

19th June, 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

This letter brings two very exciting pieces of bookish news to you for our SBL students!

Firstly, we are looking forward to inviting year 7 students into school next week to exchange their library books for some fresh ones to last the summer! Our Librarian, Mrs Richards, is planning a sort of “click and collect” service from Main Reception. She will be sending out a google form via Insight so that students can reserve books and then collect from the Main Reception area when they are ready. A link to the library catalogue will be provided so that they can search for a specific book or, alternatively, they can answer a few questions about the type of book they would like and our resident book expert will choose for them.

The collection service will run between the hours of 9.30 am - 10.30 am, 12 noon – 1 pm and 2 pm – 3 pm on Tuesday 23rd, Thursday 25th and Friday 26th June, to ensure social distancing from other students entering and leaving the school site. On arrival, there will be spaces marked outside Reception, in case of a queue, and we will allow one person in at a time. It is really important that existing library books are returned to us before borrowing new ones. Students will be asked to drop their library books into a box inside the door of Reception, and these will be quarantined for 72 hours before becoming available to others. Students will then be expected to sanitize their hands before collecting the books from Mrs Richards. They may need to bring a bag to put their books into. We appreciate your cooperation in making this as safe as possible for everyone.

The second piece of exciting bookish news is that SBL students are now able to borrow eBooks and Audiobooks from the brand new digital library, found here: <https://sbllearning.eplatform.co>. There is a link to the library on RMUnify, under the tab “ePlatform” and Mr Smy has added it to the student site with some simple instructions on how to use. There is also an app available for tablets and smartphones.

This is a three month trial, ending on 12/09/2020.

The library catalogue is full of bestselling, popular fiction titles and will offer your children 24/7 access to a digital library. Students can have 2 books out on loan at any one time, and they will automatically return after 2 weeks, or they can be returned early in order to borrow a new book.

We have age rated the books which means students will not be able to access content that isn't age appropriate. There are also settings that can be customised to enable children who suffer with reading difficulties to enjoy reading without specialised equipment– please get in touch if you would like help to set up their preferences.

The eBooks can be read on a computer, laptop, or through the free App on your tablets or smartphones. The books can also be searched for in the school's library catalogue: <https://uk.accessit.online/srb00/#!dashboard>

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Reading through your web browser on a laptop or computer

Children can browse the collection or search for a specific book title, author or publisher and borrow the book they choose. It is then assigned to them for the 2-week period.

Reading through the App

To download the App, search "ePlatform" in the App store and download. Click on the app and then you will need to search for the library which will be "SIR BERNARD LOVELL ACADEMY". Once you start typing it will bring up the school on the list.

Click the 3 little lines in the top left corner and select sign in. Enter the username your child uses for Insight and the password library1 (which will need to be changed once logged in) and, as above, search for a book to read. Using the App, the books will be temporarily downloaded to the device so children will not need internet connection to read the book, once it has been downloaded.

We hope that SBL students will enjoy having access to this great resource over the summer holidays and will keep reading regularly. Any books read on ePlatform can be quizzed on for those students taking part in the Accelerated Reader scheme, if a quiz is available.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss these exciting developments in more detail.

Yours faithfully

Mrs L Richards
Library Manager