

November 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

As a school community we recognise that good literacy is one of the most important tools we can empower students with. We are relentless in our drive to ensure every child has access to a wide range of opportunities to develop their literacy.

Throughout the school week students are able to explore a wide range of diverse texts that interest and engage them within their weekly tutor literacy session and their English library lesson; this offers students the opportunity to independently and collaboratively read a wide range of fiction and non-fiction which promote discussion and thought around contemporary social affairs. Alongside these exploratory sessions, students also have the opportunity to engage in a wide variety of literacy based extracurricular activities from traditional book clubs like **Bookworms** or **Affictionados** to creative writing at **Your Words Your Way**.

Additionally, from November Year 7 students will have the opportunity to access Reading Plus®, a computer-based programme that tailors instruction to students' specific Literacy needs. The activities in Reading Plus support and build on our English language classroom curriculum, focusing on developing skills in three areas essential to becoming a proficient reader: Word Study, Grammar, and Comprehension.

Your child will have one dedicated 60 minute session during their English curriculum time each week where they will work on the programme on their iPad and will be supported by their teacher. We will provide your child with a pair of headphones, however we do encourage students to bring their own where possible.

Your child will also be expected to complete approximately 80 minutes each week (20 minutes each school day) on Reading Plus for homework each week; completing a total of 5 reading lessons and 3 vocabulary lessons as assigned by the programme.

If you would like to explore the programme further you can find further information in this short video: [Parental Information - Reading Plus](#)

If you have any questions or need any further support, please contact either myself at kpanther@priorysouthsea.org with any questions or our English KS3 Curriculum Leader at jumrphy@priorysouthsea.org

Yours sincerely

Kelly Panther
Whole School Literacy Intervention Lead