR10 THE WOMAN IN BLACK BY SUSAN HILL

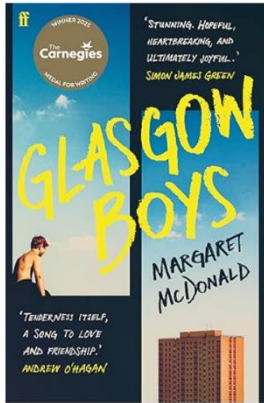
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The house stands at the end of a causeway, wreathed in fog and mystery, but it is not until he glimpses a wasted young woman, dressed all in black, at the funeral, that a creeping sense of unease begins to take hold, a feeling deepened by the reluctance of the locals to talk of the woman in black - and her terrible purpose.

YR11 STAY A LITTLE LONGER BY BALI RAI

Aman's dad is gone, leaving her feeling lost and alone. She struggles to talk about it, but it's a fact and he isn't coming back. When a lovely man called Gurnam moves in to her street and saves Aman from some local bullies, he and Aman quickly become friends, perhaps even like family. But Gurnam has his own sadness. One that's far bigger than Aman can understand, and it's tearing his life apart.





YR11 GLASGOW BOYS BY MARGARET McDONALD

Meet Finlay. He's studying for his nursing degree at Glasgow University, against all the odds. But coming straight from care means he has no support network.

How can he write essays, find paid work and NOT fall for the beautiful boy at uni, when he's struggling to even feed himself?

Meet Banjo. He's trying to settle in with his new foster family and finish high school. But he can't forget all that has happened, and his anger and fear keep boiling over.

How can he hold on to the one good person in his life, when his outbursts keep threatening his already uncertain future?