

English at St Bede's



English at St Bede's:

What do we offer your child?

- Stretch and challenge to continue their progress made at KS2
- An understanding of your child's prior experience and attainment
- A supportive environment to help your child grow
- Stimulating lessons
- Challenging and engaging texts
- A five-year curriculum to support their achievement at GCSE
- The opportunity to study A Level English Literature and Language in the future
- Accelerated Reader and timetabled Library lessons
- Literacy lessons to support their progress across the curriculum
- The opportunity to explore their own ideas and develop their own personal voice in fun and engaging lessons



Which texts do we study in KS3?

War Poetry

Non Fiction

Macbeth

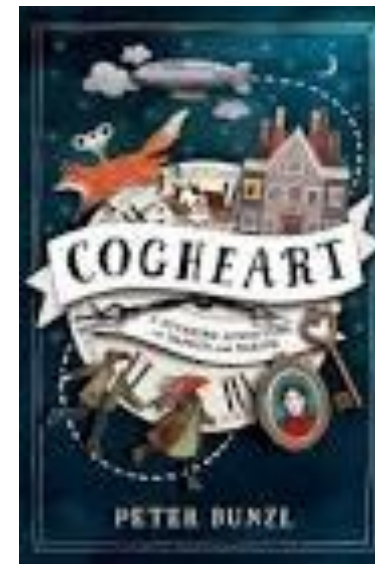
Biography

Media texts

Five Children on the Western Front

The Lie Tree

Cogheart





Accelerated Reader, Independent Reading and homework

We place a great deal of importance on reading at St Bede's across all subjects.

In English it forms a core part of our curriculum, and independent reading is set for homework in years 7 and 8. Students have a reading log which they are expected to fill in weekly to show they are completing their homework, and at the back of this are weekly spelling lists which they are also expected to learn.

Students are given an Accelerated Reader login, which allows them to read books and then quiz on them to help them to develop as confident and fluent readers.

We have a well stocked library and knowledgeable librarian who can help students to choose books they will enjoy and find challenging.



Beyond KS 3

We enter all students for AQA English and AQA English Literature with excellent results.

We study a range of non fiction and fiction texts to support students' preparation for English.

In English Literature we study A Christmas Carol, An Inspector Calls, Romeo and Juliet and Power and Conflict poetry.

Beyond GCSE

We have lively and interesting A-Level groups in both English Language and English Literature

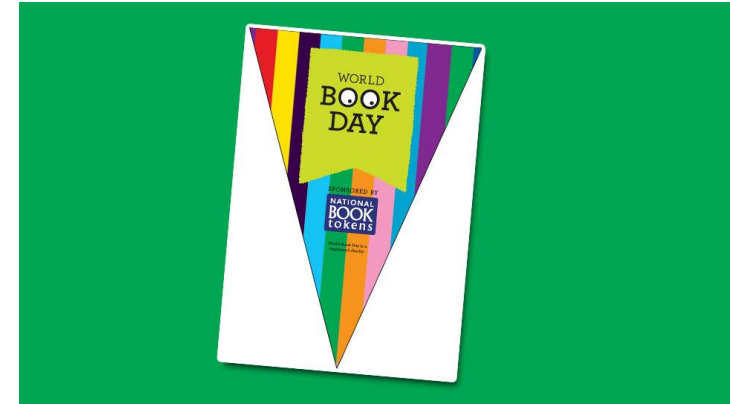


Extra Curricular activities:

We celebrate World Book Day

We celebrate Poetry by Heart

We run theatre trips and have visiting theatre groups in school



POETRY BY
HEART





Don't just take our word for it.

Here are some of our students talking about their experiences of English at St Bede's:

EMBED JESSICA AND UGO HERE



Why do we place so much emphasis on reading?

Read on to find out more.

