



## Two Rivers High School Reading Newsletter Autumn Term 2023



Welcome to the first ever issue of our reading newsletter at Two Rivers High School! I am pleased to announce we have asked for nominations for 'Library Champions' across school. These students will be ambassadors to ensure the library is kept well tidied, up-to-date with the latest books and provide ideas on how to make our school library the best it can be! Students will be appointed at the end of the term and will be shared in our Spring newsletter. Together we will plan lots of exciting events over the course of the year to promote reading for pleasure. I look forward to hearing all of the fabulous ideas our students have!

Miss Allbrighton

### Exciting Opportunity!

New 'Blue Peter' Book Badge!

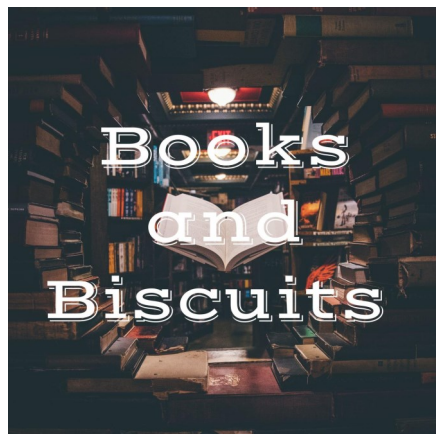
Blue Peter have introduced an exciting new Book badge, designed by one of the UK's best-known illustrators, Sir Quentin Blake; who you might know from bringing to life characters such as Roald Dahl's BFG and Matilda! To earn your badge, you need to share your love of books by answering a few questions. Maybe you could achieve the Book Badge? Visit the Blue Peter website to find out more!

Remember to bring your badge into school if you do achieve it! Your teachers and Miss Allbrighton would love to see!



### Books and Biscuits Club!

This term has started our weekly book and biscuits afterschool club. Students have been taking part in crafts, story massage and reading a range of different books with staff. A big thank you to Miss Buchan for helping Miss Allbrighton run the sessions. If you would like your child to attend the afterschool club on Thursdays, please ring and let the office know—we still have a few spaces left!



## Reading at Home

Why is reading at home so important?

Building a love of reading in your child by reading aloud at home strengthens their language, vocabulary and comprehension skills, and improves their social skills and confidence as you listen to them read.



### TIPS FOR ENGAGING READERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS



#### TALK ABOUT THEIR INTERESTS

Does your child like to play video games, soccer, or something else? Talk with your child about things that interest them outside of books. And then help them find books about those interests.

#### LET THEM READ IN WAYS THAT WORK FOR THEM

All children read differently. Formats like audio, text highlighting, braille, large font, and others can make reading easier.



#### READ ON DEVICES THEY LIKE

If your child already uses a smartphone, tablet, computer, or assistive technology device, let them use that device.

#### BUILD THEIR CONFIDENCE

Help your child achieve attainable goals. Whether it's reading a book by themselves, finishing a story (long or short), or wanting to read the next book, accomplishing things builds confidence.



#### CHILDREN LEARN BETTER WITH A TEAM

Children learn to read better when they have a team supporting them. Let teachers know what books, tools, and tips are making a difference at home.

#### FIND A LIBRARY

Find a library that offers ebooks in different formats, supports many reading tools, and has the books your child wants to read.



Bookshare is a FREE online library of over 800,000 ebooks that supports the most formats and reading tools for kids with special needs.

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## Book Talk Questions

There are many different questions you can ask when reading with your child. Why not try a few of the following questions:

1. What new words did you learn in the story?
2. What is the setting of the story?
3. Was there a lesson or moral of the story?
4. Can you retell this story in your own words?
5. Describe the characters. Who was the main character? How do you know?

## Two Rivers High School Top Tips for supporting reading

1. Let your child see you as a reader; discuss and share your own reading (even if it is only the latest news story)
2. Encourage them to read whatever they can—not just story books.
3. Find books about issues that your child may be worried about.
4. Make time to ask your child about their reading.
5. Give plenty of praise and take an active interest in what they are reading.