

ALBANY ACADEMY: KS4 Reading Subject Overview

Curriculum Overview for Reading

Autumn Term		
UNIT	Unit 1	Unit 2
TITLE	When the Sky Falls	The List of Things That Will Not Change
CONTENT	The story is set in 1941 during World War 2, when Joseph Palmer is sent to London to stay with a lady called Mrs F who seems to not like children and owns a rundown zoo. Together they care for the animals that are left and Joseph forms a bond with the silverback gorilla named Adonis. However, Mrs F and Joseph have to be ready to make difficult decisions if the bombers set Adonis free. This book was inspired by a true story about a boy who had a similar experience during World War 2 caring for a lion in a zoo.	The story is based in New York, where the protagonist Bea lives. Her parents are divorced, and her dad is planning to marry his boyfriend, Jesse. When her parents divorced, they provided Bea with a notebook listing all of the things that will not change, including how both of her parents will always love her more than anything. However, after her dad announces his upcoming wedding, many things do begin to change, including gaining a sister. With the help of her therapist, Miriam, and her friends and family, Bea learns to navigate through her new world, learning the importance of forgiveness, empathy and love.

Spring Term		
UNIT	Unit 3	Unit 4
TITLE	Quest	Things the Eyes Can Not See
CONTENT	<i>Quest</i> , a volume of seventeen stories aimed at children, will whisk you away from dark bedrooms to new dimensions and fantasy realms, via the Russian countryside and modern Rome. You'll encounter talking field mice, invisible friends, flying Kraiks, white	Libby is 15 years old and visually impaired. She is a keen artist and photographer who loves walking with her guide dog, Samson. Her family worry a lot about her and Libby wishes she could be more independent. One day, a boy at her school who has been missing

	elephants, runaway books and wardrobes that act as magic portals. Hopping across all sorts of genres and showcasing authors from all over Europe – from the Basque country and Cyprus to Iceland and the Czech Republic – this book is certain to broaden horizons and engage the reader in all kinds of fun.	for six months turns up and gives her a secret note to deliver to one of her classmates. This event changes everything for Libby and thrusts her into a world of mystery and potential danger. Libby doesn't tell her parents about what is happening because they would never let her get involved, but what if she is the only person who can solve the mystery and help the missing boy?

Summer Term		
UNIT	Unit 5	Unit 6
TITLE	Goldfish Boy	Hurricane Child
CONTENT	This engaging story centres around twelve-year-old Matthew. He earns the name <i>The Goldfish Boy</i> because he spends all his time in his room and is afraid to venture outside. He suffers with obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD) which makes him scared of bringing germs from the outside world to the people that he loves. He worries about making them sick and possibly them even dying. This all changes when he is the last person to see his next door neighbour's toddler, Teddy, before he goes missing. Matthew turns detective to unravel the mystery of Teddy's disappearance.	The story focuses on twelve-year-old Caroline who lives on Water Island in the U.S. Virgin Islands. She is born during a hurricane which is believed to be bad luck, and to begin with it seems as though she is very unlucky. Her mother left home and never returned, she is bullied in school and doesn't seem to fit in anywhere. Things start to look up when a new student called Kalinda arrives and Caroline's luck begins to change. Kalinda and Caroline become friends and Caroline eventually develops a crush on her new friend. The story follows Caroline as she searches for the strength to confront her feelings as well as finding out the reason for her mother abandoning her.

