



Words for life

READING FOR PLEASURE DURING CHILDHOOD CREATES LONG-TERM VOCABULARY BENEFITS,

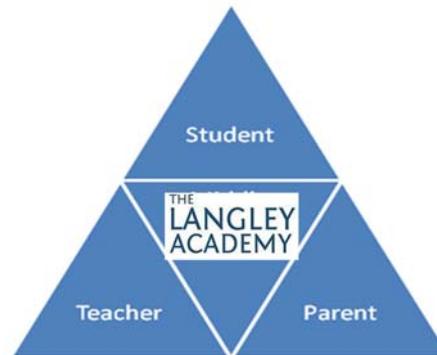
A study from the Institute of Education (IoE) has shown how much reading for pleasure at a young age can impact on the vocabulary of an individual.

The study, entitled 'Vocabulary from adolescence to middle-age' collected data from 9,400 British people at the ages of 10, 16 and 42 and used data from the 1970 British Cohort study. Results showed those who read for pleasure regularly at age 10 scored higher in vocabulary tests than those who didn't.

The study concludes that good reading habits formed at a young age meant individuals had better vocabulary later in life.

"The long-term influence of reading for pleasure on vocabulary that we have identified may well be because the frequent childhood readers continued to read throughout their twenties and thirties," said researchers Sullivan and Brown. "In other words, they developed 'good' reading habits in childhood and adolescence that they have subsequently benefited from." "We have now shown – for the first time, we believe -- that reading for pleasure, both in childhood and adulthood, has a positive impact on the vocabulary of people in their early forties," said Sullivan.

Parental involvement in their children's education from an early age has a significant effect on educational achievement.



MAKING PROGRESS IN YEAR 8

You will notice that the report format has changed slightly this year.

The first side of this Autumn Term report is the critical information regarding the progress and performance of your child in all their subjects this academic year so far.

The reverse side has further information to help you understand the expectations related to expected and rapid progress at Key Stage 3. Course information is also given on this page.

The next **Parent Forum meeting scheduled for December 10th at 19.00** will be an opportunity to discuss and feedback your views on KS3 student progress and reporting.

There will also be a **Key Stage 3 Information Evening** later this term when Mr Bryant and Miss Wauchob will make a presentation about progress from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3, expectations during and beyond Key Stage 3 and life without levels.

To help your child progress in English, Maths and Science we suggest...

For English

On the TLA website, parents / carers can find detailed tips for helping to progress students in Reading and Writing.

We also recommend:

Daily Reading

The recommended reading lists for KS3 can be found on the TLA home page.

It is recommended that 20 minutes of quiet reading time is set aside, each day. Please also listen to your child read aloud, at least 3 times per week and ask questions to check their comprehension and understanding of vocabulary. Encourage students to talk about themes, characters, setting and to predict outcomes. Are they able to infer / deduce, i.e. use clues to make sensible predictions?

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

Online resource: BBC Bitesize, English. A useful link to KS3 English, Back to Basics.

CPG, have an excellent textbook based revision tool – KS3 English Study Guide, available in larger book stores and on Amazon.

Practise learning to spell 10 of the commonly misspelled words each day. The list can also be found on TLA home page.'

For Maths

All homework is set online on www.mymaths.co.uk

All students have been given their login details by their Maths teachers in their respective lessons.

Each student should complete at least one piece of homework per week. The computer room N109 is available after school for students who need help with their homework or do not have computer or internet access at home.

All year 8 students must complete booster packs on www.mymaths.co.uk for the level that they should be by Christmas break, and starting on the next level up booster to be completed by Easter. This has been demonstrated in class to the students so that they know how to find and complete the work online.

After the Easter break all students will have progress tests. These give an end of year grade for each student.

Extra support is available for students from 3:40-4:40pm after school every Monday and Tuesday. The support time table with details of teachers and their rooms can be found outside every maths room.

Students are aware of Maths topics they need to improve having discussed this with their subject teachers.

For Science

All students have been issued with their own homework workbook. Alongside this they will be set homework on www.kerboodle.com and other additional relevant work.

Students will be issued with revision booster packs after the spring break to prepare them for their end of KS3 exam.

It is really important that students are taking a wider interest in Science and reading around the subject. You can support your child by encouraging them to take interest in Scientific discoveries in the news and watch television programs that relate to the topics they are studying.

Both literacy and numeracy are essential for success in Science. You can support your child by going over keywords and definitions with them and getting them to practise maths skills like calculating percentage discounts or working out the best deals in supermarkets.