

25 March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

### Supporting Reading at Parmiter's - Year 7 Book Provision

At Parmiter's, we are continuing to develop a strong culture of reading because we know that reading is one of the most important foundations for success in school and beyond. Students who read widely build vocabulary, improve their understanding across all subjects and develop the confidence to engage fully with learning.

This year, we introduced a weekly "Drop Everything and Read" (DEAR) session for Year 7. The aim was simple: to give students regular opportunities to experience reading as a shared, purposeful activity and to hear fluent reading modelled by adults and peers. Feedback from students and staff has shown that the programme has been a positive step. Many students reported improvements in their understanding, fluency and confidence, and staff consistently noted that these sessions helped create a calm and focused start to the school day.

However, one of the clearest messages from both students and staff was that engagement depends heavily on the quality and range of the books available. Students told us they are more motivated to read when texts feel relevant, interesting and varied. As a result, our next step is to broaden and strengthen the range of books we can offer.

To support this, we are asking for your help.

We have created an [Amazon wish list](#) of carefully selected books that we believe will engage a wide range of readers in Year 7. These texts span different genres and styles, including humour, thriller, science fiction and contemporary fiction, so that more students can find something that captures their interest.

The books we are hoping to add include:

- ***King of Nothing*** by Nathanael Lessor – a humorous look at starting over in a new school.
- ***Crossing the Line*** by Tia Fisher – a powerful verse novel exploring real-world choices and consequences.
- ***I Am Wolf*** by Alastair Chisholm – a fast-paced and imaginative science fiction story.
- ***The Way of Dog*** by Zana Fraillon – an adventure story told from a dog's perspective.
- ***Away with Words*** by Sophie Cameron – a thoughtful story about communication and connection.

If you are willing and able to contribute, you can do so by purchasing one or more books from our [Amazon wish list](#), which will be sent directly to the school. Every book donated will go straight into use with our Year 7 students.

We understand that not all families will be in a position to support this programme and there is no expectation to do so. However, any contributions will make a genuine difference by helping us provide a richer and more engaging reading experience for all students.

Thank you for your continued support in promoting reading at Parmiter's.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Carter  
Head of Humanities