



Improving Literacy at NCC

EAL COLLEGE Literacy Newsletter/Parents

2021

Literacy is the way in which we read, write, speak and listen in a way that lets us communicate effectively and make sense of the world.

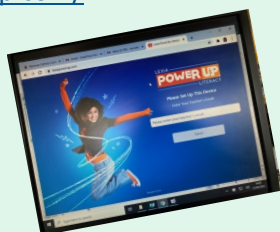
Here at Newman Catholic College we understand that supporting literacy in each subject helps students make progress across the curriculum.

This newsletter provides signposts for parents. It offers tips, useful websites, suggestions for wider reading around a topic and important subject vocabulary so that you can support your child's progress in each subject.

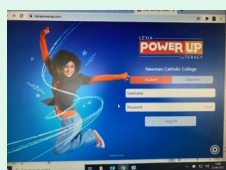
LEXIA POWERUP

Lexia Power-up is an online programme that supports spelling, grammar and comprehension. All EAL College students have been given a username and password and can access Lexia via <https://www.lexiapowerup.com/>

Step 1: Enter your teacher's email.



Step 2: Enter your login details.



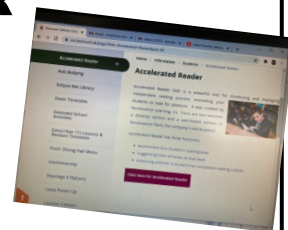
Step 3: Choose a section to start.



ACCELERATED READER

Accelerated Reader (AR) helps pupils make progress in reading.

Step 1: Access AR from the NCC website.



Pupils in EAL College can access books online through Oxford Owl and then quiz them in Accelerated Reader. All pupils have been given user names and passwords.

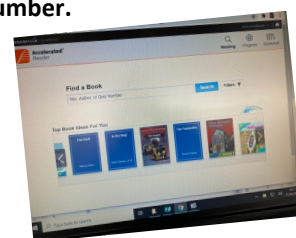


Step 2: Enter your login details.

Find AR on the NCC website. Pupils can quiz books at school and at home.

Step 3: Enter the book title or number.

Check that a book is included in AR by entering the name of the book here: <https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/UserType.aspx?RedirectURL=%2fdefault.aspx>



MATHS

It is important that students build good study habits from the very beginning. Students should try to revise Mathematics as often as possible, preferably every day.

Having a good knowledge of times tables up to x12 is necessary for all students to make progress. That is why if they need extra practice to gain confidence, they should practise times tables tests regularly using the websites listed below.

There are also a lot of free materials available on the Internet for students who want to revise the topics covered in lessons or if they are preparing for exams.

www.timestables.co.uk

www.mathschase.com

www.mathsisfun.com/timestables

timestables.me.uk

bbc.co.uk/bitesize

https://drfrostmaths.com/

https://corbettmaths.com/contents/

http://mrbartonmaths.com/students/

ENGLISH

<https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/> The British Council website is an excellent resource to practise all the skills and improve grammar and vocabulary. The website corrects your answers so you get instant feedback.

<https://elt.oup.com/student/headway> This is excellent for grammar and listening practice, vocabulary extension and games. It caters for all levels from beginner to advanced.

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/> This is useful for younger children at Key Stage 3 with lots of free worksheets.

<https://www.firstnews.co.uk/> For interesting articles on current affairs, subscribe to *First News*, an award winning newspaper for teenagers for as little as £1.00.

<https://www.thenational.academy/library> You and your child can read and listen to books on this excellent website.

Spelling - To assist your child with spelling use the **look-say-cover-write-check** method. First you look at the shape of the word, then you say it. Next you cover it. Then you write it and then check that it is correct. You repeat this process if you have spelled it incorrectly. Writing in cursive or joined up letters can help some learners with spelling.

information			
detention			
station			
intervention			

Vocabulary - <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/> This is one of the best online dictionaries for EAL learners and parents. It gives clear, simple definitions of words. You can also listen to the word being pronounced in a British or American accent.

Also, encourage your child to keep a note-book of any new words they encounter. Write a definition in English and try to use the word in a sentence. Try to build 'word families' from these new words as shown on the right.



DRAMA

<https://www.rsc.org.uk/> On this website you can learn about Shakespeare's life and watch video clips of his most famous plays.

<https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/>

This is also a useful website for drama students.

<https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/>

ART

Students can take advantage of online advice and guidance to improve their art skills.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z6f3cdm>

TATE KIDS <https://www.tate.org.uk/kids>



ASDAN

ASDAN stands for Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network. It is an education charity, which aims to help young people develop knowledge and skills for learning, work and life in general.

ASDAN offers a range of nationally approved qualifications based around the development of personal, social and employability skills.

