'Reading is Discovery' 2026

Our aim this Reading Week is to give you the opportunity to enjoy reading, listening to or watching things for pleasure/consolidation/exploration as well as to encourage scholarship – learning at a high level. All departments have provided a rich array of resources for you at whatever level you are looking for, so that you can navigate your way towards a broader and richer journey here at Reading School.

Activities:

1. Choose things to read/watch/listen from the subject specific reading lists: Click this link to access Reading Week subject materials
2. Complete the Mr Cooper challenge: produce a fully researched scholarship (video between 8-15mins) on a topic that is and will not be covered on the Reading School curriculum - for full information please see below.
3. Watch someone else's research video from the Reading School digital library on VIMEO. Click here: Reading School Scholarship Programme on Vimeo
4. Access other great resources from the list below

The expectation is for each student to make the most of this, and to fully document their engagement and its impact on Unifrog. Click this link to access the instructions to document your journey on Unifrog

Summary

Read/Watch/Listen - for leisure, add engagement and impact under Activity type: Other extracurricular activity	**Scholarship video,** add engagement and impact under Activity type: Academic work: individual
Read/Watch/Listen - for enhancing study, add engagement and impact under Activity type: Extracurricular reading	**For other worthy activities (e.g. work experience, competition, qualification etc.),** add under Activity type: then select the most suitable option

All submissions ought to be entered into Unifrog

We highly recommend students getting into the LRC soon to borrow their selected books from the amazing student librarians. Additionally, here are the main web links for access to texts over Reading Week:

Other great resources:

Oliver - our library catalogue (not readable online) LRC E-Resources such as journals and magazines
Find your local library

Y7: Read your Book Buzz book
Y7: How about something by Chris Bradford, who is coming in to see you?
Y10/11: Choose something from the reading list of a subject you are most likely to choose for A Level LINK
Y12/13: Use the online subject magazines to read around your likely degree subject LINK
Y12/13: Use JStor to read an academic journal from your likely degree subject

The Mr Cooper challenge:

At Reading School we pride ourselves on the academic potential and scholarly approach of our students. During your time here you will have many opportunities to stretch yourself to see how far you can go. We want you to think of the curriculum for each subject as being the starting point for your studies; the tool that will enable you to discover independently more and more over the next two years. Mr Cooper should like to present you all with an exciting challenge:

"I am strongly recommending that you use Reading Week to take the opportunity to explore an aspect from at least one of your subjects beyond the curriculum. Any area directly or indirectly relating to your subject is fine, as long as it sparks

your interest. You will find that Heads of Department have provided you with stimuli through the suggested reading for their subject(s).

You may well find that when you start reading around your subjects that it ignites a passion for them, which you have not known before. As well as fueling your love for the subjects, it has the side benefit of you understanding your courses better and often allows you to contribute in greater depth to class discussions by drawing parallels from what you have studied at home to that which you are encountering in the classroom. It will take your lessons to another level."

For those that take up the challenge, you will need to do the following:

1. Select an area to research (must not be something that you have been or will be taught on the Reading School curriculum). It can be closely related to topics that you have covered in class or something completely different e.g. what characteristics make up the best 200m runner
2. Try to use a variety of sources to glean your information (books, podcasts, documentaries, online lectures, YouTube videos etc. – using the subject reading lists as a potential stimulus. Subject teachers will also be happy to discuss areas of research that you could undertake
3. Present your scholarly research on video (8-15mins in length) and submit it to Mr Cooper

Students at Reading School are encouraged to be community minded and to leave the school a better institution than the one they found on their arrival. Therefore, the format of the research that you will submit should be a video file, as the best pieces of research will be made a part of a Digital Research Library* for all students (present and future) to be informed and be inspired.

The reason for the video file, is not so that you can be on camera, rather you can display images, graphs, text, embed videos etc. with your commentary over the top. All presentations must consist of a bibliography – a slide which outlines where you got your information from. This is to enable those that are interested in your scholarly work to read up on it in more detail later. You should use wetransfer.com to submit your research to me at mcooper@reading-school.co.uk

At Reading School we pride ourselves on striving for excellence in all that we do. We look forward to viewing your research with great pleasure.

*The digital library will be through VIMEO, Vimeo supports just about any kind of video file, including these common formats: MP4, MOV, WMV, AVI or FLV.