

Promoting the Love of Reading

We are passionate about reading at Abbey Lane Primary School. We believe that reading is a passport to the world and therefore every child deserves the chance to become a reader. We want children to love reading as much as we do; reading for pleasure is prioritised and at the heart of our curriculum. Time is organised to support all children to become confident, keen and capable readers so that they are able to access the entire curriculum.

Promoting reading in our Early Years

A love for reading, starts with our youngest children, where the children are involved in book talk and read language rich books, which sparks their imagination. From an early age, children have the opportunity to dress up, make food in the mud kitchen for the tiger and role play the story that they have read.

Reading for pleasure

Almost all books within our school have been carefully selected to ensure children are exposed to a range of high-quality texts that match their age and interests; we encourage children to browse literature and build preferences.

Reading Aloud

Reading aloud to children allows us to widen knowledge of texts and authors, build stamina for listening and explore challenging vocabulary and themes. 'Story time' in class is a wonderful chance for the teacher to unlock children's imaginations and demonstrate all the reading skills that we work so hard to teach throughout the week.

Book Corners

Our book corners, have been created to inspire and promote a love of reading. All classrooms have a creative reading area filled with age appropriate books. Alongside some of children's favourites year after year, children also have access to a range of reads from 'Books for Topics', which are recommended for their age group. The theme of Reading is recognisable throughout school: from the displays within the library area, to the Roald Dahl themed staircase welcoming the Y2 and Y3 pupils, to the Harry Potter entrance hall and staircase in the Y4, 5 and 6 building. Reading is everywhere!

The School Library

The school library is open daily which allows our children and families to visit as frequently as they wish. Our librarian – alongside our Reading Ambassadors - assists children with their book selections, ensuring always that they match their Accelerated Reader range as well as their general interests. We encourage children to review books that they have particularly loved reading and these are displayed in the library. Mini-libraries exist throughout the school with creative book corners and purposely designed dens. Books in these areas are selected from a range of reading spines which has allowed us to ensure books are both inspirational and age-appropriate.

We have a special relationship with Woodseats Library who support the school in our drive to promote and improve the love of reading.

Reading at home

Families play a crucial role in developing and improving their child's reading ability. Children who read daily outside of school are five times as likely to read above the expected level for their age compared to children who never read outside of class (23% vs. 4.9% Oxford Primary). Children will bring home a book every night which may fulfil any of the following.

- Phonically decodable books: these are reading books that match their phonics and the direct teaching at school
- Books to share: In KS1, children will also take home a 'book to share'. This book may be outside of their reading ability and/or not phonically decodable but are still lovely books to enjoy. It is likely that families will read these books to their children or, if possible, take turns to read with the child selecting words that they are comfortable with.
- Book Banded books are taken home for all other children. Children select books within their range of proximal development.
- Reading for Pleasure book: In KS2, alongside their book banded book the children can take a book from the class library to enjoy both in school and at home.

10 Read Challenge– A Reading Quest

We offer incentives throughout the year to read at home as, ultimately, we want children to want to read more. These start in the FS2 and continue through to Year 6. Children are entered into a draw every time they read 10 times at home. Each half term children who have read 10 times are entered into a raffle for a £5 Book Voucher.