

# KS3 Rutlish Weekly

## Message from Ms Botha-Smith, Associate Headteacher KS3

As promised in the previous KS3 newsletter, we published the KS3 Summer learning booklet at the beginning of the week. I trust you will find the information booklet helpful.

The focus for this week is **THE POWER OF READING**. I hope your son has made optimum use of this time to enjoy reading. I have very special childhood memories of reading, one of which is my mum signing us up at the local library at the coastal town where we went camping during our 6 week Summer holidays. It was a real treat during the holidays to enjoy reading books such as *The Famous Five* and *Nancy Drew*! One of the best novels I ever read is *To Kill a Mocking Bird* by Harper Lee, a very thought-provoking and deeply-moving book. Another book which I loved reading (in French!) was *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo, which was first published in 1862 and since turned into a West End Musical phenomenon. A book which I have recently enjoyed reading is *Black Box thinking* by Mathew Syed, whom I had the pleasure of meeting a few years ago. In his book he highlights the need for a growth mind-set in life and how we cannot grow unless we are prepared to learn from our mistakes. So, whether it is a book about injustice, prejudice, love, redemption, mercy, judgement, or lessons about how to use mistakes as learning tools, books have something on everything for everyone!

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs Botha-Smith



## Year 7

Hello year 7 on week 10 of home learning.

I vividly recall just before 'lockdown' visiting tutor groups and discussing the books that were in your bags. I really enjoyed seeing what you were reading and listening to your favourite parts of the story so far. There was a huge range of texts and genres, though it was great to observe you were all reading for pleasure. For some of you admittedly reading throughout primary school may have been a chore; did you have to read for 10/20 minutes each evening as part of your homework? In addition, for some of you this may have detracted from the pleasure that reading gives you. Believe us – reading is so very important for many reasons.

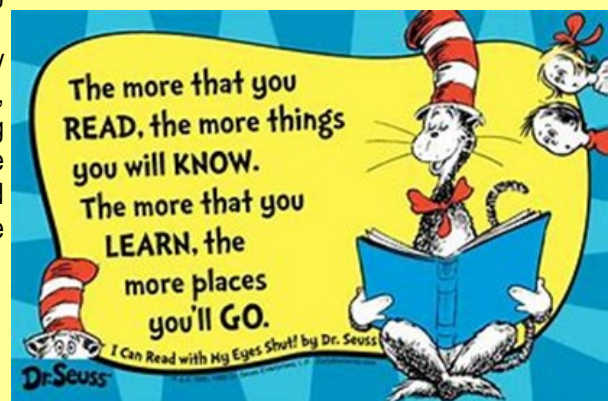
Reading for pleasure has been scientifically proven. Scientists have found that, when we read, our brains act as if we are actually experiencing the situations we are reading about. The brain weaves these situations together with experiences from its own life and in doing; this actually creates new neural pathways.

I am hoping that one of the benefits of lockdown has been that you may have had more opportunity to read; if it has not been so far – start now; it is not too late. Explore the wonderful worlds that books open us up to – begin with what topics interest you (eg space, animals, technology, sport) – there is a wealth of fiction and non-fiction to transport you. Also during this time, libraries are offering free E books as well as the Audible. Do have a look out for the many ideas that Ms Jones our literacy coordinator has put together for you during this time on the Fronter room.

Mr Ross reads lots and lots! He is currently reading *11 Rings* by Phil Jackson. (NBA Coach and an insight into success, leadership with added spirituality!) At present, I am reading *Becoming* by Michelle Obama (former First Lady at the White House). Do let us know what book you are reading or indeed what is your favourite book that you have read and why. You are able to let us know via Fronter.

We continue to hope your families are safe and well.

