

*TEN EASY WAYS TO HELP YOUR  
CHILD BECOME AN AVID READER!*

- Talk with your child about anything and everything
- Actively listen to your child
- Tell your child stories
- Encourage your child to tell **you** stories
- Make up stories together
- Make up nonsense words together
- Make up nonsense rhymes together
- Encourage them to listen to audio books
- Encourage them to make their own audio books, either with you or when they have a friend round
- Encourage them to make their own books, either their own story or a retelling of a favourite

The school website has links to sites with suggestions for books you might enjoy. Try this website for further reading inspiration!

<http://wordsforlife.literacytrust.org.uk/>

Children are taught to read in a variety of ways at school. Our aim is to encourage children to acquire a love of reading and regard it as a pleasurable activity that they want to pursue beyond the school gates. There are many ways that you can inspire the love of reading at home.

The main thing to remember is that sharing books should be sheer enjoyment for you and your child: make it a time that both of you look forward to. Don't try and make reading into a lesson. Try some of the strategies and tips suggested in this leaflet and ENJOY!



*PARENT INFORMATION  
BOOKLET*



Reading with your child  
in KS2



ST PETER'S SCHOOL

## SOME STRATEGIES

- ✓ **Make sure you have enough time** – you both need to be relaxed
- ✓ **Curl up together** in a comfy place
- ✓ **Build up your child's reading stamina** by taking it in turn to read a page each
- ✓ **'Ghost read'**: the other reader can take over the reading at any point. Most children love this and become quite competitive!
- ✓ **Supply a word rather than let your child struggle.** The flow of the story is much more important than analysing a tricky word.
- ✓ **Recognise when a book is too challenging.** If your child struggles with, on average, more than one word in twenty, change the book rather than persevere. If they love the story, read it to them!
- ✓ **Encourage your child to be reflective:** support their decision to reject a book if they have given it a fair chance.
- ✓ **Don't underestimate the value of good picture books!** Talking about the content develops higher order reading skills such as empathy and reading between the lines.
- ✓ **Play word games at teatime or in the car** – the sillier the better!  
*eg. Fortunately, unfortunately*  
*Would you rather?*  
*The Botticelli game*

## READING FOR PLEASURE

A love of reading is not only a passport to learning but is also one of the most rewarding skills your child will learn.

Research shows that reading for pleasure :

- has a positive effect on children's social and emotional behaviour
- enables children to see things from different viewpoints
- creates independent, self-motivated learners
- results in people taking more exercise!

Quite apart from those benefits, it is also a great source of fun and enjoyment. As the great man himself said, *"You want weapons? We're in a LIBRARY! BOOKS – the best weapons in the world! This room's got the best arsenal we could have!" (David Tennant as Dr Who.)*

This leaflet aims to support you in helping your child to acquire a love of reading that will stay with them for life.



## TOP TIPS

- ❖ **Promote reading as fun!**
- ❖ **Ensure your child reads every day.**
- ❖ **Model the pleasure of reading** through sharing your own enthusiasm for books.
- ❖ **Make your child's bedroom a book-rich haven**
- ❖ **Praise your child for trying hard with their reading.** Celebrate their successes but let them know it's alright to make mistakes.
- ❖ **Join your local library** and use it regularly.
- ❖ **Ensure your child completes their Reading Record book;** this helps school gain a picture of the breadth of your child's reading experiences.
- ❖ **Discuss the book.** Which character would they invite round to tea? Why? What might happen to the characters after the story is finished?

### ***A note on reading aloud.***

*This is an important skill. It develops expression, confidence in speaking and a deeper understanding of punctuation. Developing readers should read aloud every day and even fluent readers should read aloud regularly – maybe to a sibling, a pet or a toy, or to entertain you while you are cooking the tea!*

### **Useful websites:**

<http://wordsforlife.literacytrust.org.uk/>

<http://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/>

<http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/libraries/>