

Reading at Ark Blake Academy

Ark Blake Academy is determined to create an excellent reading culture where our pupils can enjoy the myriad benefits of reading confidently and with enjoyment.

We have implemented a significant reading programme through tutor time, including whole class reading in the morning and independent reading in the afternoon. In the morning, each House reads from a different novel. Currently, these are *The Breadwinner* by Deborah Ellis, *Noughts and Crosses* by Malorie Blackman, and *Wonder* by R J Palacio. All of these novels speak to our values.

On Friday mornings, pupils read from our *Anthology for Greatness*. The anthology is a collection of short stories, articles and songs selected by our teachers. Each edition of the anthology explores one of our BLAKE values. For example, pupils have explored the value of *bravery* through our *Anthology for Greatness*, but more specifically the concept of 'quiet courage' as described by Mary Ann Radmacher in her quote, "Courage does not always roar. Sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying, 'I will try again tomorrow.'"

For pupils who need additional support with their reading, we use Ruth Miskin's *Fresh Start* programme. The *Fresh Start* programme, "teaches students to read accurately and fluently with good comprehension. It teaches them to spell correctly and compose their ideas for writing step-by-step."