9 REASONS TO READ MORE



Builds Knowledge

Cunningham & Stanovich, 1991 • Cunningham & Stanovich, 2003
• Pressley, 2000



Improves Achievement

Allen, Snow, & McNamara, 2015 • Anderson, Fielding, & Wilson, 1988
• Allington, 2012 • Blachowicz & Ogle, 2001 • National Assessment of Educational Progress Report, 2015 • Worthy & Roser, 2010



Increases Motivation

Atwell, 1987 • Feitelson & Goldstein, 1986 • Guthrie, Klauda, & Ho, 2013
• Ivey & Broaddus, 2001 • Lapp & Fisher, 2009 • Lesesne, 2003
• National Endowment for the Arts, 2007



Increases Vocabulary

Krashen, 1989 • Nagy, Anderson, & Herman, 1987 • Nation & Cody, 2013
• Read & Hodges, 1982



Improves Writing

Bazerman, 1980 • Goodman & Goodman, 1983 • Langer & Flihan, 2000
• Raphael, Kirschner, & Englert, 1988



Builds Background Knowledge

Anderson, 1984 • Anderson, 1985 • McVee, Dunsmore, & Gavelek, 2005
• Ozuru, Dempsey, & McNamara, 2009 • Smagorinsky, 2001



Improves Understanding of Text Structures

Armbruster, 2004 • Fletcher, 2006 • Kendeou & van den Broek, 2007
• Meyer & Rice, 1984 • Snyder, 2010



Develops Empathy

Allington, 2013 • Bal & Veltkamp, 2013 • Johnson, 2012
• Koopman & Hakemulder, 2015 • McLean, Breen, & Fournier, 2010



Develops Personal Identity

Abodeeb-Gentile & Zawilinsky, 2013 • Begum, 2014 • Fives, Russell, et al., 2014
• Hall, 2012 • Harste, 2009 • Jesweak, 2015 • Tatum, 2009

CHART 4

From **DISRUPTING THINKING** by Beers & Probst, page 134

WHY READING MATTERS

- 1 in 6 UK adults have reading skills below the standard expected of an 11 year old.
- At age 16, 1 in 12 children have a working vocabulary of 800 words.
- There is a correlation between low literacy levels and exclusions as well as prison populations.
- Increased challenge in GCSE exam papers means questions are inaccessible to students with a low reading age.
- Children born into communities with the most serious literacy challenges have some of the lowest life expectancies in England.



"ONCE YOU
LEARN TO
READ,
YOU WILL BE
FOREVER FREE"

- Frederick Douglass -

NOT ALL READERS
ARE LEADERS,
BUT ALL LEADERS
ARE READERS.

- HARRY S TRUMAN

The more that you
READ
the more **THINGS**
you will know.
The more that you
LEARN,
the more **PLACES**
YOU'LL GO.

— Dr. Seuss



What else do we do to support reading?

We have weekly Literacy slots in p4 where we look at Word of the Week, and read non fiction or fiction texts. All students have a literacy booklet designed to expose them to challenging texts outside their experience.

Week beginning 9th
September



Anthrop: human (Greek word root)

- **Anthropology** – scientific study of people, society and culture
 - Video explaining anthropology:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J5aglbgtEig>
- **Philanthropy** – giving money, work or gifts to help others; love of humans
 - Hint: Prefix 'Phil' = love
- **Misanthrope** – someone who hates other people
 - Hint: Prefix 'Mis' = wrong; badly

