

READ LIKE US



DRIFFIELD
SCHOOL
& SIXTH FORM



CONTENTS:

**SPOTLIGHT ON:
LITERACY IN THE
MATHS
CLASSROOM**

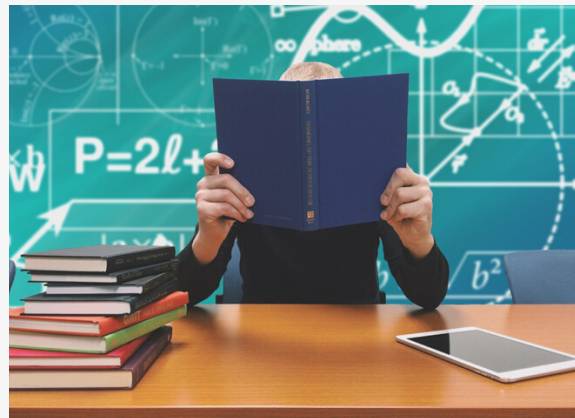
**RECOMMENDED
READING**

**REVISION
ARTICLES**

Welcome to our termly update to celebrate everything literary both in and outside of Driffield School. The newsletter aims to update you on what your child is doing inside the classroom, as well as recommended reading for both pleasure and revision. Reading is something which we believe should be accessible to everyone, so at least one of the recommendations per key stage will be a book available in our school's Learning Resources Centre.

Spotlight:

Literacy in the maths classroom



Students in Years 7 and 8 have been introduced to a maths reading book that is also available to loan from the LRC. In our problem solving lessons, Year 7 have been reading extracts from *The Math Inspectors: The Case of the Claymore Diamond*, a book about a group of crime solving students. They have also followed the extracts by looking at some of the maths involved in solving the crimes such as tracking suspects and creating and comparing time lines. Year 8 have continued to read extracts from *The Number Devil* that they started to explore last year. The book follows the main character, Robert, into some of his dreams where he meets the Number Devil and is challenged to think mathematically about a variety of problems including sequences appearing in number problems that we then explored further to find quick ways to calculate sums such as 22222×22222 .

Years 12 and 13 are being introduced to a range of articles to help them to extend their learning and challenge them to read like mathematicians. Their articles have covered unusual vocabulary and definitions such as "oblate spheroid" (which is a flattened sphere), the origins of proof and biographies of famous mathematicians such as Isaac Newton.



What our students say:

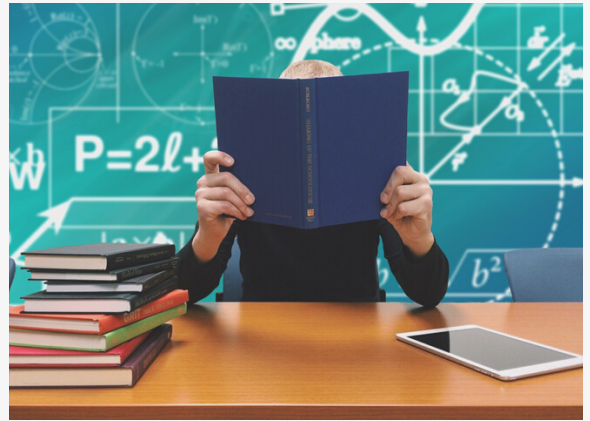
I absolutely love reading and if you told me I'd be reading a book in maths, I would never have believed you! I find reading books in maths really interesting; it has been good fun! Reading in maths helps me understand different words that I would not have usually understood. It helps me understand how to solve different equations and learn new mathematical terms.

My favourite part of reading in maths has been discussing it with the class because it means that we all have the opportunity to share our ideas and ultimately understand. Openly discussing the terms and vocabulary has helped me amazingly. I now understand lots of different words that before I would have found confusing. I hope to continue reading books in maths.

Zoë Webb Y7

Spotlight:

Literacy in the maths classroom



In maths we have been reading one of the Maths Inspectors books. To be honest, I wasn't really expecting to read a book in maths but I have really enjoyed reading this book and listening to what it's about. It has helped me in my English lessons by hearing all the different vocabulary and learning what the different words mean so I can use them in my writing. It has also helped me in developing my confidence in reading out loud. Reading the Maths Inspectors has helped me with my problem solving with my teacher relating what the book is about and translating it into different types of maths equations. Overall I have really enjoyed these lessons.

Elsie Norsworthy Y7

My maths lessons have been great. The lessons have mainly focused on The Maths Inspectors, which is a book filled with maths problems. In the book we are trying to help the detectives to solve crimes and catch the thief who stole the diamond. To do this we have to solve different maths problems involving all maths skills such as how many turns of a tumbler it could take for a thief to open a safe. We have been helping to find clues e.g. there are 4 tumblers and each tumbler has the digits 0 to 9 so the thief would have to try 10 000 different lock combinations.

