



21st March 2023

Dear Parent/Career.

I am writing to you to inform you of the exciting new reading lesson taking place which will involve all students at KS3 (Years 7-9). This will mean that one of their science lessons every fortnight will be replaced with a reading lesson. Throughout this academic year, students have received an extra lesson a fortnight in science and we are now at a stage where reclaiming this lesson for purpose of reading will work towards creating a positive impact in all subject areas.

There has been much research over the years, most recently 31.10.22, Ofsted published a report which highlighted the importance of secondary school leaders committing time and resources to meet the complexities and challenges of making sure that all pupils become proficient readers.

The rationale for this work lies in the need for all students to leave school as successful readers and with GCSE English at grade 4 or above. It is essential for students to be able to read proficiently, so they can access post-compulsory education and participate fully in society.

Again, and again research is clear to demonstrate that promoting reading can have a major impact on children and adults and their future.

There are several main areas of the benefits to reading for pleasure:

- Reading attainment and writing ability;
- Text comprehension and grammar;
- Breadth of vocabulary;
- Positive reading attitudes;
- Greater self-confidence as a reader;
- Pleasure in reading in later life;
- General knowledge;
- A better understanding of other cultures;
- Community participation; and
- A greater insight into human nature and decision-making.

Evidence suggests that reading for pleasure leads to increased attainment. Furthermore, reading should be viewed as the cornerstone of a valuable education and as we move forwards as a school the culture and expectations around reading will be further championed.

Books have been selected for each year group that are appropriate for their age and will move towards exposing students to a vocabulary rich and dynamic topic range that works to engage and promote reading.

If you would like to find out more about any of what has been outlined here please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

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Lead Practitioner in Science and Reading