

# LITERACY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2025



SUMMER ISSUE

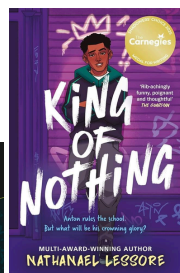
## MAKE READING AN ADVENTURE

At West Grantham Secondary Academy, we actively promote a love of reading. We believe reading is more than just finishing a book—it's about exploring new ideas, feelings, and worlds. When reading a book, try asking questions about the story; make connections to your own life; imagine the scenes and talk about the book with family or friends. Writing down your thoughts or creating drawings inspired by the story can also make reading more enjoyable and meaningful. Active reading helps everyone understand stories better and makes the experience richer. As we approach the summer holidays, we encourage you all to pick up a book, dive in, and enjoy the adventure reading can offer.

## CARNEGIE BOOK AWARDS 2025

The Carnegie Book Awards celebrate outstanding books for children and young people. As part of these awards, a small selection of our students have read each of the shortlisted titles in book club and voted on their favourites.

Many of the books this year tackled themes such as masculinity, identity, grief, loneliness and resilience. These stories speak to readers with honesty and empathy, encouraging emotional growth and self-understanding.



## CARNEGIE FAVOURITES

*The Final Year* by Matt Goodfellow

*Play* by Luke Palmer

*The King of Nothing* by Nathaniel Lessore

*The Things We Leave Behind* by Claire Furniss

# LITERACY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2025



SUMMER ISSUE

## REFUGEE WEEK: 16<sup>TH</sup>-20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

During Refugee Week our English classes and library hosted a range of activities to deepen empathy and understanding of some of the challenges facing refugees and explored what we could do to support them in our communities. Students wrote diary entries imagining the lives of refugees; they watched powerful videos of refugees sharing their stories and in Art, students created posters that focused on celebrating the community as a superpower. Through these activities, we learned about the challenges and hopes of refugees which helped us to appreciate the strength found in kindness and togetherness.

### REFUGEE WEEK READING LIST

To support Refugee Week, the library created a special display featuring a selection of powerful and inspiring books. Among the recommendations were: *We Are Displaced* by Malala Yousafzai, *The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q. Raúf, *Running Out of Time* by Simon Fox, and *Under the Skin* by Catherine McPhail. These stories help raise awareness and foster empathy for the experiences of refugees within our community.



### GRIM TALES WRITING COMPETITION

Students from Years 7 to 10 took on the challenge of writing a 100-word story based on the theme “Grim Tales”, which involved creating dark and imaginative retellings inspired by the original Brothers’ Grimm fairy tales. After drafting and revising their stories, 79 entries were submitted and accepted for publication. These captivating stories will be featured in an anthology available for purchase, and a copy is also kept in the library for students to read and enjoy at their leisure.



# LITERACY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2025



SUMMER ISSUE

## THE READING ROOM: EVENTS

Every Thursday @ 10am: Little Bookworms - storytelling and craft

Every Thursday @ 4-5pm: Manga Meetup - a relaxed, friendly meetup to chat about your favourite series, swap recommendations and meet others who love Manga as much as you do.

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August: 3 for £10 Book Bonanza - choose from a range of brilliant books at unbeatable prices. No booking required.

### NEW RELEASE RECOMMENDATIONS

**The Wood Where Magic Grows**  
by Andy Shepherd

fantasy; deaf character; nature

**Will Wolfheart** by Teresa Heapy

enchanted world; talking animals;  
adventure

**After** by Pádraig Kenny

Artificial Intelligence; Science Fiction

**Jed Greenleaf** by Kieran Larwood

magic; heroes; illustrated



### THE READING ROOM

Grantham's Independent  
Bookshop

Opening Times

Tuesday and Wednesday

9:00-15:00

Thursday to Saturday 9:00-17:00

The Reading Room  
Unit 17, The George Shopping  
Centre

Grantham, NG31 6LH

07963 515380





# LITERACY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2025



SUMMER ISSUE

## GRANTHAM LIBRARY

Grantham Library offer a variety of fun and engaging activities every week during both term-time and holidays:

**Mindful colouring** - Tuesdays 10:30-11:30am

**Crafternoon** - Thursdays 13:30-14:30pm

**Crochet Chums** - Fridays 10:00am-12:00pm

**Lego Busy Builders** - Saturdays 13:00-15:00pm

**Storytime (under 5s)** - Wednesdays 10:15-10:45; Saturdays 10:15-10:45

## STORY GARDEN EVENTS

**July 25** - Animal and flower pebble painting - 10:30am to 12pm

**July 31** - Sunflower and sun-catcher crafting - 2:30 pm to 4pm

**August 5** - Flower crafting for library garden - 2pm to 3:30pm

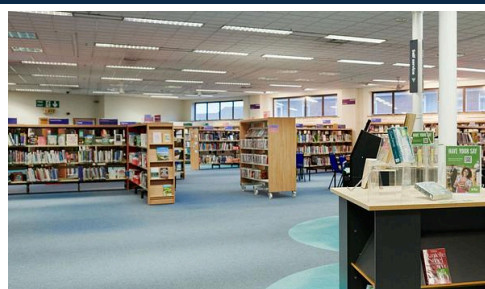
**August 12** - Make a fairy garden or elf house - 11am to 12:30pm

**August 20** - Bug crafting and meet children's author Mary Auld - 2pm to 3:30pm

**August 21** - Meet the bees with Grantham District Beekeepers - 1pm to 2:30pm

**August 28** - Make your own cheeky parrot or feathered friend

**No booking required. For more information, call 01522 782010.**



## WHERE AND WHEN

### Opening Times

Monday 9:00-17:00

Tuesday 9:00-17:00

Wednesday 9:00-18:00

Thursday 9:00-17:00

Friday 9:00-17:00

Saturday 9:00-16:00

Opposite Morrisons  
Isaac Newton Centre,  
Grantham, NG31 6EE

01522 782010