Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: E-Library for all pupils

Reading is an integral aspect of our curriculum, across all subjects. The joy of reading is also something we wish to instil in all our pupils. Removing barriers to reading is something we as a school are passionate about. This is why we have invested in an online library for all our pupils to access. Reading should be conducted by pupils all year round, although we do appreciate there is more time at the weekends and holidays to enjoy some unadulterated reading.

The Forest Academy online library is called e-Platform and we have set up an account for your child which allows them to read books online (e-Books) for free. This online library works perfectly alongside our Reading Plus programme in KS3 and is ideal for KS4 and KS5 pupils who continue their independent reading journey.

Our e-Platform library includes over 1,300 books, with many titles from the lists of the Independent Reading Projects that students are required to read as part of the English curriculum. Loans are up to two eBooks at a time for two weeks with no overdue charges. Background colour, font style and text size can be personalised to suit your child and you can highlight text and save annotations. Once you have borrowed/downloaded an eBook using the internet, you can continue reading without using up your Wi-Fi/data again. Last but not least, eBooks can be accessed anywhere, anytime on a PC, tablet or phone.

Research shows most children would prefer to be on the internet than read a book. We believe having access to eBooks will motivate reading. Some of the great benefits of reading compiled by The School Library Association highlights:

- *"Leisure reading makes students more articulate, develops higher order reasoning, and promotes critical thinking." National Endowment for the Arts in 'To read or not to read'.*
- *"Reading for pleasure is more important for children's educational success than their family's socio-economic status." OECD, Reading for Change, Programme for International Student Assessment*
- *"...research presents overwhelming evidence that literacy has a significant relationship with a person's happiness and success." NLT*
- *"According to one source, if you read for twenty minutes a day you'll encounter an estimated 1,800,000 words over the course of a year whereas reading for only one minute a day will result in only 8,000 words." David Didau http://www.learningspy.co.uk/literacy/closing-language-gap-building-vocabulary/*

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Reading Recommendations

KS3 Recommendations

KS4 Recommendations

KS5 Recommendations

How to access eBooks:

1. Download the "Eplatform" app on Google Play, Mircosoft or App Store and search for "The Forest Academy", then click menu icon for login options.

    It is simple to login:

    •   All student logins are the last 5 digits of their SIMs admission numbers beginning with "1" not "0";

    •   The SAME last 5 digits can be found in their personal printer codes;

    •   Also, the SAME numbers are found in their school email address;

    •   Both the username and password are matching e.g.
        Username: 12312
        Password: 12312

2. Your child should change their password once logged in.

We will be holding competitions throughout the year to reward pupils for reading and related activities. We hope your children enjoys reading the books on e-Platform!

Yours faithfully,

Ms Vadher

Assistant Principal

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