

## Dear Parent or Guardian

The 2015 rugby union year is underway, with the Six Nations tournament & the Rugby World Cup held in the UK this autumn. If you like rugby, now is the time for your children to read more about the game that is capturing their imagination. Websites. Fiction. Non-fiction. Newspapers. Magazines. **Rugby can help your children enjoy reading for pleasure.**

Here are my **ten top tips** to encourage your rugby mad children:

1 **Set** your home page on your computer to a decent rugby website like [www.bbc.co.uk/sport/0/rugby-union](http://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/0/rugby-union)

2 **Get** your children on form for the year with one of the guides to playing the game. *Know the Game: Rugby Union* is a great book to start with. Ask if your local library stocks it.

3 **Deliver** a newspaper rugby supplement to your child's room on Saturday or Sunday morning to get them used to reading previews, match reports and other speculation.

4 **Buy** them a copy of one of the popular rugby magazines, *Rugby World* or *The Rugby Paper*.

5 **Read together** a child-friendly player autobiography full of statistics, pictures and stories. A popular one is Sam Warburton's *My Grand Slam Year*.

6 **Play** one of the fantasy rugby games running in newspapers, requiring a close eye on who is injured and who has been dropped from teams. Another reason to read the rugby pages.

7 **Discover** superb fiction in libraries and bookshops : *Rugby Zombie* by Dan Anthony (set in Wales), *Rugby Spirit* by Gerard Siggins and my *Rugby Academy* series.

8 **Leave** rugby newspaper articles and match reports in regular places like on the fridge door.

9 **Check out** the Scottish Rugby website - <http://www.scottishrugby.org/>

10 **Try** reading more yourself. You'll enjoy it and your children will want to join in too

Best wishes



Tom Palmer, author of *Scrum!* and the *Rugby Academy* series published by Barrington Stoke

"A dyslexia friendly ... lively rugby tale" *The Daily Telegraph*..

[www.tompalmer.co.uk](http://www.tompalmer.co.uk)

