

# Formby High School

'Determined to Achieve'



SCO/JMA

13 February 2019

**For the attention of all Year 7 and 8 Parents**

Dear Parent

Headteacher:  
Mr D A Mackenzie  
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As part of our continued work to develop a love for reading and literacy across the school, I would like to update you on a number of initiatives within our 'Word Up: Year of Reading' campaign.

## Equipment list addition

We are adding a **reading book** to our compulsory equipment list for all students across Years 7 and 8. This will allow us to dedicate time during registration every day to the promotion of independent reading. If students do not have access to suitable reading books at home, they can easily borrow one from the school library.

## School Library

Our new school library has been open since October and students have access to the facility at breaks, lunchtimes and after school as per the published schedule below.



	Breaks & lunchtimes	After school 3.20pm - 4.20pm
MON	Year 7	All years entry is on a first come first served basis
TUES	Year 11	
WED	Year 10	
THU	Year 9	
FRI	Year 8	
SIXTH FORM	Access available during the day if the library is NOT being used for a lesson or activity	

Please note our capacity is 35 students



We are still keen to add more books to our collection and if you have any good condition teenage fiction, or even reference books, please drop them off at the Main Office.



Students will receive a Library membership barcode sticker over the coming weeks which they should safely retain in their planner. All students will spend time during English lessons in the library getting to know the system and exploring the online materials with our School Librarian, Mrs Ambrose. This will allow them to borrow books and have access to the **online** catalogue system. You can watch a video about the software here: [www.softlinkint.com/resource-details/peek-into-oliver-v5/](http://www.softlinkint.com/resource-details/peek-into-oliver-v5/)

### **Reading at home**

Research proves that students who have access to, and engage in, reading at home make accelerated progress at school and we would actively encourage parents to support us in this area. Providing suitable reading books, even bibliographies magazines, and encouraging 'quiet time' to become engrossed in a good book can be hugely rewarding.

Here are just some of the benefits:

1. Increases your vocabulary
2. Trains your brain
3. Reduces stress
4. Improves your memory
5. Stimulates your imagination
6. Builds vocabulary
7. Improves concentration
8. Helps you sleep better
9. Makes you more creative
10. Improves your word power

We have also been encouraging staff to share their favourite books in a poster campaign around the school, explore and decode words in lessons and contribute to the challenge to add 50,000 new words to students' vocabulary during their time at school!

So please get on board with our '**Word Up: Year of Reading**', discuss your favourite books around the dinner table, check out the paperback version of a favourite film, reminisce about your 'stand out' literary characters.

For more information about our **Year of Reading**, please explore the school website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Cook'.

**Mr S Cook**  
**Senior Assistant Headteacher**  
**Teaching, Learning & CPD**