

# Year 7 Meet the Tutor Evening

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022



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# Good attendance means better progress

Attendance group	Average GCSE grade	Progress*
Above 95%	5	+0.50
90-95%	4.2	-0.20
80-90%	3.7	-0.60
50-80%	2.4	-1.80

\*means how far you were away from your predicted grades

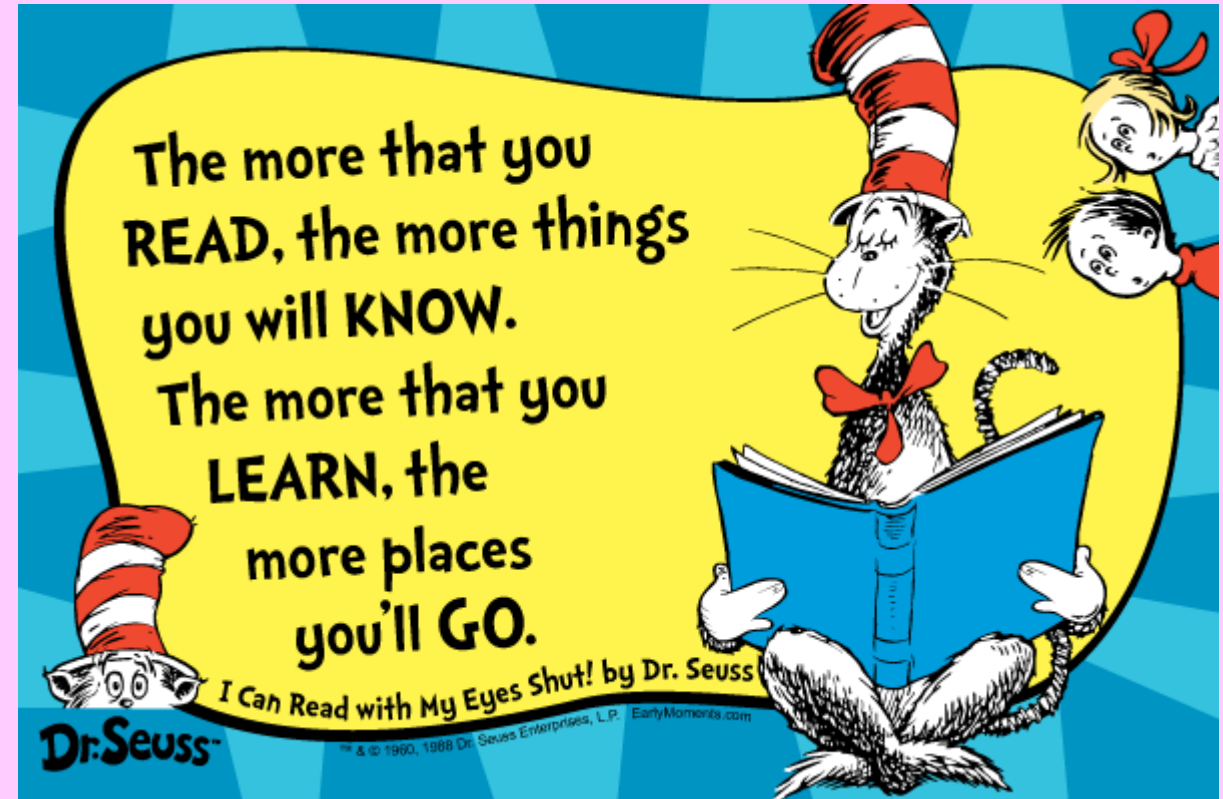


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# The Importance of Reading

The more you read,  
The more you know.  
The more you know,  
The smarter you grow.  
The smarter you grow,  
The stronger your voice,  
When speaking your mind  
or making your choice.



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**Why is it important to encourage your child to continue reading during their time at HT?**



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# Reading improves concentration

Reading is a **complex mental task** which makes you utilize your brain.  
This in turn:

- Improves concentration
- Improves ability to pay **attention**
- Improves ability to **focus** for longer periods of time



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# Reading builds self-esteem

- Reading more expands the amount of **knowledge** you have and more knowledge leads to higher self-confidence.
- Avid readers find it easier to **communicate** because of their expanded vocabularies which in turn improves their self-confidence.
- Reading leads to **higher attainment** across the curriculum which boosts self-esteem.



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# Reading improves creativity & imagination

- Reading about new things challenges your **brain to think in new ways**.
- Reading helps to develop the creative side of the brain by exposing it to **unique or unfamiliar ideas**.
- Our brain processes descriptions by putting them into **mental pictures**.
- Reading opens up **new worlds** which can enrich children's lives.



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# Reading improves vocabulary



Reading challenging books will expose children to many **new words**.

