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Dear Parents/Carer(s),

Re: Active Reading

The English Department are passionate about the importance of active reading. Active reading is a strategy that helps readers engage with a text on a deeper level, understand its meaning, and being able to effectively retain information. It involves more than simply decoding words/skimming the text and sentences; it requires readers to think critically about the text and make connections between their own experiences and the author's ideas.

Active reading is essential for success in all academic subjects, as it helps students to develop a deeper understanding of complex concepts and ideas. It is also important for lifelong learning, as it enables us to read and understand a wide variety of texts, from news articles to academic papers to fiction novels.

There are many ways to encourage your child to become an active reader.

Here are a few tips:

- Model active reading. When you are reading with your child, talk about the text as you go. Ask questions, make predictions, and share your thoughts and feelings about the story.
- Provide your child with a variety of texts to read. Let them choose books that they are interested in, and encourage them to read different genres, such as fiction, non-fiction, and poetry.
- Give your child time to read each day. Set aside some time each day for your child to read independently. This could be before bed, after dinner, or during a quiet time in the afternoon.
- Discuss what your child is reading. Ask them questions about the text, such as what they liked or disliked about it, what they learned from it, and how it made them feel.
- Help your child to develop critical thinking skills. Encourage them to ask questions about the text and to think critically about the author's ideas. Ask them to make predictions about what will happen next, and to support their predictions with evidence from the text.

Active reading is a skill that takes time and practice to develop. By following the tips above, you can help your child to become a more active and engaged reader.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs M Feiteira
KS3 Coordinator

