



Reading regularly leads to greater success and happiness.

A study at The Institute of Education (UCL 2013) found that **children who read for pleasure made more progress in maths, vocabulary and spelling, between the ages of 10 and 16, than those who rarely read.**

Further research (OECD report 2010) found that **parents reading books with their children had the greatest effect on performance in school generally AND that the highest achieving children receive encouragement with reading well into their teens.**

More recently, a study by the National Literacy Trust (2018) found that **“Children who are the most engaged with literacy are three times more likely to have higher levels of mental wellbeing than children who are the least engaged”.**

What can you do?

1. **Read together.** Make space to read as a family: read to each other; read extracts out loud; read the same book/ article at the same time; compete to see who can reach the next chapter first.
Talk about what you have read.
2. Harness the technology. **E-readers can be great motivators** and actively encourage children to broaden their vocabulary.
3. **Audio books** and e-readers are excellent ways of engaging dyslexic students and those who find reading challenging with the joys of reading.
4. **Make going to the library or bookshop a treat** which you still do together.

5. Present books as something special. **Make books and book vouchers rewards**, especially for achievements linked to reading and progress. **Never use reading as a punishment.**
6. Unplug the electronic devices in the car for part of the journey and **listen to an audio book** instead.
7. Encourage your son/daughter to choose a book from the **Samuel Ward 50** list. **Reward points are available for this.**

In addition to our excellent on-site library, the following links are worth investigating:

- **The Week Junior** is a new current affairs magazine for children aged between 8 and 14.. It claims to “**expand young people’s horizons, introducing them to the world outside the classroom, bringing to life what they learn in school**”.
- **Book Bub** offers a selection of free e-readers, which can be downloaded onto devices such as kindles.
You can find it at <https://www.bookbub.com/home/>
- **Project Gutenberg** offers over 53,000 free e-books. Choose among free e-pub books, free kindle books, download them or read them online.
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**Books, newspapers , magazines
(and their online equivalents) are
the greatest self-educators
we have.**

**People who read become
life-long learners.**