**Walton le Dale High School – We Are a Reading School**

**Reading for pleasure 'boosts pupils' results in maths'**

Children who read for pleasure in their spare time perform significantly better at school than other pupils, according to a major study.

Regular access to books between the age of 10 and 16 boosts pupils’ vocabulary and spelling skills and drives up standards in maths, it was claimed. In the first study of its kind, researchers found that children who receive bedtime stories from their parents as infants perform better than those who go without. But it emerged that reading for pleasure during secondary school had the biggest effect, with books judged to be more important to children’s development at an older age than the influence of their parents. The study by academics at the Institute of Education, part of the University of London, found that reading had the strongest effect on vocabulary development but the impact on maths and spelling was “still significant”.

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/10299763/Reading-for-pleasure-boosts-pupils-results-in-maths.html

**Why Reading for Pleasure is Crucial**

**Good Reads for Year 7**

* ‘Watership Down’ by Richard Adams
* ‘The Goldfish Boy’ by Lisa Thompson
* ‘The Island at the End of Everything’ by Kira Millwood Hargrave
* ‘The Wolves of Willoughby Chase’ by Joan Aiken
* ‘Peter Pan’ by J. M. Barrie
* ‘The Dark is Rising’ by Susan Cooper
* ‘Wolf’ by Gillian Cross
* ‘The Seeing Stone’ by Kevin Crossley-Holland
* ‘Boy’ and ‘Going Solo’ by Roald Dahl
* ‘The Diary of a Young Girl’ by Anne Frank
* ‘The Weirdstone of Brisingasmen’ by Alan Garner
* ‘Minders’ by Diana Hendry
* ‘A Winkle in Time’ by Madeline L’Engle
* ‘Across the Barricades’ by Joan Lingard
* ‘Tug of War’ by Catherine Ford
* ‘War Horse’ by Michael Morpurgo
* ‘Stone Cold’ by Robert Swindells
* ‘Northern Lights’ by Philip Pullman
* ‘The Subtle Knife’ by Philip Pullman
* ‘The Amber Spyglass’ by Philip Pullman
* ‘Black Beauty’ by Anna Sewell
* ‘The Eagle of the Ninth’ by Rosemary Sutcliffe
* ‘The Cay’ by Theodore Taylor
* ‘The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13 ¾’ by Sue Townsend
* ‘Cue for Treason’ by Geoffrey Trease
* ‘The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn’ by Mark Twain
* ‘Blitzcat’ by Robert Westall
* ‘The Sword in the Stone’ by TH White
* ‘Raptor’ by Paul Zindel
* ‘The Hunger Games’ by Suzanne Collins

***Our school library has many of these books…please encourage your youngsters to borrow and read!***