Daniel Rowley Y7



RECOMMENDED READING:

Books not available in the LRC will clearly be marked as unavailable. That being said, please remember books can be requested, so, if you like the sound of a book, please speak to our LRC staff.

KS3:



LILAC MOHR: MATH AND MAGIC IN WONDERLAND

With the discovery of Mrs Magpie's Manual of Magic for Mathematical Minds, Lulu and Elizabeth embark on an exciting journey.

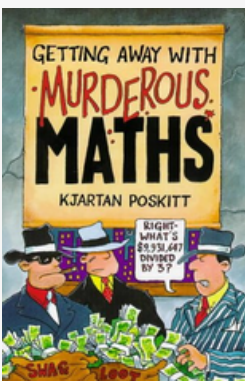
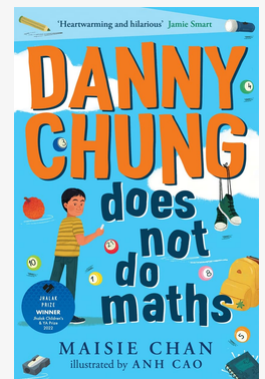
The twins must be ingenious and wise to solve the logic problems and uncover the book's secrets.

MAISIE CHAN: DANNY CHUNG DOES NOT DO MATHS

Danny Chung loves drawing.

He loves it more than anything – and definitely more than maths, which, according to his dad and everyone else, is what he is supposed to be good at – it's the Chinese way! Danny has to embark on stealth drawing – under the desk at school, in the park or in bed by torchlight.

And then a surprise turns up on Danny's doorstep – a surprise that will turn his life upside down.



KJARTAN POSKITT: MURDEROUS MATHS SERIES

There are many books in this series and they combine maths facts with games, jokes, tricks and puzzles. Year 7 students will be looking at geometry in the summer term so may like to read "Desperate Measures: Length, Area and Volume". Year 8 students may like to read "Do You Feel Lucky? The secrets of probability" to prepare them for their summer term work. In Year 9, students are continuing to develop their shape and angles work so may like to read, "The Fiendish Angletron: Trigonometry and Geometry" to help with this.

LEWIS CARROLL: ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Lewis Carroll was a famous mathematician who liked to include numbers, logic, puzzles and riddles in his books. Alice in Wonderland is one of his most famous stories and follows Alice on her adventures with her changing size, dealing with packs of cards and exploring a very strange and magical world.



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KS4:

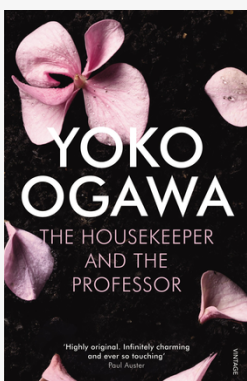
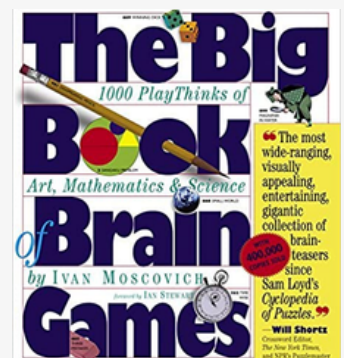


DOUGLAS ADAMS: THE HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY

In this jubilantly madcap novel, we're asked to consider bistromathematics, where the relationship between the items on the bill, the cost of each and the number of people at the table proves that: "Numbers written on restaurant cheques within the confines of restaurants do not follow the same mathematical laws as numbers written on any other pieces of paper in any other parts of the Universe." Perhaps it's the very precision of mathematics, its very seriousness, that makes it so delightful to see it used in the service of nonsense.

IVAN MOSCOVICH: THE BIG BOOK OF BRAIN GAMES: 1000 PLAYTHINKS OF ART, MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

This contains 1000 challenges, puzzles, riddles and illusions to get your brain thinking. Twelve basic categories include geometry, patterns, numbers, logic and probability, and perception. A key at the top of each game ranks its difficulty on a scale of 1 to 10. How many of the puzzles can you solve?



YOKO OGAWA: THE HOUSEKEEPER AND THE PROFESSOR (NOT IN THE LRC)

An astoundingly lovely book about a woman who comes to work for a once-great mathematician. Due to a traumatic brain injury, he has only 80 minutes of short-term memory available to him before he forgets everything. Also about kindness and love, loyalty and loss, it is filled with beautiful maths, simply and clearly described alongside finely drawn relationships between the characters.

CARL SAGAN: CONTACT (NOT IN THE LRC)

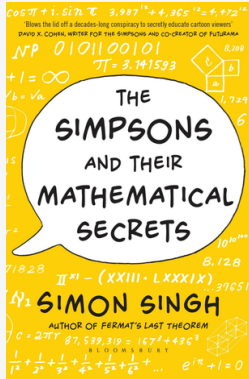
Carl Sagan was an American astronomer, planetary scientist, cosmologist, astrophysicist, astrobiologist and an author. His science fiction book "Contact" is about making first contact with extraterrestrial intelligence. Mathematical numbers such as primes and pi are used within the book because of their unique properties.