There are no written exams, so students build up a portfolio of work over the duration of the course. This portfolio of evidence is submitted to ASDAN and then pupils will be awarded their certificates.

Employers are looking for the skills developed through these courses, therefore, the support of parents and carers is extremely important.

Parents and carers can help by encouraging pupils to read the newspapers, watch or listen to the news, take them to interesting places and give them practical tasks to do, for example writing the family's weekly shopping list.

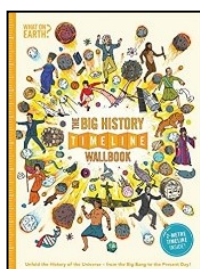
For further information about ASDAN and some free resources, you can visit asdan.org.uk

HISTORY

The aim of this course is to provide EAL students with a foundation for a wide range of historical periods, which will support their progress towards GCSE exams or BTEC courses in the future. The bespoke Curriculum covers both KS2 and KS3 material. Students will gain an understanding of Britain's history and the complexity and differences of its society, the process of change and relationships between different groups and that of the wider world.

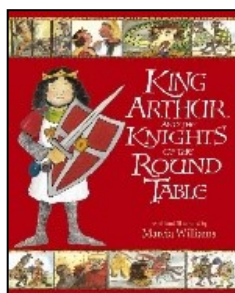
Students can revise topics, using videos and quizzes to revise the key vocabulary and knowledge required in KS3 , KS4 and KS5 by accessing <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects?>

The Big History Timeline Wall Book by Christopher Lloyd



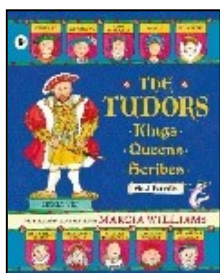
KS2 topics

- Anglo-Saxons and Norman England.
- *King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table* by Marcia Williams.
- Battle of Hastings 1066
- The development of Church, state and society in Medieval Britain 1066-1509.
- The Battle of Falkirk 1298
- Wars of Roses begins 1455
- *The Tudors: Kings, Queens, Scribes and Ferrets!* by Marcia Williams.



KS3 Topics

- Battle of Waterloo 1815
- WW1- The Somme 1916
- WW2 V-E day
- Superpowers and the cold war 1947-1991



When students are studying a historical text they should always remember that the skills they must have are:

- ⇒ Descriptive skills
- ⇒ Literacy skills; writing, reading and oracy.
- ⇒ Numeracy
- ⇒ Sequencing
- ⇒ Comprehension skills and use of specialist historical language

GEOGRAPHY

The aim of the Geography course is to equip students with knowledge about diverse geographical terms and tools, people, resources as well as natural and human environments.

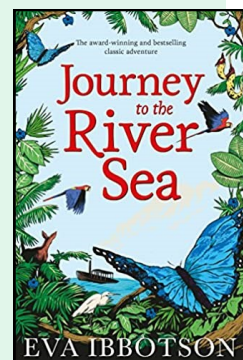
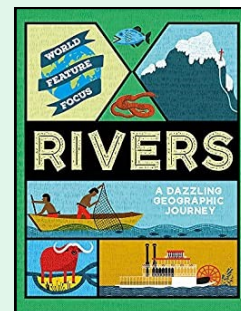
Students will gain a good understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes. The bespoke Curriculum covers both KS2 and KS3 material and it will help students to deepen their understanding and knowledge for GCSE exams or BTEC courses in the future.

Use this guide and the below links to identify books, videos, quizzes you could read to find out more about the places and geographical ideas you are studying.

KS2 topics

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zbkww2hv>

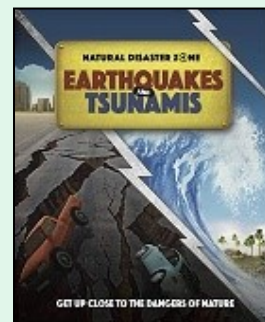
- How does a river change from source to mouth?
Rebecca Kahn 'Rivers'
- Eva Ibbotson 'Journey to the River Sea'
- 'Earthquakes and Tsunamis' by Ben Hubbard



KS3 topics

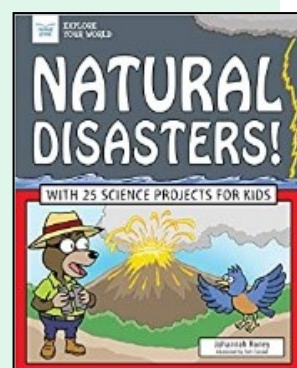
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zrw76sg>

- How does weather and climate affect the UK?
- Anita Ganeri 'Stormy Weather'
- Physical , Human and Environmental Geography 'Natural Disasters' by Johannah Haney



Students are going to develop their:

- ⇒ Literacy skills; writing, reading and speaking.
- ⇒ Drawing field sketches
- ⇒ Knowledge of geographical case studies