Books not only teach you what words mean but how to use them correctly as you learn new words through **contextual clues**.

*For Example: **Melancholy***

*When all of Brian's friends left town for the summer, he felt so melancholy and alone, his mum signed him up for camp.*

Vocabulary is one of the most measurable and valued forms of intelligence.

Reading also improves spelling purely because you are seeing the words over and over-effortless studying!



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# Reading broadens your horizons

- Reading gives you an insight into **diversity and other cultures**.
- It teaches you about people, places and events **outside of your own experiences**.
- It teaches you about different **beliefs and ways of life** that may be new to you.



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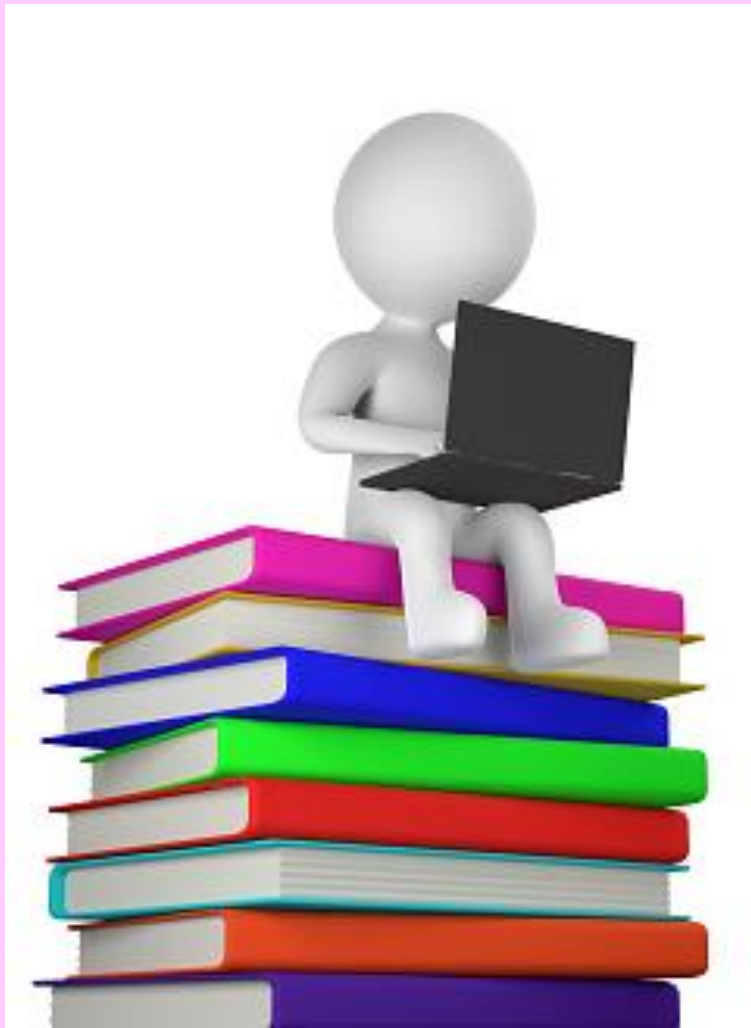
# Reading helps develop a strong sense of character

- Reading helps us to develop **empathy** by allowing us to feel what our characters feel and put ourselves in someone else's shoes.
- Can **relate to characters** and **better understand themselves** through the behaviour of others.
- Reading establishes a **better understanding of human nature**.



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**What can you do to encourage your child to read at home?**



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## How can you encourage your young adult to read for pleasure

Children grow up with such varying experiences that it can be so hard to pinpoint the element which will transform your child into a “reader” rather than just someone with the ability to read.

That spark inside a child, which allows them to cross the threshold of the written word into an entirely new world, is something which can't be taught, only really nurtured and developed.

In many ways that spark is also extremely fragile and it's something that everyone is at risk of losing, not only children. The desire to pick up our phones and endlessly scroll is extremely tempting at times. The same goes for your children but a thousand-fold.

When children struggle with reading, getting them to sit down and actually do it can be challenging. But it doesn't have to be a battle. Consider some of the strategies on the following slides to encourage your child to read more, as we need to find ways to bring reading back into their lives, rather than taking the phone out instead.



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# Tips for encouraging your child to read at home

- **Create a reading culture at home**

Make books easily available throughout the house; read to your child regularly; let your child see you reading for fun; talk about the books you're reading over dinner. Some parents also have success hosting book clubs at home for older children and teens, with snacks, games and discussion around a shared book.

- **Don't be picky about what your son/daughter chooses to read, as long as it's age appropriate**

Whether it's a newspaper, novel, a comic book, a magazine or an e-book on a tablet – letting your child choose something they find interesting or engaging makes reading feel less like a chore or assignment and more like fun.

