



All Saints' Catholic Primary School

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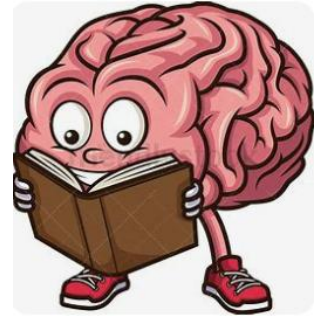
Living our Faith, Learning in Love

Wednesday 21st October 2025

Celebrating Reading at All Saints

Dear Parents,

At All Saints, we have placed great emphasis on reading this term — and it's been wonderful to see how our children have embraced it! Research shows that children who read for enjoyment every day not only achieve more highly, but also develop a wider vocabulary, stronger imagination, and better general knowledge. Study after study suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, have increased general knowledge and a much better understanding of other cultures. Children who read are the most likely to fulfil their life ambitions. The very latest research this year indicates that there are very strong links between young children's reading habits and future earnings in adulthood.



Not all children love reading but all children do love stories!

We cannot stress the importance of reading to your child enough, even when your children cannot read independently themselves. There are many benefits which include:

- Enhancing children's literacy and reading skills
- Improving their overall academic performance
- Developing a better vocabulary
- Creating a stronger parent-child bond
- Improving concentration and discipline
- Widening a child's imagination
- Promoting healthy brain development and good mental health

Last year to celebrate and encourage the joy of books, stories, and storytelling, we introduced the **All Saints' Reading Award** — a special recognition for children who show enthusiasm, commitment, and a positive attitude towards their reading. Children can earn different levels of achievement each half term depending on their reading habits:

-  **Bronze Badge** – Reading Record completed at least five times per week.
-  **Silver Badge** – Including notes about other books read at home.
-  **Gold Badge** – Creating a reading scrapbook or digital journal of their reading journey.
-  **Platinum Award (New!)** – For exceptional creativity, dedication, and engagement with reading.

Winners receive a **badge** to wear proudly on their uniform! Alongside this, we're encouraging families to enjoy '**Book Chat**' – simple, informal conversations about stories and books at home. Reading aloud together and talking about what you've read makes a real difference to children's comprehension, language, and confidence.

Our All Saints' Half-Term Pumpkin Challenge

Over the half-term holiday, children from Year 1 to Year 6 will also take part in our **Pumpkin Bookmark Challenge**. Each time they read for 20 minutes, they can colour a pumpkin on their bookmark. Completed bookmarks should be returned by **Monday 2nd November** for a special prize! Thank you for your continued support in helping your child develop a lifelong love of reading.



Mrs Jennifer Dutton
English Subject Leader

READ UP ON OUR STATS ...



The most important skills we learn ...



Reading has a positive impact on ...



Favourite childhood memories ...



Reading is ❤️



THE MILLION WORD GAP

New research shows the different numbers of words kids will have heard by age 5 based on how often parents read to them:

Never read to: 4,662 words

1-2 times per week: 63,570 words

3-5 times per week: 169,520 words

Daily: 296,660 words

Five books a day: 1,483,300 words

speechblubs.com

Why read for 20 minutes a day?

Pupil A	Pupil B	Pupil C
20 minutes a day	5 minutes a day	1 minute a day
3600 minutes per school year	900 minutes per school year	180 minutes per school year
1,800,000 words a year	282,000 words a year	8,000 words a year
Scores in the 90 th percentile on tests	Scores in the 50 th percentile on tests	Scores in the 10 th percentile on tests

If a pupil begins reading in Reception, by the end of Year 6, Pupil A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Pupil B will have read for 12 school days, and Pupil C will have read for 3.

Which pupil do you think will be more successful in school...and in life?



Don't be afraid to use big words with little kids.