



LITERACY

Reading regularly is not just important for your child to do well in English, but vital for them to succeed throughout their schooling and is a key life skill.

Did you know that you can access free books online with the Northumberland Library Service – a lot of our students have already signed up for this.



Spotlight on Religious Studies

We recommend the following texts for KS3 students studying Religious Studies:

Year 7

Heaven is for real – **Todd Burpo**

Year 8

Hitchhiker's guide to the galaxy –

Douglas Adams

Year 9

The dangerous art of blending in –

Angelo Surmelis

Some ways to help:

Before reading you can:

- Talk about strategies they can use if they come across an unfamiliar word.
- Focus on what they do well, encouraging them to build on their strengths as readers.

During reading you can:

- Encourage the reader to try a range of strategies when reading unfamiliar words. For example:
 - Sound out words;
 - Use the rest of the sentence to help with a difficult word;
 - Use other clues on the page to help read accurately;
 - Re-read the preceding words when stuck;
 - Break down longer words to read them.
- Use the Internet to find information on a range of topics or read newspapers together look for specific information, e.g. weather, television programming, sport, etc.
- Read yourself: show them that reading has a purpose and is enjoyable.

Students have now been issued with logins. They can now access books online without worrying about signing up to a library service – it will all be done for them!

Please see the link on our academy website for details.



In each newsletter we will either bring you an example of a Numeracy equation which your child may be asked to solve in class and explain how to arrive at the correct answer OR we will introduce a Mathematical idea to you.

This week we would like to introduce you to key methods :

Key words and definitions

Index number - number that is multiplied by itself one or more times is raised to a power. The power is the index number. The plural is indices.

Power - A number that is multiplied by itself one or more times is raised to a power

Standard Form – Writing large and small numbers as a number between 1 and 10 multiplied by a power of 10

Square Root – square root of a number is a value that, when multiplied by itself, gives the number

BIDMAS

Mathematical operations must be carried out in the correct order. BIDMAS is a way of remembering this order.

B – Brackets
I – Indices/Powers
D – Division
M- Multiplication
A – Addition
S- Subtraction

e.g. $2^2 \times 5 - 6 \div 3.$

1. There are no brackets (B), so calculate the indices first (I), giving
 $4 \times 5 - 6 \div 3$
2. Do any divisions or multiplications (DM), working left to right:
 $4 \times 5 = 20$ and $6 \div 3 = 2$
3. And, finally, do any additions or subtractions (AS): $20 - 2$ gives **18**

Calculator Methods

Calculate

$$\frac{\sqrt{678} - 1.42^2}{3^4 \times 1.57}$$



1. Press fraction button (use arrow keys to move around the fraction)
2. Press square root button and fill in 678, use arrow key to go out of the square root Subtract 1.42^2
3. Move down the fraction and press the indices button and use the arrow keys to fill in the numbers and multiply by 1.57

