



Dear Parents and Carers,

At the point of school closure, we did our best to give out enough reading books to keep children reading at home up to and during the Easter holidays, at least. Since schools closed, we have been busily trialling online reading resources that you can access from home and we are continuing to trial new resources every day.

I know that families are in very different positions when it comes to reading at home and I am interested to find out how we can best support you while social distancing measures are still in place and schools and libraries remain closed.

Once Google Classroom is up and running, class teachers in Years 1-6 will be setting age-appropriate reading comprehensions for your children to complete but it is really important that all children continue to read books for pleasure, especially in uncertain times as reading can be a wonderful distraction for adults and children alike.

You may have lots of children's books on your shelves that your children don't usually have time to read - this is the perfect opportunity to let them get stuck in! Children who are already fluent readers can read to themselves, children who are becoming fluent readers can read to you without too much intervention on your part and children who are still learning to read will enjoy listening to you or older siblings read picture books to them.

If, however, you are starting to run out of books for your children to read at home, I would like to hear from you so that I can find ways of supporting you remotely. Please email me at assistant.head@sacredheart-jun.manchester.sch.uk so that we can work together to keep your children reading. Please remember that it is really good practice for early readers (pink, red and yellow bands) to reread their school reading books several times, until their reading sounds confident and fluent.

May I take this chance to remind you of recommended reading times based on children's ages:

Early Years - 5-10 minutes each day

KS1 - 10-20 minutes each day

KS2 - 20-30 minutes each day

I very much look forward to seeing you and your children once schools reopen.

May God bless you all,

Mrs Botham

(Acting Assistant Head Teacher)