SCIENCE

8P/8Q1/8Q2 classes (includes videos, test and quiz):

Biology: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcyycdm>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z4882hv>

Chemistry: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zryycdm>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/znxytyrd>

Physics: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/znmmn39>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z3nnb9q>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zj44jxs>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zh2xsbk>

PNA/PNB/PMA/PMB classes (includes videos, test and quiz):

Biology: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z4882hv>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zpgcbk7>

Chemistry: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/znxytyrd>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z8xtmnv>

Physics: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zh2xsbk>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zsc9rdm>

RELIGION

How to help your child to improve literacy in Religion:

Check regularly with your child by asking 'what topics' they are learning. Your child should show you a RE journey map, which shows which module they are studying.

Ask them to highlight and verbally explain the key words linked to that topic learned in class.

Encourage your child to learn the spelling of these key words and their meanings.

Check with your child if they know about their termly Knowledge Organiser. Go through with them and ask them to explain it to you.

Proofread work tasks with your child to ensure that their work is clearly explained.

Ask them to read back their work/homework to you for them to practice good pronunciation of English Language and to strengthen what they have learned in class.

Check your child's work. Even if you do not understand the content, you will be able to clearly see if your child has done their best and presented it neatly.

WHY USE LEXIA?

There are two programmes in Lexia, Lexia Core 5 and Lexia PowerUp.

Lexia PowerUp is designed for more confident EAL learners. It initially assesses students' reading abilities and automatically places them at the appropriate level in 3 Study Strands:

Word study-targets gaps in basic reading skills and develops academic vocabulary.

Grammar- improves written composition and reading comprehension.

Comprehension-teaches the skills required for higher order text analysis. Once placed, students work independently on each strand where they can monitor progress on their personal dashboard. To support independent learning and maximize time on the program, Lex-

Lexia Core 5 is designed for beginner EAL learners. The program creates personalized learning paths for each student.

Phonological Awareness

Phonics-knowledge of letter sounds

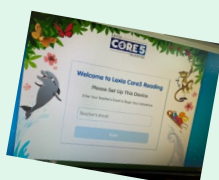
Structural Analysis-knowledge of words derived from Latin and Greek support vocabulary.

Automaticity/Fluency-sentence structure analysis and timed silent reading.

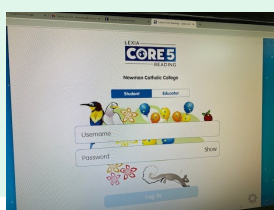
Vocabulary- learning new words.

Comprehension-students develop the ability to understand information.

Step 1: Enter your teacher's email.



Step 2: Enter your login details, then choose a section.



BRENT LIBRARIES

Students and their families can join Brent Libraries, if they live in the Borough of Brent, and then access books, magazines, newspapers and reference materials online. You can access the library 24/7 for free, with a library card and PIN.

Join Brent Libraries here: <https://www.brent.gov.uk/services-for-residents/libraries/elibrary/>

NCC EAL KEY SUBJECT VOCABULARY WORD BANKS

Students should be able to read, spell, understand the meaning of these words in context and use these words correctly.

ENGLISH	MATHS	SCIENCE	DRAMA
apostrophe because but in spite of although commas adjectives glance, peer, see mutter, shout, whisper stride, stagger, stroll, dash simile and metaphor synonym and antonym alliteration personification onomatopoeia	add subtract multiply divide fraction numerator denominator half quarter order percentages decimal angle perimeter area	force states of matter cell friction atom blood electric circuit chemical reaction pathogen energy resources temperature respiration light fossil fuel photosynthesis	collaboration confidence compromise actor character playwright accent audition scene scenario character genre tragedy comedy plot
HISTORY	RELIGION	GEOGRAPHY	ASDAN
democracy peasant citizen Norman invasion evidence chronological ancestor empire artefact invaders BC/AD pagan manuscript VE day alliances	apostles baptism conscience disciples Eucharist respect sin worship anoint gospel moral evil natural evil sacrament immaculate salvation	water cycle urban densely populated rural—urban migration volcano population distribution environmental settlement landform pollution weather hazard flooding earthquake compass	confidence presentation flexible adaptable teamwork social media curriculum vitae employee employer health and safety manufacturing marketing research goals financial management

HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

1. Ensure your son or daughter can spell these words. Look at spelling strategies at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zq296fr/revision/1>
2. Ask your son or daughter to explain what the words mean within the relevant context.
3. Ask your son or daughter to check their work, have they used the correct spelling and used the word correctly in their books?
4. Give your son or daughter spelling tests to check they can spell the words correctly.
5. Ask your son or daughter to contact their teachers if they need any specific help.
6. Print this resource and display it at home.