



**2022—2023**

Annual Report

# Headlines

- 18% increase in loans since last year
- 15% increase in engagement
- Establishment of care home visiting scheme
- National shortlist for Pupil Library Assistant of the Year

# Circulation

## Our Most Borrowed Books at KLS Library: 2022-23



1. *Heartstopper* series by Alice Oseman, 2. *Assassination Classroom* by Yusei Matsui 3. *Dinosaur Therapy* by James Stewart & K Rom  y, 4. *Tokyo Ghoul* by Sui Ishida, 5. *Chainsaw Man* series by Tatsuki Fujimoto, 6. *My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece* by Annabel Pitcher, 7. *The Babysitter's Club* by Ann M Martin & Raina Telgemeier, 8. *Flesh and Blood* by Simon Cheshire, 9. *One of Us is Lying* by Karen M McManus, 10. *Deadpool Samurai* by Sanshiro Kasama & Hikaru Uesugi

# Loans

**Total loans for this period were 4688** — an **18% increase** in loans from 2021-22, and a positive sign of continuing recovery post-Covid.

The total monetary value of books loaned this year is **over £50,000**.

70% of loans were for fiction titles, with only 30% of books borrowed being non-fiction. However, the opposite is true of the 539 books that were used in-house, of which 70% were non-fiction, and 30% were fiction.

# User demographics

There was **no significant gender divide across the whole school** (50% of girls borrowed, compared to 49% of boys).

We do see gender divides within individual year groups: Year 8 and Year 10 girls borrow significantly less than boys of the same age group, and girls borrow significantly more than boys in Years 9, 11, and at Sixth Form level.

**Year 7 borrowed the most books**, with 40% of all loans (1860), followed in order by Year 10 (665), Year 8 (658), Year 12 (389), Year 9 (386), Year 13 (301) and Year 11 (135). Staff borrowed the remainder.



# Engagement Displays and promotion

Displays and promotional activities generated **over 12,300 instances of engagement with the library this year**, a 15% increase from 2021-22.

This year's most popular displays included books by autistic authors, the Carnegie Medal shortlist, and World Book Day.



## Outreach and Events



Outreach projects from the library this year have included:

- **St Laura's care home visits**—Small groups of students have volunteered to visit elderly residents at St Lauras care home in Kings Langley village, where they have enjoyed reading picture books together. This has been a cherished activity for many of the St Lauras residents, and hugely beneficial to KLS students, who have developed their empathy, confidence, literacy and oracy.

- **Pupil Library Assistant of the Year** — we were absolutely delighted this year to see Jai (Year 10) reach the national finals for this award. Jai was one of only eight students to be shortlisted and was invited to a day of celebration at the award ceremony in London.



- **Carnegie Medal**— this year's Carnegie Medal shadowing aimed to stretch and challenge a group of capable, keen readers to read broadly and analytically as they assessed the shortlist. The group attended a day of discussion and celebration at John F Kennedy School, where they were fantastic ambassadors for the school, and engaged deeply with both the shortlisted titles and a creative writing workshop with thriller author Penny Joelsen.





- **Board Games**—With financial support from the Friends of Kings Langley School, this year we were able to establish a small collection of board games. Our intention was to capitalise on the recent popularity of chess, and to help students develop broader social skills. The collection has been a big hit, with over 500 uses of the board games at break and lunch times this year. We have also introduced a shared jigsaw, Warhammer Club, and allow some games to be borrowed for use at home.

- **Pride Champions** — the provision of a safe community space for LGBTQ+ students and allies is greatly valued by the students who attend group meetings, many of whom are also regular library leaders. Student voice from the group has contributed to policy, communication, and provision across the school. This year, we participated in the #ReadWithPride initiative for its second year, promoting children's and teen literature with LGBTQ+ characters.



# Social Media

On Twitter, we received a total of **72,300 impressions** this year: an average of **283 per day**. We have over **1100 followers**.

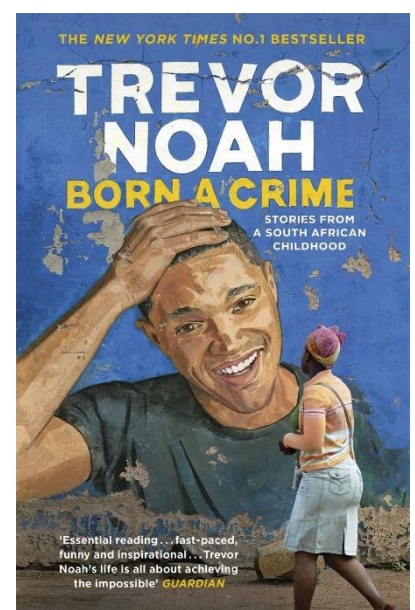
The library now has **765 followers** on Instagram, and our posts received close to **18,000 impressions** this year.



# Whole School Support

## Form Reading

We have continued the well-received Form Reading scheme this year, making improvements based on student and staff feedback. We have added more non-fiction selections and short stories for Year 10, as it was felt these groups did not have time to make sufficient progress with a class novel, and students were more engaged by short form and non-fiction texts. New sets of *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah and *Fifty Things That Made the Modern Economy* by Tim Harford are now available, alongside over thirty short stories and essays. Teaching notes are now available for six Year 7 texts, two Year 8 texts, and *Born a Crime*, with more to follow.



## **Stationery Shop**

The library stationery shop made over **5900 sales** this year, enabling students to purchase all the equipment necessary to be 'school ready' at the lowest possible cost. Equipment was also provided without charge for Pupil Premium students.

## **EPQ**

The library continues to provide support for the EPQ qualification, largely through delivery of the Taught Skills workshops. This year's set of results was our best in many years.