



The Importance of Reading

The importance of reading for children cannot be underestimated. Reading for pleasure can benefit a child's education, social and cognitive development, their wellbeing, and their mental health.

Engaging with books allows us to be transported to other places and worlds. We can become immersed in the lives of fictional characters or learn more about the world around us.


Reading is a key life skill. It is placed at the heart of our curriculum; we have carefully selected texts which will ignite children's imagination, inspire their curiosity and provide a window to the world.

It is commonly said that a child's future academic success and job prospects are directly related to their reading proficiency.

Parents in Partnership

It is crucial for both school and parents to actively teach their child to read. We need you to create a home environment where reading is encouraged and seen as a pleasurable experience.

Spending just 10 minutes reading with your child every day will be invaluable in developing their ability and desire to read and learn.



Reading is the key to success...

High-quality books

Phonics books linked to our phonics scheme 'Unlocking Letters and Sounds' are sent home with children in Reception and Year 1, and those children receiving continued support with their phonics. These books are fully decodable which means that your child will be able to use the sounds they have learnt in school to read the book to you independently. Children in Reception and Year 1 will no longer bring home a book banded book. Unlocking Letters and Sounds emphasises the importance of children reading books that are fully decodable. Those children still learning to decode therefore, should not be bringing home a book that is not fully decodable until all of the sounds have been taught, as this can cause misconceptions.

Book banded books are sent home to those children in Year 2 and above who are developing their fluency and confidence with reading. As these books are not fully decodable, this is a book to read together so that you can help them with any tricky words if needed. When a child has progressed through the book bands, they will choose an appropriately pitched book from their classroom library. Again, they may require some help with some of the words but they should be able to read most of this independently.

We will also provide **all** children with a free-choice **library book** for you to enjoy together.

Supporting your child

- Read at least 3 times per week with your child
- Log your child's reading in their Reading Record
- Make reading time pleasurable by finding a quiet, comfortable space and giving your child your full attention.
- Ask your child simple questions as they read to check their understanding
- Use positive language and praise their reading efforts
- Read to your child as part of your evening routine. This builds vocabulary, feeds imagination and can even improve sleep patterns
- Ask them about books/ stories they are reading at school (your child's class books are recorded in their Reading Record)

School Routines

- Your child's reading book will be changed every week. Please ensure books are returned weekly. **There will be a charge for any lost books.**
- Reading Records will be checked weekly and leaves will be awarded to children reading regularly at home.