



15th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Personal Reading Books

At Holcombe we recognise the extensive positive impacts of wider reading and reading for pleasure. Good reading habits support access to the entire curriculum and positive reading experiences impact on increased literacy and other intellectual outcomes.

To promote literacy across all aspects of learning it is a requirement at Holcombe that each student has a reading book with them each day. Time is provided during registration time each week for personal silent reading. Further to this, 30 minutes of lesson time is given over each week in English lessons to support personal reading and track progress.

It is imperative that students have an appropriate reading book that interests them and is the correct level of challenge.

We recognise that students sometimes need support in making the right reading choices. In light of this we have provided a recommended reading list that might help to inform students when selecting suitable reading books.

A new recommended list will be generated each term and published on the school website. The lists will complement the unit of study in English for that term. **This term, the unit of study for Year 9 is Famous Speeches.** Therefore, the recommended list is made up of biographies and autobiographies of inspirational figures that may interest Year 9 students.

By promoting reading for pleasure and requesting that students are active in their selection of reading material, we hope to achieve the following outcomes.

- Increased awareness of reading preferences and how to choose what to read.
- Confidence about reading
- Identifying as a reader
- Improved reading behaviour (frequency, quantity, breadth and depth)
- Sharing enjoyment of reading
- Understanding how to find relevant reading materials

If you would like to discuss any strategies to help support wider reading for your child or would like any further help on choosing appropriate titles, please contact me and I would be happy to support in any way I can.

Yours sincerely

John Still



Literacy Co-ordinator

Recommended List of Biographies and Autobiographies suitable for Year 9

Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer
Michael Faraday: The Father of Electronics by Charles Ludwig
A Life in Football - Ian Wright
Becoming – Michelle Obama
The Mystery of Charles Dickens by A N Wilson
The Princess Diarist – Carrie Fisher
Playing it My Way – Sachin Tendulkar
Diary of a Young Girl – Anne Frank
Churchill by Andrew Roberts
Rise up – Stormzy
Ant and Dec: Once Upon a Tyne – Ant McPartlin
Kelly Holmes – Kelly Holmes
Shakespeare: The World as a Stage by Bill Bryson
The Long Walk to Freedom – Nelson Mandela
On Fire – Ben Stokes
How Not to Be a Boy – Robert Webb
Straight Outta Crawley – Romesh Ranganathan
How to be a footballer – Peter Crouch
Muhammad Ali by Thomas Hauser
Victoria the Queen by Julian Baird
Born a Crime – Trevor Noah
Trautmann's Journey by Catherine Clay
Stephen Hawking: A Biography by Kristine Larsen
Believe – Nicole Adams
I am Malala – Malala Yousafzai
Alan Turing: The Enigma by Alan Hodges
Faster than Lightning – Usain Bolt

ASPIRE & ACHIEVE TOGETHER

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