



Ian Ramsey Church of England Academy

Head Teacher: Mr B. Janes BSc Hons, NPQH
Executive Head Teacher: Mrs G. Booth BA Hons, M.Ed.



Our Ref: ACJ/JC

25th June 2020

Dear Parent/Carers,

Access to a full-time education is every pupil's right. However, to truly benefit from the opportunity, so much more is required. Amongst other things, one key element is a pupil's ability to read. Therefore, putting reading at the heart of the curriculum will support all pupils to be able to read well.

Research into reading states that Reading for pleasure is important for educational purposes as well as benefitting personal development; it is also an activity that has emotional and social consequences.

With this in mind, we are very pleased to announce the launch of an exciting new area of our website totally dedicated to reading.

Our dedicated 'Reading' area contains:

- an overview of the academy reading strategy.
- recommended books for pupils.
- recommended books for parents.
- recommended books for staff.
- reading challenges for pupils, parents, and staff.
- 'Desert island books' lists from staff.
- tips for supporting reading at home.
- recommend a book links.
- External links to where books can be obtained

Each year group has their own area and recommendations list, and parents of each year group have a corresponding list that covers the same themes and topics. This will enable you to read alongside your child and discuss similar ideas and themes with your child. However, we also recommend that you read key curriculum texts at the same time as your child so that you can discuss and support their learning with them.

Each term, new recommendations will be published on the website. Every title is linked in some way to the topics being taught across the curriculum that term.

Books can be obtained from various places. Stockton Library is free to join and borrow books from. They also have an online library where books can be downloaded to a tablet, eReader (such as a Kindle) or a computer. Alternatively, books can be purchased from a range of online and high street retailers, with examples on the website. Once the academy is open, books will also be available from the school LRC.



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The Reading Challenge is updated each term. We encourage pupils and parents to complete as many of the challenges as they can. If you complete any three in a row, all four corners or all nine tasks, they can enter a prize draw. These are open to parents as well as pupils. At the end of each half term and term, prize draws will take place, with reading related prizes for those who have completed challenges. Details of these can be found on the 'Reading Challenge' PDF document.

If you want further inspiration for your next book, our staff have compiled their 'Desert Island Books' lists. These are made up of the ten books that our staff would want with them if they were marooned on a desert island. The lists contain the book title and author, a description of the book and the reason it would make it to the island.

There is also a link for anybody to recommend books you think should be added to the lists.

The first area of the reading section, linked to current topics in the Home Learning work that pupils are completing during lockdown, **is now live**. It can be found by going to www.ianramsey.org.uk and clicking into the curriculum area at the top of the page. The Reading area is inside the 'curriculum' link.

We hope that you enjoy checking out our recommendations and encouraging your child in their reading journey; and picking up some inspiration for your own reading choices.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Jones', with a large initial 'A' and a trailing comma.

Mrs A. Chapman-Jones
Senior Leader Director of English