**Walton le Dale High School**

**Promoting Reading: The Key to Good Results**

**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 8**

* ‘Madame Doubtfire’ by Anne Fine
* ‘Welcome to Nowhere’ by Elizabeth Laird
* ‘The Outsiders’ by S.E. Hinton
* ‘Animal Farm’ by George Orwell
* ‘Chinese Cinderella’ by Adeline Yin Mah
* ‘The Coral Island’ by R. M. Ballantyne
* ‘Coram Boy’ by Jamila Gavin
* ‘The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time’ by Mark Haddon
* ‘The Day of the Triffids’ by John Wyndham
* ‘Flambards’ by K.E. Peyton
* ‘The Flame Trees of Thika’ by Elspheth Huxley
* ‘Goggle Eyes’ by Anne Fine
* ‘The Hitchikers Guide to the Galaxy’ by Douglas Adams
* ‘Small Steps’ by Louis Sachar
* ‘The Hound of the Baserkvilles’ by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
* ‘How I live Now’ by Meg Rosoff
* ‘I am David’ by Anne Holm
* ‘Joby’ by Stan Barstow
* ‘Journey to the River Sea’ by Eva Ibbotson
* ‘A Kestrel for a Knave’ by Barry Hines
* ‘Looking for JJ’ by Anne Cassidy
* ‘Lord of the Flies’ by William Golding
* ‘Nineteen Eighty-Four’ by George Orwell
* ‘Of Mice and Men’ by John Steinbeck
* ‘The Tulip Touch’ by Anne Fine
* ‘The Dam Busters’ by Paul Brickhill
* ‘The Giver’ by Lois Lowry
* ‘Tightrope’ by Gillian Cross
* ‘I’m the King of the Castle’ by Susan Hill
* ‘The Woman in Black’ by Susan Hill
* ‘The Secret Garden’ by Frances Hogdson-Burnett
* ‘Unbearable’ by Paul Jennings
* ‘Treasure Island’ by Robert Louis Stevenson
* ‘The Haunting’ by Margaret Mahy
* ‘Z for Zachariah’ by Robert O’Brien
* ‘Shadowmaker’ by G.P. Taylor

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