- **Connect reading to your teen's tech-savvy**

You can do this by encouraging your child to blog about what she/he is reading. Show your child (or get your child to show you) how to download books on a tablet or e-reader. Introduce them to books that are related to some of their favourite T.V. programmes or movies.



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- **Build on your child's interests**

Look for books and articles that feature their favourite sports teams, rock stars, hobbies, or TV shows. Give a gift subscription to a special interest magazine

- **Read some books written for children and teens**

Young adult novels can give you valuable insights into the concerns and pressures felt by pre-teens and teens. You may find that these books provide a neutral ground on which to talk about sensitive subjects.

- **Keep things real**

Make explicit connections between the ability to read and future options in life. If your child is thinking about college or a career path, have open, honest discussions about the ways reading might be necessary for success. Find role models who struggled with dyslexia — but who persevered and came out on top. Just be careful to discuss, not preach. Encourage your child to brainstorm with you and to generate some of the ideas you discuss.



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- **Encourage your child to use the Library**

Your local library and the school library are rich with resources. From fiction and non-fiction books in every genre to: booking time on a computer (the first hour is free at Cheshunt library if you are a member), photocopying services and a quiet study space.

Remind your child that they can access the Haileybury Turnford virtual library from home, where there are over 200 books to choose from.



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# How do we promote reading at HT?



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This is a publication issued (via Class Charts) every term.

‘Let’s Create’ is designed to further engage students in reading by discussing various authors and genres, recommending books and engaging students in writing competitions. Regular content is as follows:

- Author of the week
- **Let’s read**: An extract from a book or poem related to the author of the week.
- **Let’s write** in 100 words or less: the best entry will feature in the following week’s news letter
- **Let’s play**: Word dial
- **Let’s solve**: Mind bending maths challenges
- **Let’s recommend**: We will publish book reviews from the school community



**ISSUE FOUR**

IN THIS WEEK'S ISSUE...

- ✓ Author of the week
- ✓ Let's read: An extract from a book or poem related to the author of the week.
- ✓ Let's write in 100 words or less: the best entry will feature in the following week's news letter
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**COMPETITION TIME...**  
EXTREME READING  
PHOTO COMPETITION

We would like you to get creative by sending in pictures of you or your family or even your pets reading in an extreme way.

The best entry will win a prize and the top ten photos will be displayed in the library.

Please send your photos into Mrs Saunders.

Good luck and keep reading 😊



**AUTHOR OF THE WEEK ...**  
**MALORIE BLACKMAN**

Malorie Blackman has written over 70 books for children and young adults, including the Noughts & Crosses series, Thief and a science-fiction thriller, Chasing the Stars. Many of her books have also been adapted for stage and television, including a BAFTA-award-winning BBC production of Pig-Heart Boy. There is also a major BBC production of Noughts & Crosses, with Roc Nation (Jay-Z's entertainment company) curating the soundtrack as executive music producer.

In 2008 she received an OBE for her services to children's literature, and between 2013 and 2015 she was the Children's Laureate. Most recently Malorie wrote for the Doctor Who series on BBC One.

CLICK ON THE LINK FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS AUTHOR: <https://www.malorieblackman.co.uk/category/books/>



## Virtual Library

Students can access many books in the HT virtual library by logging on to class charts. Take a look!

The research report, Book ownership and reading outcomes, found that children who own a book are 15 times more likely to read above the level expected for their age and are four times less likely to read below the expected level.



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And there's more ...

**Steps we are taking to help improve the student's reading and writing skills at HT**

- Everybody reads during tutor time – twice a week
- Everybody reads fortnightly with Mrs Saunders during library sessions
- Every student in Year 7 is issued with a library book
- Reading display in Library to promote reading and reading competitions
- Subscription to First News - hard copies in library and digital version on virtual library
- Copies of National Geographic available from the HT library
- Recommended reading lists for all ages, abilities and interests are available from the HT library



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Mrs Vaciago is a well respected author of children's books who has received a letter of thanks from HRH The Duchess of Cambridge, she has also appeared in a recent article in the Hertfordshire Mercury.

She is the author of 'Big Little Voice Colours the Grey' and will be visiting Haileybury Turnford, during anti-bullying week 2022. Leading 6 sessions with students from Year 7, she will discuss her writing, the joy of reading and how her book links to anti-bullying week.



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We are very excited to announce that Roxy Eloise (a former HT student) has just released her first novel, 'The Guidal: Discovering Puracordis' and will be returning to HT during World Book Day/Week 2023.

Her sessions will be one hour during the school day for each form in Year 7; they are designed to help students engage with reading and become more creative with their writing.



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