



Hello

It is nearly time for us to all be reunited in school; well done for online learning over the past few months – we know that it has had its challenges.

Since my last newsletter, I have been very aware of the dialogue in the media about lost-learning. I know how hard teachers and students have been learning, and I know we are all excited to get back to face-to-face classroom time with students to build upon that learning. Moving forward, I will continue to provide newsletters once per half-term to help you support your child with something we know consolidates this learning: reading!

I also hope your child enjoyed our World Book Day resources, and [The Masked Reader](#) Competition.

If you are concerned about your child's reading/literacy since lockdown, this newsletter will suggest how you could support them with reading resources.

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There comes a point in a young life when the time is right to move on from the books and children's authors they enjoyed as a child to reading books and authors that offer greater challenges as they grow up into adulthood. Click to find out more.



### Did you know?

- The average reading age of a GCSE paper is 15 years 9 months.
- The most difficult papers to read are maths and geography.
- Your English exam will include a non-fiction element; it is much easier to do well on this if you have existing knowledge of a range of topics.
- A 14yo who reads, has an average reading ability of 3.3 years higher than their peers.
- 16.4% of adults in the England, or 7.1 million people, have such poor literacy levels that it affects their ability to find decent employment.

**JUST KEEP  
READING**

### Remember!

Science has proven the benefits of daily reading. 30 minutes a day of engaged, uninterrupted reading has been shown to lower stress levels, increase vocabulary, and to improve literacy levels.

<https://youtu.be/1-zISnj-o>



Marsha Robinson

*As a parent I wish that my children wanted to spend all their time reading... but actually they love television! By turning on the subtitles I can encourage my girls slightly as I know it is improving their reading without them even noticing. Both of them are good at reading and I am convinced having subtitles on has contributed to that.*

### Subtitles!

I know from experience how challenging it can be to persuade a TV-loving child to pick up a book. This is of course still key to the best literacy levels, but did you know that some experts say putting the subtitles on can double the chances of a child becoming good at reading! Read more here:

<https://turnonthesubtitles.org/parents/>



Your child may sometimes find themselves in a lesson wishing they knew more about a topic, or knowing that they need to use their independent research time to make sense of knowledge and facts.

Perhaps they could look at [The British Library](#) to help you in ethics, history or English lessons? Or would looking at [The National Geographic](#) help in geography, or even biology? Would [Maths News](#) provide reassurance in not only maths, but in physics or computing? [History Today](#) is jam-packed with fabulous articles, all free, as is [BBC Food](#).

There are countless more reliable places to carry out research for KS5 subjects of interest, and to revise KS4 content.

Now your child is older, perhaps you are finding that they have less time for reading. Reading however, is always waiting for them! [This blog](#) is by a doctor in the USA; they explain how reading makes a difference to your life chances, empathy and happiness.



Local libraries are partially open; please visit

<https://www.poole.gov.uk/libraries-museums-art-and-culture/libraries/>

for information about opening hours and Covid-safe regulations for visitors.