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KS5:

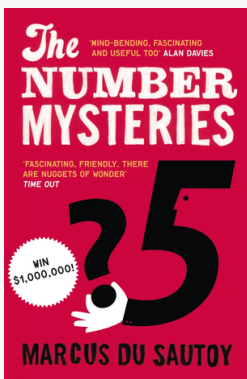


SIMON SINGH: THE SIMPSONS AND THEIR MATHEMATICAL SECRETS

This book is based on the idea that many of the writers of The Simpsons love numbers, and love to slip mathematical puzzles into the episodes. It compiles the mathematical references used throughout the show's run, and examines them in detail. Rather than just explaining the mathematical concepts in the context of how they relate to the relevant episodes of The Simpsons, Singh "uses them as a starting point for lively discussions of mathematical topics, anecdotes and history".

ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE: THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES

Much as Sherlock is not a mathematician, he has an outstanding understanding of logic and will question sequences of events if they do not appear to fit the mystery at hand. Students of mathematics will often enjoy detective stories because of the twists and turns that challenge us to think critically about statements and evidence.

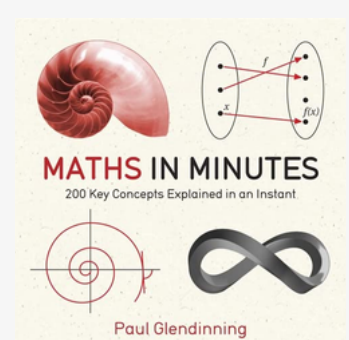


MARCUS DU SAUTOY: THE NUMBER MYSTERIES (NOT IN THE LRC)

In 'The Number Mysteries', Marcus du Sautoy explains how to fake a Jackson Pollock; how to work out whether or not the universe has a hole in the middle of it; how to make the world's roundest football. He shows us how to see shapes in four dimensions. He tells us about the quest to predict the future – from the flight of asteroids to an impending storm, from bending a ball like Beckham to predicting population growth.

PAUL GLENDINNING: MATHS IN MINUTES

Both simple and accessible, Maths in Minutes is a visually led introduction to 200 key mathematical ideas. Each concept is quick and easy to remember, described by means of an easy-to-understand picture and a maximum 200-word explanation. Concepts span all of the key areas of mathematics, including Fundamentals of Mathematics, Sets and Numbers, Geometry, Equations, Limits, Functions and Calculus, Vectors and Algebra, Complex Numbers, Combinatorics, Number Theory, Metrics and Measures and Topology.



AUTHOR VISIT

On Tuesday 21st March, a selection of Year 11 students and sixth form literature students enjoyed an hour's lecture from York University professor Jon Mee. He gave an inspiring seminar on the life of William Blake and offered a fresh perspective on the famous poet.

Students will be able to apply this new knowledge in their exams this summer but also had a glimpse into the pace and delivery of a university lecture.



RECOMMENDED ARTICLES FOR REVISION:

The following online articles are free to access, and recommended for anyone wanting to independently revise the GCSE/A-Level texts at home.

KS4:

The British Library has a whole host of articles for anyone wanting to add depth to their knowledge of the GCSE set texts. Ensure you use the 'related article' links on the homepages of the set texts, linked below, to access the most demanding and helpful articles:

1. www.bl.uk/works/an-inspector-calls
2. www.bl.uk/works/a-christmas-carol
3. www.bl.uk/works/macbeth

For more accessible online articles, SparkNotes (www.sparknotes.com) has some excellent online study guides for the GCSE set texts, including some helpful and easily readable essays on key scenes/characters. It's not an article, but Mr Bruff, found at www.youtube.com/@mrbruff, is a wonderful YouTube resource for Literature and Language revision.

KS5:

SparkNotes is also handy for overviews of the KS5 set-texts, as is the British Library for Blake, Shakespeare, and Keats.

1. www.bl.uk/works/othello
2. www.bl.uk/people/william-blake
3. www.bl.uk/people/john-keats

MASSOLIT is a wonderful resource for anyone wanting to learn more about the set-texts, but also for anyone with an interest in literature. The lectures feature a whole-host of renowned academics talking about their fields of expertise, making them great for revision but also handy for anyone wanting an insight into studying literature at university.

RECOMMENDED PODCASTS:

1. The Penguin Podcast - www.penguin.co.uk/podcasts. A podcast for booklovers from a much loved publisher – each fortnightly episode is a conversation with a famous author.
2. Backlisted - www.backlisted.fm. A serious podcast for literature enthusiasts. Each podcast focuses on a specific book, with tons of avenues of related reading through the website.