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September 2017

Dear Parents,

## READING FOR PLEASURE AT RIPON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

We all know the many benefits of reading, and more and more supporting research is being published showing that reading for pleasure builds empathy and improves wellbeing (<u>http://readingagency.org.uk/news/media/reading-for-pleasure-builds-empathy-and-improves-wellbeing-research-from-the-reading-agency-finds.html</u>) and that students who read regularly gain higher results in maths, vocabulary and spelling at the end of secondary education (<u>http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-24046971</u>).

As part of our drive to develop a whole school reading culture and give a high priority to literacy and reading for pleasure, <u>all Lower School students are expected</u> to carry a reading book in their bags at all times. This means that whenever a member of staff decides to have a period of quiet reading, students will be prepared and will not have to waste lesson time finding something to read.

If you could find some time to discuss reading with your child before then, I'm sure this will encourage them to find a book that they really want to read. There is a large selection of books in the school library, or students can bring a book from home. We realise that students need the time to select something suitable and, therefore, this system will operate from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September. Of course I am always available in the library to help and advise them.

Thank you for your support in this.

Yours sincerely,

Elst

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