

**Many thanks to Aysha Boshor from Stratton Upper School  
who has very kindly sent us a book review of**

**"The Last Taboo" by Bali Rai...**

Set mostly in the modern day, The Last Taboo takes us back to the Leicester of the late 1970's - a time when neo-nazi skinheads hunted ethnic minorities in the streets - and weaves two stories together, as three generations come to terms with racial prejudice and abuse.

The book explores inter-ethnic conflict right here in the UK. It looks into one of the most underexposed aspects of our multicultural society - the conflict that exists between racists who are black and brown skinned.

I personally think the book is a very honest and extremely moving excerpt. The book tells us about a British Asian girl going out with a British Black Afro-Caribbean lad. The problem for Simran's family is that he is black. And for them that's the last taboo. Blacks and Asians don't mix say the racists in Simran's life. They ain't like us and it just ain't right for an Asian girl to be mixing with some kalah (which means black in their language). Where's the honour in that? But Simran chooses not to listen and heads straight into a world of grief, hand in hand with Tyrone.

The book has a good moral behind it and is extremely good for people to read about as it will be something to think about and may change some people's opinions to certain things. The book also sends a message out to people and from reading the book myself I have picked up that RACISM is not worth it no matter what skin colour you are.

The book is a powerful depiction of family history, cultural prejudice and gang culture. The book includes street-gang warfare, clubbing, family loyalty, friendships and feuds, they all collide in the book as one. As I've read the book I found it sad, funny, happy, angry and just seemed all real. The language the author used just made me picture everything so easily in my head which was great because it sets you in to the mood of the story and makes you want to read more. I just couldn't get enough of the book; it was a great book with great enthusiasm.