



# READING MATTERS



"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path".  
(Psalm 119:105)

New Year 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you all enjoyed a peaceful and restful Christmas.

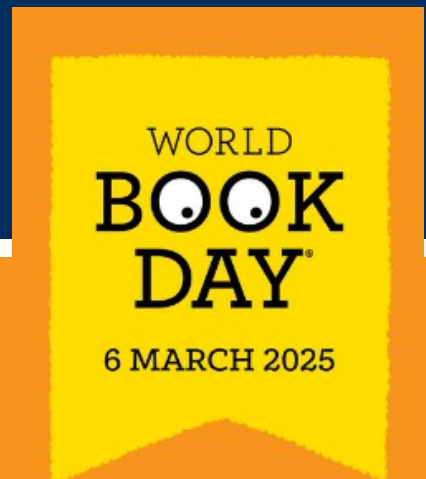
The start of a new term brings new challenges and new things to look forward to.

This term we have lots of wonderful reading related events planned to support and encourage our students with their reading. Stay up to date by following us on Facebook, Instagram and via our school website.

We hope you enjoy hearing about all of the activities taking place.

Lathall

Mrs Lathall Reading Co-ordinator



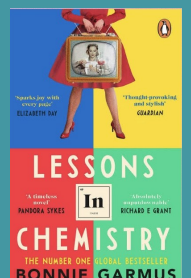
## Our brilliant 2025 £1/€1.50 books



World Book Day is a celebration! It's a celebration of authors, illustrators, books and (most importantly) it's a celebration of reading. There will be a number of book related activities taking place on WBD for the pupils to enjoy. More details to follow.



This term we have launched our new Sixth Form Book Club. The group meet every Friday in M23 from 3.25-4.25pm. This term they are reading Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus.



# Reading



Every Tuesday and Wednesday during tutor time, some of our students are involved in Reading Eggs. Reading Eggs is an online reading programme which teaches children to learn to read using the five essential elements of reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics instruction, vocabulary, fluency and comprehension.

It supports each child's learning by offering individual, one-on-one lessons that allow children to progress at their

own rate. As students complete tasks, they are awarded eggs. Two of our students have collected a phenomenal number of eggs. Huge congratulations to Victoria H who has collected 31,962 eggs and Osman M who has collected 35,831 eggs! Well done to both.



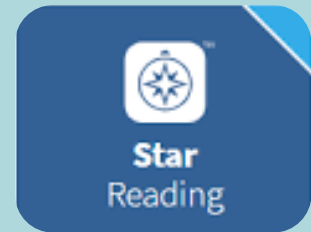
## BOOK CLUB

This term we are launching our KS4 Reading Club. Pupils in years 10 and 11 are invited to R3 every Tuesday lunchtime to join the fun. Our KS3 reading club continues to run every Wednesday lunchtime in M22.

### STAR Reading Tests

Pupils in Years 7 and 8 will be completing their second STAR reading test this half term.

The tests will run from Monday 20th January until Thursday 13th February. New reading ages and ZPD will be written in student organisers.



### Millionaire Readers

Lots of wonderful reading took place last term. One student has managed to reach a million words which is fantastic! Huge congratulations goes to Eniowo O in year 7 for reading 1,902,473.



Each half term we have the Battle of the Words competition between each of the English classes. It was very close last half term but well done goes to 7a2 and 8b1.

7a1	1,765,905
7a2	3,094,987
7a3	2,042,484
7a4	2,073,682

7b1	3,000,019
7b2	1,688,028
7b3	1,895,026

8a1	1,352,862
8a2	1,556,241
8a3	272,017
8a4	1,332,113

8b1	2,667,019
8b2	1,746,837
8b3	1,354,111



The Thinking Reading Team have already started working with some of our year 7 students. If your child is involved in the program, you will receive a letter with information on when the sessions are taking place.



Thinking Reading is a whole-school literacy strategy for secondary schools that uses close and thorough assessment to ensure precise identification of student need. After screening using standardised assessment, selected students complete three 30-minute individualised lessons a week.

## What are we reading in school?

This term, year 7 are being introduced to *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare and will finish the year reading *Sawbones* by Catherine Johnson.

Year 8 are reading *Animal Farm* by George Orwell.

Year 9 have read the Dystopian novel *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury.

Year 10 have been reading *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare and a selection of poetry from their anthology.

Year 11 have read *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens and have begun the play *Blood Brothers* by Willy Russell.



We are launching a Writing Club which is open to all year groups. The club will run every Tuesday in M21. Pupils will have the opportunity to work on their Young Writers' competition entries or on creative pieces of their own.

## 9 Ways Reading Benefits Children

1. Reading increases creativity and imagination.
2. Reading together builds strong family bonds.
3. Reading expands a child's vocabulary.
4. Reading opens minds to new and diverse people, places, and situations.
5. Reading is fun and helps children relax after a stressful day.
6. Reading promotes and enhances critical thinking skills
7. Reading teaches children about the complex world we live in.
8. Reading promotes positive communication in families.
9. Reading helps build character.



**Book Token for Christmas?** With a remit to explore contentious and provocative themes as well as craft intricate alternate worlds, Young Adult fiction has become established as one of the most exciting areas of new writing.

Constantly pushing boundaries both in imagination and subject matter, we've been treated to a wonderful array of books for [teenagers and young adults](#). Below is a link of recommended reads for anyone who received a book token for Christmas and is unsure what to buy or for anyone who fancies treating themselves to a new book!

<https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/6489.Books>

[Every Teen Should Read](#)

Follow us on Instagram



I'd love to hear your book recommendations. Please email me at

[Lathall.I@allsaints.notts.sch.uk](mailto:Lathall.I@allsaints.notts.sch.uk)

with your top reads!

You can also send me any reading related news that you'd like me to share. I look forward to hearing from you.

Mrs Lathall

*Lathall*



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