

Libraries Curriculum Summary

The simple aim of the work of the librarians is to encourage a love of reading. In T2 – Form 4 there are discrete library lessons which give the opportunity both to learn how to use a library and to develop a love of a wide range of books.

At St John's there are two well equipped, comfortable and inviting libraries: one at Senior House and one at Byron House. Pupils are encouraged to suggest titles, authors and subjects to the librarian for inclusion in the libraries. In Senior House an ongoing list is kept of pupil suggestions.

Senior House Library is open every day. It is manned at breaks and lunch-times, before school each morning from 8:05 and after school. 'Waiters' takes place in the library every day after school for children who wish to remain at school to complete their homework before being collected at 5:20. The library is also open and the librarian available for much of the school day so that individuals and groups can be sent by subject teachers to use the resources during lessons.

Byron House opening times:

The library at Byron House is open during morning break and also at lunchtimes so that children may browse and borrow books. In addition, children often visit the library with their class teacher during lesson times.

Kindergarten (KG) and Transition 1 (T1)

Through an introduction to the various component parts that make up a book the children will be encouraged to learn how to browse through books for interest and information. This work is carried out with the form teacher as part of Literacy lessons.

Transition 2 (T2)

The children continue to be encouraged to read and browse through books for interest and information. This year the pupils also learn how to use the library.

Form 1

Building on previous learning the children will be encouraged to learn how to browse through books for interest and for information. They will learn to use the library in a more independent manner.

Form 2

The children investigate the topic of 'Libraries' and develop their own ideas of why and how libraries are used. They learn the basics of how a simple library is organised and have the opportunity to assist in the management of the Byron house Library.

Form 3

The pupils are introduced to Senior House library. Through links with topics in the sciences and humanities they are guided in how to carry out research and access information for independent study. With the support of the librarian the children keep records of their independent reading. Each form has timetabled library and reading sessions where they are guided through a scheme of work that introduces them to a range of age appropriate fiction and non-fiction texts and they are encouraged to explore these further in their own independent reading.

Form 4

The children learn about the organisation of the library and are encouraged to use the Dewey system to access books relating to their studies. With the support of the librarian the children keep records of their independent

reading and are encouraged to extend their reading repertoire. As part of their library and reading sessions they are introduced to more complex texts and develop a list of titles they would like to read as they move up the school.