



20 June 2014

Dear Parent or Carer

Developing reading across the school

We know that reading is vital for all children to enable them to be successful at school. We want all of our students to be confident readers and use their reading abilities to learn other skills in every subject. This is why we place such a high emphasis on reading and why we want to encourage every student to read for pleasure.

What is the school doing to ensure my child develops as a reader?

From September 2014 we are going to have 15 minutes every day on the school timetable for reading. At 10:40am, all students and staff will stop and read, this will be called **Drop Everything And Read (DEAR)**. Students and staff will read a book of fiction of their choice from the Learning Resource Centre.

We will regularly review your child's progress in reading and when they finish a book they will complete an on-line quiz to check how well they have understood the various aspects of the writing. These quizzes give immediate feedback to your child about their level of understanding and we will keep you informed about their progress.

What can I do to support my child at home?

As students' progress through the school they are faced with increasingly demanding reading and comprehension tasks in all subject areas.

To support your child and encourage positive reading habits it is recommended that parents and carers do the following: discuss books together; read the same book alongside your child; ask lots of questions about the books; ask your child to recall and summarise the story so that they realise there is a structure; encourage reading about topics your child is already familiar with. Finally read some teenage fiction and become familiar with what's current.

We are excited by the introduction of the DEAR project and we will be seeking your views on the success of the programme at Parent Forum Meetings in the Autumn Term. However should you have any initial queries about the programme then please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely

Scott Martin
Headteacher