Keep smiling and safe, Mrs Edwards & Mr Ross



*Modeste, Strenue, Sancte*

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## Year 8

Dear Year 8,

Last Year I set myself the task of reading 12 books a year, that doesn't sound like much but it was a challenge for me. I read all sorts of different genres and made sure that any work related books didn't count towards my 12. One of my last year group in Year 11 decided to read the newspaper every day and pick out a word he didn't know and then try to use that word 3 times during the day – great challenge. Reading 12 books this year hasn't gone so well but I guess lots of our plans have changed and we've had to adapt. My parents used to encourage me to read and I am so grateful for that. I moved house last year and found all of my old childhood books – I loved Roald Dahl as a child and would happily read them all again, I still have them in my loft. Who inspired/inspires you as an author? I wonder, do you read? How many of you read this Newsletter? As we think about the *Power of Reading*, I simply wouldn't be where I am today without reading. Learning what I did as a young child, a teenager, studying for GCSEs and A Levels (I did English and Drama A-Level and had to read a lot) and my degree in Music wasn't all about performing and composing – I had to read and study so much about the History of Music. Reading is so important to me and it's vital for your education too. I hope you still read. If you haven't, plan in a reading session at least 3 days a week. It only needs to be 20 minutes and it can be anything but how about not reading from a tablet or computer; feel a book. I love books and I'm glad I've kept mine – they are now proudly displayed in my bookcase! Mr Holt has been reading up on WW2 around the VE Day Celebrations, he too loves to read and is encouraging his young daughter to do the same; he reads to her every day. One of the books I read recently was *This is Going to Hurt – Diaries of a Junior Doctor* – I bet lots of your parents have read it. It's not so much a teenage book but it's funny, mixed with sadness, real life, love and stories from the NHS. Adam Kay has done a Live show too which is really good. One of the quotes I remember: "a great doctor must have a huge heart through which pumps a vast lake of compassion and human kindness." – Don't you think we should all have that?

As always, stay safe, work hard, keep positive.

Ms Pearce and Mr Holt



## Year 9

This week we'd like to focus on the power of reading. Reading can be a number of things to a number of people. Some read to escape and detach, some read to enjoy and explore, some read to learn and educate. Some read for all of these things! With the school closure and the dramatic changes to our lives in the last few months, the power of reading has never seen so significant. We want you to actively try to read more this week if you haven't been already. Although we do have a strong representation of the English Department in our Pastoral and Tutor team, reading should not be something that is just limited to a specific department, but more a lifestyle choice and hobby of yours. Personally, I enjoy reading mostly because it allows my imagination to capture a story and visualise it. This is one of the things that makes reading so special, everybody's experience of reading the same book will be slightly different. I am currently reading *The Glass Bead Game* by Hermann Hesse. Miss Casey is currently reading *Never let me go* by Kazuo Ishiguro, a dystopian fiction.

Please send your tutors, Miss Casey or I the books that you are enjoying and why you like them so much! You can do this by the message option on Fronter or even by email.

Have a fantastic week, we look forward to hearing what books you are reading.

Mr Price & Miss Casey



*Modeste, Strenue, Sancte*

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## Quote of the week

*"If you don't like to read, you haven't found the right book"*

J. K. Rowling



## G&T (open to all!)

Art this week. There are 12 separate definitions of the word 'Art' in the Oxford English Dictionary. Some of these cover the production of art, some cover the objects themselves, and still others refer to the study, criticism or appreciation of art. So what do you think art is? Most people agree it covers not only painting, sculpture and architecture, but also music, theatre, film, dance, other performing art and literature. That's a lot! But how far does it go? If a work of fiction can be art, can a work of non-fiction, like a biography of a football player? How about the game of football itself? Commentators have been describing the skills of players as 'art' since commentary began – so can the way someone kicks a ball be artistic? In fact, art used to be an event at the Olympics, so the link between sport and art is not as distant as you might think. Many people experience nature as artistic, despite it not being prepared or worked on by any human intervention. Building from this, 'found art' is a genre of art where an object is presented to an audience with little or no 'artistic' skilled work or preparation. For example, Picasso's **Bull's Head** is a pair of rusty handlebars and a seat from a bike put together. One of the most influential has been Damien Hirst's **The Physical Impossibility of Death in the Mind of Someone Living**: a tiger shark, preserved in formaldehyde, in a display case in an art gallery. Many people attacked Hirst, saying this had no value as a piece of art. If it wasn't art, he replied, then – "why didn't you do it?"

