



JOHN KYRLE HIGH SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM CENTRE

*“Specialist Technology College”
“Applied Learning Specialist College”
“Modern Foreign Languages College”*



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

This guide explains the importance of literacy, and also provides advice and guidance on how you can support your child at home.

Here, at John Kyrle High School, we are dedicated to ensuring that your child reaches their full potential.

With your help and support this will, undoubtedly, lead to a very positive and successful secondary experience and beyond for you and your child.

**A child only has one school life
and, together, we must make it
count.**

Why is reading so important for your child?

Reading.....

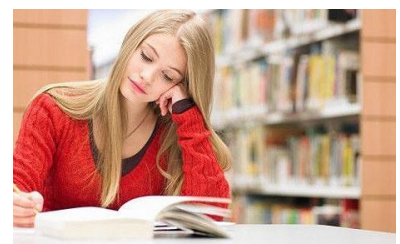
- ***is a vital skill your child needs to succeed in all subjects.***
Poor reading skills increases the amount of time it takes your child to absorb information and react to it. This in turn will limit your child's achievement.
- ***develops your child's mind.***
Your brain is a muscle, the more you exercise it the stronger it becomes. Understanding the written word is how your mind grows in ability.
- ***helps your child learn to listen.***
Reading helps you to focus on what another person is saying to you.
- ***is how your child discovers new things.***
Books, magazines and the Internet are great ways to gain new knowledge, but, your child needs to be able to understand what they are reading.
- ***develops their imagination.***
When your child reads they can escape anywhere and be anyone! The possibilities and the adventures are endless.
- ***develops their creative side.***
Reading a book makes your child imagine what is going to happen next, characters come to life as they relate to them and envisage what they look like. Also, your child will imagine the place where the book has taken them. Their imagination is ignited!
- ***makes your child feel good about themselves.***
Being a confident reader is empowering. Your child will achieve in all their subjects because they understand what they need to do and how they need to do it.
- ***improves your child's spelling and expands their vocabulary.***
Sounding out words through reading, makes your ability to spell much easier. When your child reads new words they stay in their mind, ready and waiting to be used!

DID YOU KNOW THAT.....

reading for just fifteen minutes each day can improve your child's ability to read?

Imagine if your child read for thirty minutes to an hour a day?

It is quite simple, the more your child reads the more able they will become.



How will John Kyrle help your child with literacy?

At John Kyrle we will:

- ◆ *test your child in Year 7 to give us their reading and spelling ages.*
- ◆ *evaluate your child's KS2 results.*
- ◆ *issue your child a John Kyrle Literacy Aid to promote and reinforce essential literacy skills.*
- ◆ *encourage your child to read regularly through timetabled library lessons and reading competitions.*
- ◆ *ask your child to participate in speaking and listening competitions.*
- ◆ *provide intervention for your child if they show a specific literacy need.*
- ◆ *developed your child's literacy skills through English lessons and the wider curriculum.*
- ◆ *make available resources for parents on the VLE (Virtual Learning Environment).*
- ◆ *apply a whole school literacy marking policy.*
- ◆ *continue to uphold the whole school focus on literacy targets and solutions. This is to make your child aware that literacy is important in ALL subjects.*

How can you help your child?

You can help your child by:

- ♥ encouraging them to read for pleasure, let them choose what interests them: a comic or a magazine is fantastic!
- ♥ reading WITH your child.
- ♥ talking to your child about what they are reading and asking them questions. So, not only are they are reading, they are thinking about what they are reading.
- ♥ giving books, book tokens and stationery as presents.
- ♥ discussing articles in newspapers and magazines.
- ♥ encouraging them to check their writing for mistakes.
- ♥ in addition to telling your child correct spellings, encouraging the use of a dictionary.
- ♥ discussing how advertisements on television and magazines work to persuade the audience.
- ♥ exposing your child to a variety of reading materials: newspapers, restaurant menus, cereal box labels, phone books, catalogues and more.
- ♥ leading by example: let your children see you reading on your own.
- ♥ taking the opportunity to ask them about their day, what lessons did they have, what did they learn, how was lunchtime, did they have a good day overall? Get your child to expand on their answers, get as much information from them as you possibly can!
- ♥ asking them questions about the television programme they are watching, the game they are playing and anything else that interests your child.

Useful websites to help with your child's literacy and information for parents.

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk>

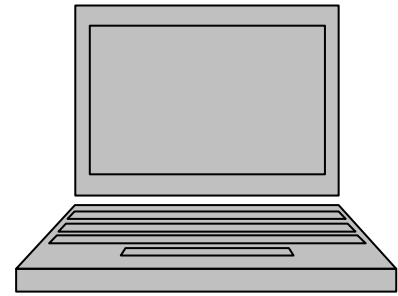
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/schools>

<http://www.spellingcity.com>

<http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk>

<http://www.educationquizzes.com>



Other useful tips to help your child to read and spell are:

- Find the small words within the bigger word to help to read it.....
interesting **knowledge** **inclined**
- Break the word up in to syllables.....
Diff er ent ad vent ure tech nol ogy
- Use mnemonics to help your child remember tricky words....
For the word rhythm make up a rhyme:

Rhythm

Helps

Your

Two

Hips

Move



The more you learn, the
more places you will go!

READ, READ, READ