



13<sup>th</sup> October 2020

## Home Reading – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

Dear Parents and Carers,

At St. Gabriel's, we believe reading is the most important skill children learn during their time in school. We are very grateful for your support in helping our children become confident, fluent readers who both understand and love what they read.

Since returning full time to school, we have been impressed with children's enthusiasm for reading and how hard they are working to develop their skills. As a team we are working hard to understand the gaps in children's reading attainment and have in place additional learning opportunities to support their development as readers.

Let me apologise in advance for the lengthy letter but I wanted to write to update you on our approach to home reading as there are a number of exciting developments taking place over the next few months.

We are fortunate enough to be able to invest in a brand new library system which will be up and running in November. This system will allow us to track what children are reading more effectively and have clear quarantine procedures in place for returned books to ensure everyone's safety. We have also invested in an assessment package for Key Stage 2 that will help us to identify each child's strengths and areas for development as readers. This package means we will be able to allocate a certain reading band to each child.

Prior to these new systems being fully operational and to ensure children continue to build on the progress they have already made, we have a number of interim measures to support reading at home.

Outlined below are our interim plans for **each year group** along with how their reading will be supported at home once our new library system is in place.

### **Years 3, 4, 5 and 6:**

Class Teachers will be sending out children's logins for them to access a platform called **Read Theory**. This is a reading resource we have used previously and allows children to respond to text extracts and adapts to their performance. Please be aware that the website is American and does have Cookie based advertising which reflects the search history of the device used. For further information, please see the information leaflet attached to this email.

In November, once our library system has been installed, children will bring home a banded book. This book will be matched to their strengths and areas for development as a reader. It will be changed on a **Monday** and a **Thursday**, though as children progress, the texts increase in length so may need changing less frequently.

Over the coming months, we look forward to helping you understand more about how you can support your child's reading skills and develop their love of books. Once again, let me reiterate how grateful we are for your support and how impressed we are with the children's efforts with reading so far this year.

Yours Sincerely,



Mrs Roberts

Assistant Headteacher



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