

Reading

Information

Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6)

Dear Parents/ Carers

At Huyton with Roby C.E. Primary School we aim to foster a love of reading and ensure your child learns to read well. Numerous research projects have found that the more a child reads the better reader they will be. As quoted in the Independent:

**'*Reading is like swimming. Getting a 10 metre swimming certificate is not the end of your swimming career. It is the beginning. Once you can propel yourself forward, you can build up stamina and enjoy the water. You could swim the Channel or participate in the Olympics. But not if you hardly ever go in the water!'***

To become a good reader, children need to read regularly. Any reading is a positive experience, especially when it is exciting and has purpose. Your child will receive a scheme and library book from school and the local library is also a good resource for you to use with your child. You can model good reading to your child by talking about what and why you read yourself, so that they can appreciate reading as a lifelong skill, as well as taking it in turns to read a sentence, page or paragraph.

Having the opportunity to re-read known, familiar books is important for the development of fluency which is a critical component of excellent reading.

Reading a familiar book allows your child to practise reading with expression, at a conversational pace and with enjoyment. Reading fluently and smoothly is essential as it makes the meaning of the text much clearer and this helps children understand what they are reading. Children enjoy frequently returning to their favourite books and benefit greatly from re-reading a book.

There are many genres of reading that the children will be exposed to. These include: fiction, information books, poetry, plays, autobiographies, biographies, classic novels, mysteries, short stories and fables.

Children in Key Stage 2 will continue their reading journey through both individual reading at home and in a small group guided reading session during literacy lessons. We do not expect that all children will change their books weekly as this will depend upon the level of the book and its length. We do however expect every child to regularly read at home. If your child needs to change their book it is their responsibility to bring it to school and inform the teacher or teaching assistant so they are given the opportunity to change it that day.

**Reading Challenge!**

We are not using reading record books in year 4, 5 or 6 anymore. When your child has reached the lime band and can read confidently at this level in year 3 they will not have a reading record book. They are being replaced by a ‘Reading Challenge book mark.’ When your child has read 1 book they will receive a sticker on their book mark. When they have read 3 books, they will receive a special sticker and 10 smilies!

Every half term, your child’s teacher will choose a member of the class to be the reading champion. They will be awarded with a special prize and their success will be celebrated on the Star Reader display.

Your child will read with the class teacher/teaching assistant once a week through a guided reading lesson within the literacy lesson. They will not read on a 1:1 basis as in the infants.

If you would like more information about your child’s class system for changing books please do not hesitate to come in and speak to us.

If the class teacher identifies that more frequent practise in school would be useful, or your child is on a reading intervention programme, you will be informed and staff will liaise closely with you.

All children will go to the school library regularly to gain library experience and to choose a book to take home and share with you.

**Reading Logs**

Every child has an individual reading log which is displayed in their classroom.

The reading log lists many genres (mystery, folktale, fable, informational, legend, fairy tale, myth, fantasy, poetry, historical fiction, biography, autobiography, science fiction and other).

When your child has read a book covering one of the genres they will mark it on their reading log.

We are aiming to encourage our children to read a variety of books. When they have covered 5 genres they will receive 10 smilies.

**Home Reading**

Below are a few suggestions for ways in which you can support your child's reading development at home:

 Talk about the pictures and discuss what they notice and how this relates to the text. There are amazing picture books for all ages.

 Encourage your child to listen to themselves reading and monitor how accurate it sounds and whether it makes sense.

 Share a story by reading alternate lines, paragraphs or pages with your child. This modelling is vital to their development.

 Draw your child’s attention to features of the text such as paragraphs, chapters and punctuation marks.

 Practise reading and spelling some words that appear in the text. You can do this through simple games, such as making words with magnetic letters or challenging them to create as many words as they can from another word, i.e. “How many words can you make from elephant?”

 Check your child understands the meaning of new words. We are aware that sometimes young readers read quite complex words easily but without understanding their meaning.

 Discuss any exciting words that the author has used and why this helps to make the text more interesting.

 Encourage your child’s to attempt to work out any tricky or unknown words and support them in using strategies such as self-correction

 Ask your child if they can predict what the book will be about as they look at the cover and title. As they read, ask them if they can predict what might happen next.

 When you have completed a book ask your child what they have enjoyed about the text and share your own views.

We hope you will find this information helpful. Please do not hesitate to ask if you have any queries.

**HAPPY READING!**