



The Importance of Reading!

Loooooooooong Summer Holidays:

We all are very aware that the summer holidays are creeping nearer and nearer. There might be a lot of mixed feelings with regards to the amount of time children will be at home, how you will keep them busy and entertained and that a great amount of time might be spend in front of various devices. Though devices do have their plus points, we would like to ensure that children are exposed to other beneficial activities as well. We are also conscious of the dangers that some sites and apps have in store for our young people. We are tackling this in many assemblies at school and I also sent out a few web links you can watch with your child in order to keep them safe.

Even though children and some adults might be on holiday, we are also aware that we have many working parents and that there might be limited time available to spend searching for other beneficial activities. I therefore thought to share the following with you all, as this would be truly beneficial for each and every child in school.

Research regarding Reading at Home:

Studies show that reading for pleasure makes a big difference to children's educational performance. Here is how you can get your child off to a great start.

Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures.








In fact, reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background.

What difference could parents/carers make?

You can make a **huge** difference! Parents are the most important educators in a child's life – even more important than their teachers – and it's never too early to start reading together.

Even before they're born, babies learn to recognise their parents' voices. Reading to your baby from birth, even for just a few minutes a day, gives them the comfort of hearing your voice and increases their exposure to language.

Benefits of reading with and to your child include:

-  Enhancing children's literacy and reading skills
-  Improving their overall academic performance
-  Developing a better vocabulary
-  Creating a stronger parent-child bond
-  Improving concentration and discipline
-  Widening children's imagination
-  Promoting healthy brain development and good mental health

Book Chat Activity:

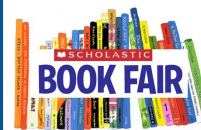
Children need support to develop the habit and love of reading. Alongside reading aloud to your child, families could participate in an activity known as 'Book Chat'.

Book Chat is the informal interaction that accompanies quality reading to and with children, developing children's language and comprehension and nurturing a love of reading. Time and space to hear stories and to read and talk informally about what you're reading makes a difference to children's pleasure in reading. On the following page is a guide to 'Book Chat' produced by The Open University. In addition, you can use the links to watch two short films which model this relaxed interaction through the use of open questions, comments and prompts.

YouTube Videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zNqG-RlwrIM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1O-N2g96yvo>



REMEMBER!!!

We will have our Summer Scholastic Book Fair from the 30th June until the 7th July. Please see the last page of the newsletter for more details.



A Guide to Book Chat

Research indicates that parents who regularly read with their children at home lay solid foundations for language and literacy development. It's a precious time for you both to relax, share your thoughts and feelings, have fun and chat together. Whilst sharing books, your child has your undivided attention, and the conversation, connection and enjoyment they experience is invaluable.

To promote children's pleasure in reading and foster the habit, we need to read **to** children and **with** them and to **talk** to them about books. These conversations are crucial as they help children to engage and think deeply.

There are several ways to prompt book chat, these are our Top Tips.

Watch and listen carefully to follow their interests

Observe and respond: Pay attention to what captures your child's attention and build on their interests, for example, 'Oh, you've spotted the...!'

Leave pauses: So they can look closely and think, this will lead to comments on the pictures or questions. Respond to their lead and let the book chat flow.

Invite your child to get involved

Pose questions: Open questions encourage thinking and discussion, such as, 'How do you think the boy is feeling?'. Try to avoid closed questions, such as 'What colour is that?'; these have a single answer and don't keep the conversation going.

Draw attention to illustrations: Encourage your child to notice details in the pictures and think what they might mean, for example, 'Look! What's that hiding, what do you think it might be?'

Wonder and connect to your lives

Ponder and wonder: Encourage your child to think about what might happen, using phrases such as, 'I wonder if/ whether /who/ why/ what ...'.

Make personal connections: Picture storybooks not only allow children to empathise with the experiences of fictional characters but enable them to make sense of events in their own lives. Talk about connections, for example, 'That reminds me of when...?'

Share your emotional responses!

Comment on your feelings: By sharing your emotional response to a character or something that's happened you encourage your child to do the same, helping them engage and learn to express their emotions.

Keep it light and enjoyable!

Your combined pleasure counts: Bring the story to life with facial expression, actions and sounds, encouraging your child to join in! Do offer information to help with unfamiliar words, such as 'That's the hencoop, it's where the hens live', but keep the focus on fun.

Uniform Survey:

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so, so much for completing last week's survey and other communications. I will let you all know by Friday 23rd June what the majority of parents want for our school with regards to our uniform. It was fantastic to get feedback as this will help us moving forward.

Through a few valuable conversations with parents I think that it will also be great to hear your opinion with regards to the colour of our trousers, skirts, shorts and pinafores. There was a great majority that also mentioned during conversations that the school's traditional colour for these were navy blue, and this stood out from other school's uniforms. Other parents mentioned that they have some grey uniforms and that they wanted to use these as potential 'hand me downs'.

As I have said before, I am really happy to have calm conversations about all things uniform but I want to hear what the majority of the parents prefer. If you do have more than one child in school and planned to reuse uniforms for the younger siblings, please also let me know, so we can talk about this.

If there are changes, I will of course take this to the next governors meeting to discuss your preferences, update the uniform policy if needed, and also put in place a transition period parents feel most comfortable with (phasing out potential items as per decision by parents/ carers).

We will unfortunately not be able to make everyone happy, but surely aim to do this for the majority of our parents and carers (and most of all pupils!).

FYI — The rest of the uniform will stay exactly as it is.

<https://forms.office.com/e/xbrpdKczLy>



Important Dates and Events:


Just a friendly reminder...

- **Monday 19th June—Whole Class Photos**
- **Tuesday 27th June—Sports Day (Pupils come to school in P.E kits)**
- **Wednesday 28th June—Year 6 visiting 'Go Ape'**
- **Friday 30th June—Friday 7th July—Scholastic Book Fair:**
 - * Friday 30th—15:30—16:00 in the hall
 - * Monday 3rd July—08:15-08:45 in the hall
 - * Monday 3rd July—15:30-16:00 in the hall
 - * Tuesday 4th July—08:15-08:45 in the hall
 - * Tuesday 4th July—15:30-16:00 in the hall
 - * Wednesday 5th July—08:15-08:45 in the hall
 - * Wednesday 5th July—15:30-16:00 in the hall
 - * Thursday 6th July—08:15-08:45 in the hall
 - * Thursday 6th July—15:30-16:00 in the hall
 - * Friday 7th July—08:15-08:45 in the hall
- **Friday 7th July —Year 2 School Sleep Over (Letter with details to follow)**
- **Thursday 13th July @ 14:30—Mrs. Lunn's Farewell Assembly (all parents welcome)**
- **Pirates of the Curry Bean Summer Performances:**
 - 19th July—13:30 & 19:00
 - 20th July—19:00
- **Friday 21st July—Year 6 Leavers Assembly @ 09:30 in the hall**
- **Friday 21st July—Last Day of Summer Term 2**



Class: 98.50%

Class: 98.53%

Class: 97.83%

Attendance Winners!

Class 2

Stars of the Week!



Congratulations to our amazing 'Stars of the Week'!!! We are so incredibly proud of all your efforts, tenacity and achievements!