

Dear Parents,

We hope you have all had a lovely summer. It was great to spend the final three weeks of last term together and we feel that it has been very beneficial because we have been able to start the new school year with the children understanding the routines and rules. Thank you very much for all the support that you gave to the children whilst they were completing their Kings and Queens homework. Some children have begun to share their work with the rest of the class and we are very impressed with the amount of time and effort that they have all put in. We will continue to work our way through them over the next couple of weeks.

Reading area

We have set up a new class library area in the classroom and the children have already enjoyed using it. We would love to add some photos of the children reading in weird and wonderful places. Please either send a photo into school or email it to admin@stbenedicts.cheshire.sch.uk. We will print/photocopy any photos and put them on display in our reading area.

Reading challenge

Reading helps children's language development, concentration, imagination. It improves their writing skills and supports their ability to read and understand things in other areas of the curriculum, e.g. reading maths questions.

We are encouraging the children to read as often as possible at home as well as in school. As part of our space themed reading display we have six numbered stars. Each child starts with their name on the '0' star on a Monday. Each time they read at home during the week, they move up a star to a maximum of 5 stars. E.g. read 3 times in 1 week and they will move to star number 3. Read 5 or more times and move onto the '5' star. Each star is worth the equivalent number of dojo points and the children are always keen to receive these. We will put the dojos up the following Monday and the challenge starts again at 0. Please support us with this challenge and clearly sign and date your child's reading diary each time they read. *Remember, it is not about how many books they read, but how many times they read.* We are aware that some books are longer than others and we ask you read with your child 15-20 minutes each night.

Your child should have brought home a reading book. Please let us know if they have not brought it home and we will sort it. We will encourage your children to take their reading books home at the end of each day. If they forget, please read a book from home and record it in their diary the next day.

Homework

Please can all Kings and Queens homework be returned by next Monday. We will send new homework home next Wednesday. Spelling Shed and Maths Shed are great if you are looking for extra work for your child to do.

Many thanks for your continued support,
Mrs McBride, Mrs Bond and Mrs Nixon