



Reading

during the summer holidays 

Dear parents/carers,

Here, at Cleeve Park, we are busy cultivating an identity as a reading school and community. Together, we are working hard to recognise the role that reading, comprehension and literacy play in unlocking the subjects our students undertake.



Please take the time to read through our newsletter where you will find hints and tips to support reading as well as: detail on the benefits of reading, tips for reading together, suggested reading, how to access free eBooks, audiobooks and magazines and detail on the school reading programme 'Accelerated Reader' and school library system 'Simple Little Library System'.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

Shona McCarthy
Lead Practitioner English/
Literacy Across the Curriculum

Clare Smith
Librarian/Literacy Support Mentor

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



Over the summer we are continuing to strongly encourage students to read. Reading benefits both mental and emotional growth while helping to develop critical thinking skills, increases knowledge, inventiveness, vocabulary and generally makes you smarter!

This year we are introducing a **Summer Reading Challenge** whereby students are asked to read and log 6 books or more in order to be entered into a *prize draw*. Log sheets will be given out in form w/c 19th July.

BENEFITS OF READING

How can I help my child become a better reader?

Research shows that reading has benefits in many areas of education and life. In addition to the obvious benefits on reading comprehension and attainment, it also impacts on:

- Vocabulary
- Understanding of grammar
- Spelling skill
- Writing attainment
- Attitudes to reading and writing
- Knowledge and understanding of the world and other people
- Achievement in other subjects, including maths
- Empathy and understanding of emotions
- Development of our sense of 'self' and identity.



Understanding students who struggle with reading

If students struggle to read, then the texts they encounter at secondary school can be off-putting for them resulting in low levels of enjoyment and demotivation. This creates a vicious cycle: as they struggle and don't enjoy it, they read less, don't progress and then find that they struggle to acquire the necessary knowledge in many other subjects too. Wellbeing and behavior can also be affected as a result of this. It is therefore important that we help them not just with their reading skill but their perception of it as an enjoyable activity.

1. Students take part in an activity such as reading/ story telling.

4. This then needs to be positively reinforced for the cycle to continue and for the student to remain positive.



2. If this experience was a positive one, then they may be motivated through factors such as enjoyment or connection with the other person involved.

3. Students are then more likely to develop positive attitudes towards reading.

'Because reading is so integrated into every aspect of modern life, teaching reading really is equipping children for the future' James Murphy, author.



HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD READING

Research shows that parents have an important role to play in developing a love of reading. Ways in which you can support your child reading at home:

- Explore different texts together: magazines, blog posts, novels, online articles
- Explore the local library together
- Share your experiences about why reading is important for life and work (be mindful not to express any negative feelings)
- Avoid reading being seen as a chore 'if you read for 15 minutes, you can...'
- Help your child to balance their time and factor reading in a quiet environment into their schedule
- Take an interest in what they're reading
- Help your child to experience feeling successful with reading – praise and encourage them
- Read with your child or listen to audiobooks together if you don't feel confident enough to read yourself
- Support your child when selecting age appropriate texts.

READING TOGETHER

Before you read

Predict

- What do you think the cover suggests about the story?
- What do you think will happen next in the story?
- What does the headline suggest the article might be about?
- What do you think you will learn/find out?
- Discuss knowledge and experiences
- What do you already know about...?
- Do you remember the time we read/watched/visited...?

During your reading

Check understanding regularly

- What do you think... means?
- If neither of us know what it means, how could we find out?
- What do you think the writer is suggesting here?

Ask questions to think more deeply

- I find our thinking behind that idea really interesting – why do you think that?
- I wonder why the write has chosen to use the word...? What does it make you think of/feel?
- Why do you think the writer presented the character/setting like this?
- Why might it be important?
- How are and alike/different?

After Reading

Summarising ideas and information

- What are the three most important pieces of information?
- What is the most interesting think you have learnt and why?
- Is the tone/topic the same at the beginning and the end?
- What have you learnt?
- Were your predications accurate? Why/why not?



BOOK SUGGESTIONS

A detailed 'Reading List' is available on the school website (<https://www.cleevepark-tkat.org/assets/Documents/Library/Suggested-Reading-Lists.pdf>). Here are some quick suggestions.



eBOOKS & AUDIO BOOKS - FREE ACCESS

Cleeve Park subscribes to **SORA**, an app which provides free eBooks and audio books to every student. Login details have been emailed to student email accounts.



To get started with Sora:

Step 1: Install the Sora app

Step 2: In Sora, find Cleeve Park, then sign in.

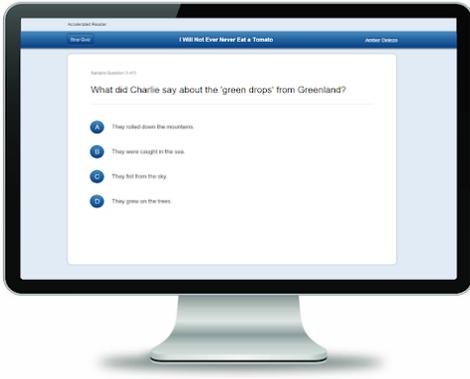
Step 3: Browse the Explore tab and borrow a book.

Step 4: Close the book and go to your Shelf to see all your books

If for any reason, there is a problem logging in please contact clare.smith@cleevepark-tkat.org



ACCELERATED READER



What is Accelerated Reader?

Accelerated Reader is a computer program that helps teachers manage and monitor student's independent reading practice. Each student is tested, and a reading level is determined. Students pick a book at their level and read at their own pace. When finished, students take a short quiz on a computer. Based on quiz results, teachers set goals and direct ongoing reading practice.

When reading during the summer remember to login to check if there is a quiz for the book you are reading. Quizzing helps to test memory and comprehension.

FREE NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES ONLINE

Pressreader is a fantastic app offering access to a huge selection of digital newspapers and magazines. To browse and download titles **FREE OF CHARGE** all you need is a local library card as you'll need your card number to gain access. Over 7,000 digital newspapers and magazines are available from all over the world. There is something for everyone with magazines covering topics such as gaming, fashion, cooking, sport, motoring and travel.



THE WEEK JUNIOR



The Week Junior publication provides up-to-date news from around the world. Cleeve Park have a weekly subscription and by following the link below you can read the magazine online to stay up to date with world events:

<https://magazine.theweekjunior.co.uk/>

You may need the code: TWJ3577ABC

SIMPLE LITTLE LIBRARY



What is Simple Little Library?

At Cleeve Park we use a library system called Simple Little Library. Each student has been issued with a login which should be stuck in contact books. If you would like a login but do not have one please contact clare.smith@cleevepark-tkat.org

When logged in students will be able to browse the library catalogue and reserve books.

Bexley libraries are now open. Check the link for opening hours.



<https://arena.yourlondonlibrary.net/web/bexley/opening-hours>

*We wish you all a very well deserved break.
Enjoy the summer and we'll see you in September.*



Cleeve Park School

