

Rimrose Graduate Reading Scheme

Thursday 2nd March 2023

Dear Parent,

On this World Book Day we are launching the "Rimrose Hope Graduate Reader Programme" to encourage every child in every family to begin and maintain the lifelong habit of reading for pleasure.

Our scheme has been sponsored by Neil Woodhouse, a former pupil of St Thomas' School, who contacted me a little while back to ask if there were any projects that he could get involved in.

So far Neil has kindly funded musical instruments, laptops, the attendance trip and now the Graduate Reader Programme for our children.

Neil believes strongly in the benefits of reading for pleasure and you may be surprised to hear what some of the advantages of reading for pleasure are:

- Reading for pleasure can increase empathy, improve relationships with others, reduce the symptoms of depression and improve wellbeing throughout life (The Reading Agency 2015).
- Reading for pleasure has social benefits as well and can make people feel more connected to the wider community. Reading increases a person's understanding of their own identity, improves empathy and gives them an insight into the world view of others (The Reading Agency 2015).
- Children with more positive attitudes towards reading are more likely to read at or above the expected level for their age (Clark 2014).
- There is a strong association between the amount of reading for pleasure students say they do and their reading achievement (Twist 2007).
- Students who read for pleasure make significantly more progress in vocabulary, spelling and maths than children who read very little (Sullivan and Brown 2013).

Please sign up on Parentpay today and help give your child the best possible start in life.

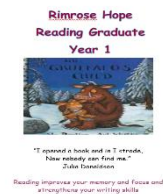
Lawrence Crilly



How it works:

Every book has been carefully chosen to help your child experience the great canon of children's literature from **A**hlberg to **Z**ephania. The passport includes traditional stories and stories from a wide range of cultures and genres that will increase your child's knowledge and understanding of the world around them, as well as giving them a skill that will help entertain, comfort and inform them for the rest of their life.

- 1: Sign up on Parentpay and get your reading passport.



- 2: Choose a book to read and a reading buddy to read along with you. The buddy is yours to keep.
- 3: Thursday is returns day. Bring your book back and choose a new book to read. Children still on the Oxford Reading Scheme will have a home reader and a graduate book to read, but if your child is past stage 14, (Usually Y4) they will just read the RGS books if they join.
- 4: Some books will take longer than one week to read. Parents reading to younger children is definitely encouraged. We want you to share the reading experience with your child.
- 5: Each book carries a certain number of credits.
- 6: The aim is to reach 100 credits by next World Book Day, but on the way to 100 the children receive their Bronze Graduate Award for 50 credits and their Silver Graduate Award for reaching 75 credits.
7. The scheme will build year by year, and our youngest children, currently in EYFS and KS1, will have experienced a fantastic array of authors and illustrators on their final graduation in Year 6 in 2030!

