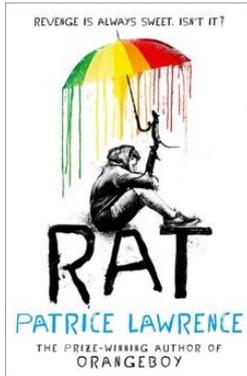


ABBHEY PARK READS!

Year 9 – Term 3 Reading Challenge

Reading is a key skill that you need to develop for success in all your subjects as well as developing your enjoyment of reading and losing yourself in another world. This term we would like you as a year group to read the book 'Rat'.



Rat, by Patrice Lawrence

When his mum is sent back to prison, Al knows exactly who is to blame. Mr Brayker from downstairs has been making trouble for Al's mum ever since they moved in. Al is determined to get his revenge with a plan that involves the only two creatures he can rely on: his pet rats, Venom and Vulture. But things don't turn out exactly as he'd imagined...

Themes from the book and areas for reflecting as you read:

1. The experience of being a teenager and supporting your sole parent – believing in them and yourself despite the challenges that Al and his mum faced.
2. Different family relationships with grandparents, siblings and parent figures and how this effected Al.
3. Change in routine and home environments – how change effects Al and how we view and manage change in our personal lives – especially when these changes are out of our control.
4. The trust and love that Al holds for Venom and Vulture, the care that he shows them and the strength that he seeks from them.
5. Finally, as a review how can we use this story to reflect on forgiveness, family and how to shape your choices as a young person.

Please note these questions are for discussion they are not a set piece of work. The aim is to take what we read and consider the points raised into our worldly behaviours and challenge our ways of responding to those around us.

Patrice Lawrence

The following video is an introduction to the book from the author: <https://vimeo.com/527030108>

Books will be allocated to you in your library lessons and collected back in from you at the start of next term.