

11<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Transition Reading Book**

As part of our school culture we aim to promote and encourage reading for pleasure, not only to boost academic attainment but also to promote good mental health and empathy. We have a well-stocked school library that all members of the school community can use, as well as organising events such as author visits, reading groups and book quizzes. To reinforce the message that reading is for everyone, our school library includes many graphic novels and dyslexia-friendly accessible format books, including classic novels.

To welcome your child to our culture of reading, they have today been given a free book, "Angel of Grasmere" by Tom Palmer, which is described on the Book Trust website as follows:

"It's August 1940 and Tarn has just heard that her brother was lost in the British army retreat at Dunkirk. She, her friend Peter, and the evacuee Eric walk up the hills around their Lake District home, looking out for the dreaded Nazi invasion. Sometimes Tarn thinks she sees a figure on the fell, and when farm machinery is fixed in the night, and fish left by the church, the villagers think they have an angel looking after them. But the truth proves to be more complicated ....

Printed with dyslexic readers in mind, this uses a clear font and has thick pages to avoid show-through, making it accessible to a wide range of readers. "

We will be discussing the book in September, mainly in form time and English lessons. Your child will not be tested in any way on their knowledge of the book, but we hope that they enjoy reading it over the summer holidays, whether independently or with you. Our intention is to create a reading "event" for the year group where the act of reading is a shared journey. If your child would find it useful, there is an audiobook version available from Audible and other platforms which they could listen to alongside reading the book.

This book has been very kindly provided by the Friends of St Aidan's (FOSA), a small friendly committee of parents who meet about 4 or 5 times during the school year and organise fundraisers. In previous Years FOSA has helped raise funds for a new school bus, their funds are always spent very carefully and go towards benefitting as many students as possible. FOSA are always looking for new volunteers to help their fundraising efforts; if you are interested in getting involved with FOSA, please contact [marketing@staidans.co.uk](mailto:marketing@staidans.co.uk) .

We hope that your child enjoys their book and the summer break, and we very much look forward to welcoming them to our school community in September.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs A Parris

Literacy Co-ordinator

Mrs C King

Assistant Head KS3