

Keeping our children reading!

As we are sure you will agree, reading is an essential part of your child's development. Evidence suggests that children who read for pleasure each day perform better academically, develop a broader vocabulary, increase their general knowledge and have a better understanding of other cultures. (Pearson 2020)

However, it's not just about academic achievement, and especially during this challenging time, it is important to remember that reading for pleasure can have a positive effect on our children's and our own mental health and wellbeing.

Parents and carers of Y7 and Y8 students will be aware that their children follow a timetabled reading lesson which includes Accelerated Reader and details can be found below on how students can continue to follow the programme.

There is also a Library area within Google Classroom where there will be assignments for students to complete in addition to the Accelerated Reader programme.

We also want to ensure that all our students have access to reading resources during this time, so for all parents and carers please also find below information about where you can find resources.

Accelerated Reader (Year 7 & 8 students only)

Please encourage your child to continue reading their Accelerated Reader books and complete a quiz as soon as they have finished, I will be checking their scores regularly. To access the programme from home please go to the OBA website/students/Useful links/Accelerated Reader Students should know their username and password, if not they can email using my school email address: M.Rayner@ob-ac.co.uk

• We strongly advise students to complete quizzes unaided. If parents/carers wish to support their child, you can do so in the following ways:

- Discuss the book with your child as the book is being read
- Ask your child to read the quiz questions aloud
- Re-word questions for your child, if necessary
- Ask your child which answers are not correct

Daily reading is a crucial factor in developing every student's reading age and we would urge you to ensure your child reads for at least 15-30 minutes every day.

Halton Libraries

Currently the buildings themselves are closed, however, they have a vast online catalogue, which included e-books, audio books, magazines and academic journals.

Please visit their website for more information: <https://library.haltonbc.info/>

The free BorrowBox app is available to download from the Apple App store for iOS users and the Google Play store for Android users.

Kindle Fire users can also download the app, while PC users can access BorrowBox through the website

Academic Research

For students who wish to research a particular topic, Halton Libraries subscribes to the following websites. In the first instance, students will need to find the Reference and Research tab on the Halton Libraries' website. Details below:

Access to Research: Academically credible journals and articles – undergraduate/postgraduate study.

1. Go to the following website: <http://library.haltonbc.info>
2. Scroll down and click on 'Digital'.
3. Click on 'Online Resources'
4. Select 'Reference and Research'
5. Click on 'Access to Research'
6. Use search bar to look for key words / authors/article titles
7. Use 'Abstract' to gain overview of article
8. Download article to pdf.

Oxford Reference Online: Useful as a starting point for research

1. Go to the following website: <http://library.haltonbc.info>
2. Scroll down and click on 'Digital'.
3. Click on 'Online Resources'
4. Select 'Reference and Research'
5. Click on 'Oxford Reference Online'
6. Click on the tiles of the subject you are researching and use the search bar to research.

Reference and Research

1. Go to the following website: <http://library.haltonbc.info>
2. Scroll down and click on 'Digital'.
3. Click on 'Online Resources'
4. Select 'Reference and Research'

Further Resources

Additionally, there are many websites offering free downloadable ebooks and audio books and I would recommend you visit these to take advantage of the free resources but also to take a look at what else they have to offer – many include quizzes, information about authors, authors reading extracts, fun facts, illustrators sharing ideas and so on. If your child is wondering "what to read next" in the wonderful words of Matilda by Roald Dahl, they can find comprehensive book lists from the Penguin books website and the Book Trust website (details below) where they can choose an age group and genre which will then show recommended books applicable to their choices.

<https://soundcloud.com/puffin-books-uk>

<https://worldbook.kitaboo.com/reader/worldbook/index.html?usertoken=Mjk5MzQ6MTpJUjA5MjAxNjoyOmNsaWVudDE2OTc6MTY5NzoyMjE2Mjg4OjE6MTU4NDM4MDExMzA2Mjp1cw==>

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/>

<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

<https://openlibrary.org/>

<https://manybooks.net/>

<https://bit.ly/AudioElevenses>

<http://takethequiz.co.uk/>

**With Best Wishes for your health at this challenging time.
Mrs Rayner (OBA Reading Champion).**