



Re-founded 1555

Ripon Grammar School

Helping shape the future since 1555



READING FOR PLEASURE AT RIPON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

September 2019

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 and happiness and that students who read regularly gain higher results in mathematics, vocabulary and spelling at the end of secondary education (please see below for links to the research findings).

As part of our drive to develop a whole school reading culture and give a high priority to literacy and reading for pleasure, **all Lower School students are expected 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. By the end of the month **we will be expecting that all the students will have a suitable book with them at all times.**

This year also sees the start of our exciting new Reading Challenge in which all students will have the opportunity to work towards bronze, silver, gold and diamond awards for completing a variety of reading challenges. They will be given a journal in which to complete and record the challenges they have chosen. Some of these challenges explicitly ask for your child to discuss their reading with you.

If you could find some time to discuss reading with your child, I'm sure this will encourage them to find a book that they really want to read and the librarians are always available in the library to help and advise the students. There is a large selection of books in the school library, or students can bring a book from home.

Thank you for your support with this initiative.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S C Dring
Learning Resources Manager
Literacy Co-ordinator

Mr B Fearnley
Head of English

- <https://literacytrust.org.uk/news/children-who-enjoy-reading-and-writing-have-significantly-better-mental-wellbeing-their-peers/>
- <http://readingagency.org.uk/news/media/reading-for-pleasure-builds-empathy-and-improves-wellbeing-research-from-the-reading-agency-finds.html>
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-24046971>.

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