

Welcome to literacy at St. Aloysius' College. Literacy is at the heart of all students' learning; the ability to read, write and communicate effectively is vital in order for our students to succeed in school and beyond.

On this page you can find information how we support your child's literacy development at school, links to useful literacy websites and ideas on how you can support your child's literacy development outside of school.

Literacy at St. Aloysius' College

Literacy whole school marking policy

At St. Aloysius' College we understand the importance of developing literacy skills in all students across the curriculum. In every student's planner there is a copy of the whole school literacy marking policy. We believe that in order to support your son's development in his writing, marking for literacy should form a part of his feedback in all subjects.

Words of the week

Words of the week are published once a week from the 'Free Word' centre, a charity based scheme which provides people with the opportunity to become creative in their expression, encourages creativity and makes words fun. Students have had fun with unusual and intriguing words such as 'Boffola' and 'Prodnose'.

You can find out more information about 'Free Word' and their innovative work at <https://www.freewordcentre.com>



The Library

At St. Aloysius' College we promote a positive reading culture amongst our students. Our library is stocked with a wealth of materials for KS3 through to KS5, many of which students are able to borrow for a period of time. Students are encouraged to use the area for independent study, research and to celebrate the enjoyment of reading. The librarian works closely with the students and staff to ensure the library provides the resources to support students' learning.

Drop Everything And Read (DEAR)

Every month we hold Drop Everything And Read; a dedicated amount of time given for students to stop what they are doing and read a book. Students and staff really value this time as they have the opportunity to read a book they have chosen.

Writing Competitions

Students have shown real enthusiasm towards the writing competitions we have running in the school. Students are encouraged to enter a range of writing competitions that include BBC2's 500 words competition, *The Voice* newspaper's yearly Black History Month competition and a full range of competitions from *Young Writers*.



Through participating in writing competitions, it enables students to think carefully about their literacy skills in a fun, creative and competitive environment.

Many of our students have even had their work published as a result of entering these competitions; this is a fantastic achievement for them.

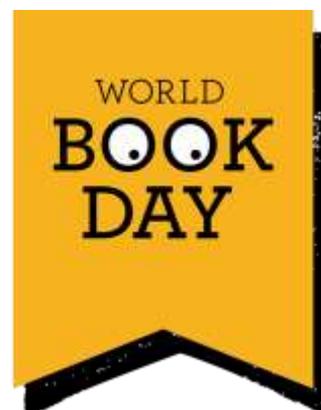
Author of the term

We launched 'Author of the term' in September 2016, a reading initiative to encourage students, in particular KS3, to continue their love and passion for reading. Students are set the challenge to try and read as many of the author's books as they can over a term. Some of our authors have been Robert Muchamore, Anthony Horowitz, Malorie Blackman and Michael Morpurgo. We aim to expand the author of the term to KS4 very soon.

World Book Day

2016 was the first year St. Aloysius' College celebrated World Book Day as a whole school. The day involved reading themed lessons. Some of the lessons included a whole school reading of a short novel, writing book reviews, D.E.A.R, writing mini sagas and much more! Students and staff also dressed up as their favourite book characters, we sold goodies at our Wonka themed stall and we held a second hand book sale. Money raised from the day enabled us to provide books and educational resources for the children's ward at the Whittington Hospital as well as providing over a 100 new books for Great Ormond Street. Most importantly, students and staff were able to celebrate their love and passion of reading!

Since 2016, St. Aloysius' College has celebrated World Book Day every year; the event has become a huge success. Activities have increased to a Spelling Bee, an author visit, a book quiz, the whole school reading of a short novel and writing the missing page of the book (to name but a few). For more information and updates on World Book Day you can visit <http://www.worldbookday.com/>



Islington Summer Reading Project

2018 is the second year some of our students are taking part in the Islington Summer Reading Project.

The idea is that your son/ward reads a minimum of any three books over the summer term and summer holidays and then completes a range of activities based on the books he has read. The project is designed to encourage reading and support their development of reading whilst engaging in a range of fun creative activities.

The activities completed should be presented as a project and handed in to your son/ward's English teacher the first week back to school in September 2018. Projects can be handwritten, typed or a mixture of both. Where students complete the short film activity, this can be saved to a USB. Every student who hands in a completed project will be entered into a prize draw. There will be a winner from each school in Islington. Students who complete the best projects will also be invited to an exclusive celebratory event, held by Islington, in the autumn term.

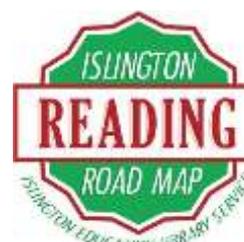
If your son/ward would like some support with deciding on suitable reading books then they should speak to our librarian, Mrs Cox, who will be able to offer guidance.

Please note that all libraries in Islington are taking part in this project and will be able to offer your son/ward guidance in choosing suitable books as well as support in the completion of this project.

Islington Reading Road Maps

Islington Reading Road Maps is an exciting new reading project created by Islington that we are launching in Summer 2018 with some of our year 7 students. Students will make their way through a fictional reading map of Islington trying to reach as many destinations as possible.

In school, they will have weekly library lessons dedicated to reading and discussing the books they have read.



Useful links to literacy websites

The National Literacy Trust:

This charity aims to raise levels of literacy in the UK. On this website you will find links to information on how you can support your child's literacy development.

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/>

BBC Bitesize:

Here you will find a range of activities, videos, revision and tests to support your child's literacy.

<https://www.bbc.com/education/subjects/z3kw2hv>

Supporting literacy development outside of school

In this section you will find advice and useful links to support yours and your child's literacy.

BBC Skillswise

BBC Skillswise is a website which offers practical support in developing literacy and numeracy skills for adults.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/0/>

Local Libraries

London councils all have libraries- membership is free and anyone can join – for many councils you do not have to be a resident.

Joining a local library enables you to access a wide range of books, Internet, newspapers, music, DVDs and much more. Use the links below to find out about your local library service and information on how to join:

Islington:

Library link:

<http://www.islington.gov.uk/services/libraries/Pages/default.aspx?extra=9>

Information on how to join:

<http://www.islington.gov.uk/services/libraries/joinenjoy/howjoin/Pages/default.aspx>

Hackney:

Library link:

<http://www.hackney.gov.uk/cl-libraries.htm#.VX6v5fIVhBc>

Information on how to join:

<http://www.hackney.gov.uk/libraries-membership-and-joining.htm#.VX6wBfIVhBc>

Haringey

Library link:

<http://www.haringey.gov.uk/community-and-leisure/haringey-libraries>

Information on how to join:

<http://www.haringey.gov.uk/community-and-leisure/libraries/how-join-haringey-libraries>