Reminder:
Use each
word in a
sentence



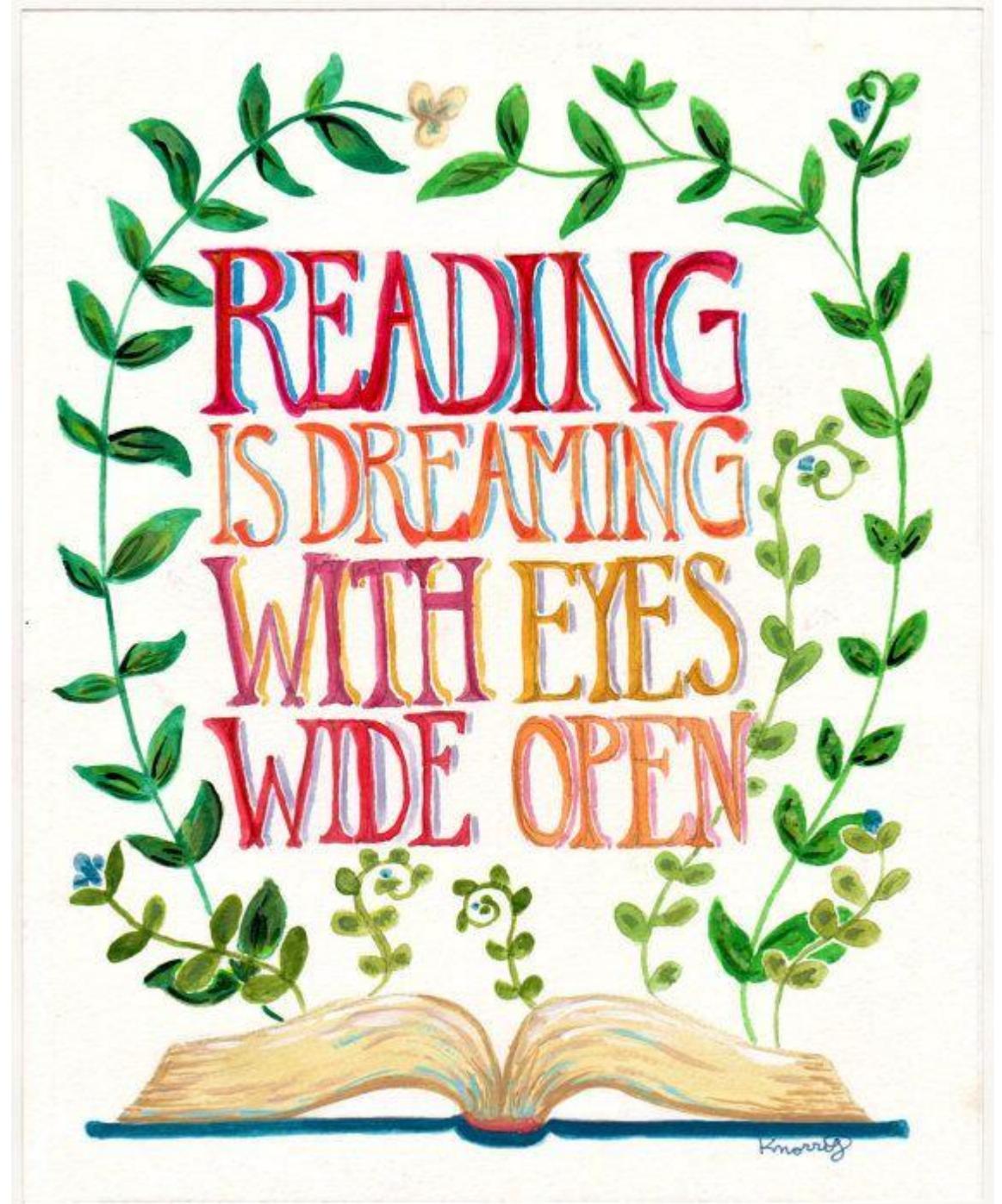
Auto: self, acting on its own (Greek word root)

- **Auto**biography – a story of someone’s own life (they wrote it)
 - Hint: ‘bio’ means life
- **Auto**cracy- a government where one person or organisation has all the power
 - Hint: ‘crat’/’cracy’ means rule
 - Video explaining the difference between democracy, oligarchy and autocracy:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1bXLv5X73a4>
- **Auto**mate/**auto**mation – to put in machines that can do the work instead of people

Did you know? (etymology) In ancient times, some coins had the word ‘autocrat’ written next to the image of the ruler’s head to celebrate the power of the ruler and his ability to do what he wanted to do.

"Words. A child needs a forest of words to wander through, a sea of words to splash in. A child needs to be read to . . ."

- Frank Bruni





We look forward to meeting you in September

St Bede's English Team