

Dear Parents/Carer

December 2020

As you are no doubt aware, reading makes a huge difference to a child's educational performance; reading is of crucial importance in the development of a child's vocabulary and communication skills; reading improves comprehension and is a key skill in many areas of the school curriculum.

Furthermore, reading can be immensely enjoyable! It is a core part of your child's learning in an academic and personal sense. At Kingsmead we encourage all children to read regularly, but we are aware that often during KS4 with the increased workload of GCSE and other distractions, some children fall out of their good reading habits.

I write therefore to ask for your support in encouraging reading at home and helping to enable reading at school; **after Christmas there will be a renewed focus on KS4 reading, with the expectation that all students have a reading book with them every day, silent reading at the start of English lessons and silent reading sessions in form time.**

Where possible, can you support us in the following areas:

- Provide a reading book (if your child would prefer not to select a book from the limited stock in the Kingsmead library)
- Encourage your child to read an appropriately challenging book regularly at home; there are reading lists of suggested books in the English area of Firefly
- Ensure your child always has a reading book with them in their school bag; all English lessons begin with ten minutes of silent reading and to make the most of this time, it is preferable to have one's own book. Equally there may be other opportunities for reading during the school day and having a book to hand means your child can take full advantage of every opportunity to read
- Talking to your child about books at home and even reading the same books can be extremely beneficial and rewarding.

At Kingsmead we are doing our utmost to encourage all children to read more and thank you in advance for your support.

With best wishes,

Lisa Seymour

Mrs Lisa Seymour Assistant Head of English

CARE

ASPIRATION

RESPECT

DETERMINATION

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