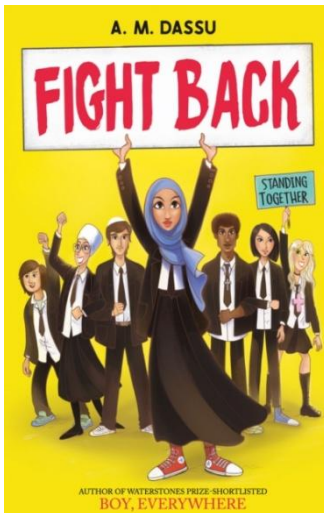


Recommended reading

Here are some book recommendations to kick off the National Year of Reading 2026



Year 7-8

Fight Back, A.M. Dassu

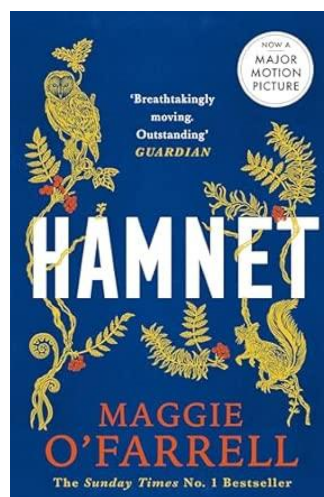
When Aaliyah's school bans religious symbols after a terrorist attack, she faces tough choices. Should she stay quiet or speak up for what's right? This gripping story is about standing up to prejudice, finding your voice, and being proud of who you are. Perfect for anyone who likes realistic, powerful stories about courage and friendship.



Year 9-10

Legend, Marie Lu

Set in a futuristic, dystopian world, *Legend* follows two teenagers from very different backgrounds: Day, a wanted criminal, and June, a prodigy working for the Republic. When their paths collide, secrets unravel, and they discover the truth behind the society they thought they knew. Fast-paced and full of twists, this book is perfect for fans of action, mystery, and strong characters. Ideal for readers who enjoyed *The Hunger Games* or *Divergent*.



Year 11-13

Hamnet, Maggie O'Farrell

If you enjoy stories that mix history with emotion, *Hamnet* is a must-read. Set in 16th-century England, it imagines the life of William Shakespeare's family and the heartbreaking story of his son, Hamnet. The book explores love, loss, and resilience in a way that feels real and powerful. It's beautifully written and gives you a glimpse into the world behind one of the greatest playwrights of all time. Perfect for readers who like historical fiction with strong characters and moving themes.