



LETTER CIRCULAR

Date: 14th August 2020 **Ref:** DLAP 182/2020
To: All Heads of College Network, Heads of Childcare Centres and Heads of Primary and Secondary Schools (State and Non-State)
From: David Muscat – CEO, National Literacy Agency
Subject: Summer Reading Campaign 2020

For the sixth consecutive year, the National Literacy Agency is organising the Aqra fis-Sajf / Summer Reading Campaign to encourage children to continue reading during the summer months. This campaign is organised to sustain the abilities and skills pupils acquired throughout the school year.

In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Agency is enhancing and promoting the pleasure of reading by uploading videos of reading aloud sessions for various ages on the Agency's Facebook pages. The videos feature interactive readings of stories that stimulate the children's imagination and motivates them to read.

During the summer months, the schedule of video sessions is taking place as follows:

- Reading aloud sessions in Maltese and English for babies and toddlers 0 to 3 years old on the facebook page **Aqra Miegħi / Read with Me** - <https://www.facebook.com/readwithme.nla/>
Monday to Saturday at 08:45a.m.; 09:00 a.m.; 09:45 a.m.; 11:00 a.m.
- Reading aloud sessions in Maltese and English for young children 4 to 7 years old on the fb page **Seher I-Istejjer / The Magic of Stories** - <https://www.facebook.com/themagicofstories.nla/>
Monday to Saturday at 08:30 a.m.; 09:15 a.m.; 10:45 a.m.; 11:15 a.m.
- Reading aloud sessions in Maltese and English for children aged 7 to 11 years on the fb page **Gost il-Qari / The Pleasure of Reading** - <https://www.facebook.com/GostilQari>
Monday to Saturday at 09:30 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.
- Reading aloud sessions in Maltese and English for children aged 8 to 10 years about football and other sports on the fb page **Bil-Qari u I-Kitba Niskorja / Footballers Read and Write Programme** - <https://www.facebook.com/footballersreadandwriteprogramme>
Monday to Friday at 09:00 a.m.; 11:00 a.m.
- Video clips of football skills and physical exercises on the fb page **Bil-Qari u I-Kitba Niskorja / Footballers Read and Write Programme** by the Sports Resource Leaders (ex-international footballers) - <https://www.facebook.com/footballersreadandwriteprogramme>
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 10:00 a.m.

Guidelines for parents to promote reading:

- Stress the importance of reading with your child.
- Make reading exciting; do not portray it as a chore.
- Follow a reading list of recommended age-appropriate books.
- Limit children's screen time (TV, tablet, smartphone) and encourage fun educational activities instead.
- Let your child choose her/his own books.
- Keep a supply of reading materials around the house.
- Ask your child questions about the books s/he is reading.
- Establish a timeslot during the day for storytelling.



- Listen to your child read to you.
- Show interest in your child's favourite authors or series of books.
- Listen to books on a tablet, smartphone, or CD, especially while travelling.
- Model reading for your child.

The Aqra fis-Sajf / Summer Reading Campaign campaign is organised by the National Literacy Agency in collaboration with Malta Libraries and the Foundation for Educational Services. For further information on this campaign kindly visit the Facebook page Aqra fis-Sajf or call 2598 3324.

Thank you for your attention.

Gaetano Bugeja
Director, Learning and Assessment Programmes