



# Reading Together at Park



Research shows that reading helps to improve vocabulary, communication skills and also makes us better writers. We all need these skills in life and in our workplace.

The increase in screen-time and social media has been shown to have decreased our focus and concentration levels as people are so used to flicking between apps and scrolling through various websites. Reading can help counter this by providing one thing to focus on. Did you know that reading has been proven to reduce stress? In today's world, helping our children with this is so important.

Did you know that research shows children who read for pleasure achieve better, regardless of whether their reading material of choice is a novel or magazine?

Did you know research shows that a child who reads/is read to for 5 minutes a day will expose them to around 400,000 words a year? Increasing that to 21 minutes exposes them to 1,823,000 words a year. 40 minutes results in 3,646,000 words a year.

At Park Community School, we are working hard to inspire our students to read and improve their reading skills; we believe that the role of parents' is crucial and welcome your support.

## How are we supporting your child's reading?

- All students should have at least two books on loan from the school library – all students should carry one of these in their school bag.
- We read to your child regularly and they read independently from Park's Reading Canon– each year group is sharing exciting novels in tutor time – please ask them about it!
- All students complete a reading test so we can target interventions for each child.
- All students Year 7 and Year 8 students get to choose a free book throughout the school year.
- Year 7 and 8 are regularly completing the Reading Plus programme which is proven to reading fluency and vocabulary.

## How to support your child's reading:



**Love:** start with what they love to read-remember they can read magazines, newspapers and online articles too.



**Talk:** ask your child what they have been reading at school and discuss their opinions.



**Share:** tell your child about your favourite books.



**Books:** have books at home – you can join the local library, add a book to Christmas/birthday gifts and join Park's free school virtual library ePlatform.



**Time:** make sure your child has a quiet place and time to read.



**Listen:** download audio books – you can also share at home or in the car.



**Reading Plus:** Year 7 and 8 can complete this programme at home too – they all have their log in information.

