

Reading at Sacred Heart

How do we promote a love of reading at Sacred Heart?

Competitions

- Christmas book bingo challenge - 12 Days of Christmas challenge
- National Poetry Day readings - form competition
- National storytelling week - writing a story challenge, based on reading in class
- Summer reading challenge: reading books from the past and the future competition
- Read Through Time

All our competitions have books as prizes - students can choose from a box of brand new books, each one has a certificate stuck inside to commemorate what the student did to achieve the prize.

Initiatives and events

- Form Time reading - control the game - selected from a range of prose and drama linked to specific year groups
- Subject specific control the game
- Book of the Month - tv screens, social media, promoted in library - linked to key themes across the month, incorporates a wide range of author backgrounds to promote diversity and cultural capital (Pride month, Refugee week, Queen's Jubilee, Black History month etc.)
- World Book Day - dressing up as book character competition, book swap, create a front cover competition
- Carnegie Awards shadow reading group - selected pupils in Y8, 9, 10 create book reviews
- Termly reading newsletter for social media and website - informing parents of key events, current reading in class and where to access free reading
- Year 8 trip to see performance of Macbeth

English Curriculum - Reading

- Challenging range of texts - thematic links across the year and through the Key stages.
- Wide range of fiction and non fiction extract work to expand cultural capital.
- Reading homework challenge - bingo style task
- The English curriculum interleaves texts to help order the sequence of teaching under the following themes:

Y7 - finding your identity

Y8- injustice in the world(a chance to study world lit)

Y9 - finding your voice

Cross curricular project with English and Art and Music

- Myths and Legends cross curricular activities with Art in year 7 - they read Greek Myths and Legends then using their inspiration made Mythical Creatures with The Northern School of Art
- Y7 read Romantic poetry (focused on Blake) and are currently making songs in Music

Reading Intervention

- Bottom 20% of pupils based on reading age screening
- Started Feb 2022
- 89 pupils 4 x a week for 20 minutes in small groups no more than 6 pupils.
- 9 of these pupils are receiving phonics intervention
- 26 pupils are PP

Staff Voice indicates that pupils are becoming more confident in reading out loud and they have an increased ability to comprehend texts. Staff voice indicates that all pupils are fully engaged in the reading sessions.

Staff were asked about how the intervention could be improved next year, their ideas are:

- More engaging and age appropriate texts
- A specific area for the intervention to take place
- Pupil punctuality (although this has improved with the introduction of stickers in planners)

Disciplinary literacy

CPD delivered on the importance of vocabulary and reading and marking for literacy.

Lessons now include control the game as an improving reading strategy and tier 2 and tier 3 vocabulary is used in lessons. Pupil voice shows an improvement in recall of key vocabulary from 46% in the Autumn term to 75% in the summer term.