



Literacy Newsletter



Welcome to our first Literacy Newsletter. We are passionate about Reading at Holy Family and want to share some news about what we are doing at school to promote reading, as well as some ways in which parents and carers can support our students reading at home.

We believe reading matters because:

1. Students who read regularly achieve better outcomes in all subjects;
2. Students who read regularly have a wider active vocabulary;
3. Students who read regularly have more positive self-worth as well as a more attuned ability to empathise with others;
4. Reading is relaxing and fun!

How we promote reading at Holy Family

At school, we provide a number of opportunities to promote the importance of reading. We have recently relocated our school library and students in Key Stage 3 are encouraged to visit and borrow any books they wish to. If any students have book recommendations they would like to see in our library then please let Mr Sweetman or let your English teacher know. Through a collaboration between Holy Family and Book Trust, we have provided every student in Year 7 and 8 with a free reading Book. This is the third year in a row we have taken part in this initiative, furthering our commitment to Promoting reading, especially in lower school. Other initiatives include:

- Year 8 having a virtual visit from a Copywriter
- Students reading fiction and/or news articles during form time
- Staff promoting the book they are currently reading
- A 'no screen' day
- International Literacy Day



Coming up...

We will be celebrating World Book Day on 7th March. World Book Day was created by UNESCO on 23rd April 1995 as a worldwide celebration of books and reading. World Book Day is marked in over 100 countries around the globe. The first World Book Day in the UK and Ireland took place in 1997 to encourage young people to discover the pleasure of reading. As World Book Day founder, Baroness Gail Rebuck, recalls "We wanted to do something to reposition reading and our message is the same today as it was then – that reading is fun, relevant, accessible, exciting, and has the power to transform lives."

Follow the following links for some useful information and advice:

- www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/tips-and-advice/reading-tips/
- www.literacytrust.org.uk/parents-and-families/
- www.wordsforlife.org.uk/zone-in/reading

See the next page for a suggested Reading List

Classics

The Secret Garden / Frances Hodgson Burnett
The Railway Children / E. Nesbit
Oliver Twist / Charles Dickens
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland / Lewis Carroll
The Hobbit / J R R Tolkien
The Lord of the Rings Trilogy / J R R Tolkien
Black Beauty / Anna Sewell
The Wizard of Oz / Frank Baum
Anne of Green Gables / L.M. Montgomery
Peter Pan / J. M. Barrie
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe / C.S. Lewis
The Borrowers / Mary Norton
Five Children and It / E. Nesbit Iron Man / Ted Hughes
The Wind in the Willows / Kenneth Grahame
Little Women / Louisa May Alcott
Stig of the Dump / Clive King
Swiss Family Robinson / J D Weiss
Swallows and Amazons / Arthur Ransome

Biography / Autobiography

Diary of Anne Frank / Anne Frank
My Family and Other Animals / Gerald Durrell
All Creatures Great and Small / James Herriot
Boy / Roald Dahl

Crime & Mystery / Adventure

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time / Mark Haddon
The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes/Arthur Conan Doyle
The London Eye Mystery / Siobhan Dowd
Lionboy / Zizou Corder
Stormbreaker / Anthony Horowitz
Millions / Frank Cottrell Boyce
Roof Toppers / The Explorer / Katherine Rundell
Holes / Louis Sachar
Race to the Frozen North / Catherine Johnson

Real Life Issues

Wonder / R J Palacio
Crongton Knights / Alex Wheatle
George / Alex Gino
The Boy at the Back of the Class / Onjali Q. Rauf
Face / Benjamin Zephaniah

Carnegie Medal for Children's Fiction Winner

Lark / Anthony McGowan