## Here are your riddles and teasers for this week:

1. Which art museum houses the famous Mona Lisa painting?
2. This ancient invention allows people to see through walls. What is it?
3. What are the seven colours that white light can be split in to?

### Answers to last week

What has many keys but cannot open a door? *Piano*

What musical instrument can you hear but not see or touch? *Voice*

I appear once in xylophone, twice in bagpipes, and at the end of a harp. *What am I? The letter p*

## Get Active



Join Joe Wicks on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays at **9am** for a PE lesson. Access through his youtube channel.

## MFL Weekly Challenge

MFL challenge for the week... literacy challenge week! For each letter of the alphabet find either a food, adjective, place, object or animal in French, German, or Spanish – create your very own MFL alphabet poster!



Ms Minier



## Merton Virtual Sports Day Competition Results

Congratulations to year 7 and year 8-9 who won their respective age categories. Students were required to complete seven 'stay at home' events such as shuttle sprints and the eagerly contested target throw. Points were awarded for participation as well as the top five results across the borough.

A special mention to all boys that managed to complete 4 or more events but as a School we also won points for any student that completed just one event.

A great result for Rutlish which backs up our fantastic set of results and the Outdoor Merton Schools Athletics in 2019.

Well done all!

Mr Adcock

## Student Shoutout

As part of a challenge set by his scout group, James recently completed a virtual climb of Mount Everest using the stairs at home (2,903 ascents of the stairs). He originally aimed for a virtual climb of Snowdon since the scout trip to climb the real thing at Easter was cancelled. He decided to keep going with the stair climbs and a scout leader challenged him to 'summit Everest' on 29th May at 11.30am to coincide with the anniversary of the first Everest summit by Hillary and Norgay in 1953.

James completed the challenge and even got a mention in the local newspaper!

<https://www.wimbledonguardian.co.uk/news/18491507.wimbledon-scout-climbs-mount-everest/>



*Modeste, Strenue, Sancte*

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## Art Department

This week some of the boys have been making sculptures from recycled materials.



Sea creature Sculpture  
George Hemmings 7S

Food Sculpture  
Bertie Hemmings 9V



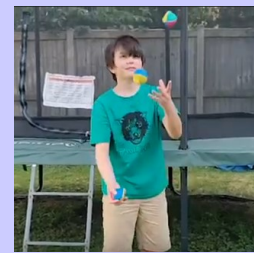
Food Sculpture  
Danial Rahman 9C

Ms Sharma



## Student Shoutout

Luke Wildgoose in 7R has been keeping busy during lockdown and not just with online lessons. Luke took part in the National Youth Circus Event at the National Centre for Circus Arts in February and has since been adding to his skill set. Having never juggled before he can now juggle with three balls at once!



## Music Department

Some Year 7's have been making musical instruments, also from recycled materials.



Atila Selcuk 7T

Ms Pearce



Sam Yarranton 7S

## Numeracy News

To celebrate the return of the Premier League this week, Toby from the head boy team has created a Football Numeracy Competition. There are two parts to the competition:

First competition: a prediction of number of points, league positions and Golden Boot winner at the end of the season



Second competition: to predict the scores, number of corners and yellow cards for two matches this weekend

To enter the competition, go to the Numeracy page on Fronter and follow the instructions. Toby will compile the entries and winners for each competition will be announced after the matches have been played. Prizes for both competitions will be given out in September.

Reminder for those who are planning on entering the Shell Bright Ideas Challenge that the deadline is this Friday (19th June). Please email your completed entry form to [caroline.eastaugh@rutlish.merton.sch.uk](mailto:caroline.eastaugh@rutlish.merton.sch.uk) before noon. Further details can be found on the Numeracy page on Fronter.

Ms Eastaugh, Numeracy co-ordinator

## Shop on Amazon Smile and raise money for school

Go to [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk), click on the dropdown menu on left, scroll down to Help & Settings, click on Choose your Amazon Smile, type in Rutlish and choose Rutlish School Parents and Teachers Association. You can then create a bookmark on your app. You need to be shopping on the [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) site rather than [amazon.co.uk](https://amazon.co.uk). Every time you shop through [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) the school will receive 0.5% of net sale.

*Modeste, Strenue, Sancte*