

16 September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Reading Expectations

Reading is an essential part of school life. Through reading, pupils have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. Reading also enables pupils both to acquire knowledge and to build on what they already know. The National Curriculum states that all the skills of language are essential to participating fully as a member of society; pupils who do not learn to read fluently and confidently are at a disadvantage.

In our academy, we teach daily reading lessons to develop fluency and comprehension skills, but also deepen this learning through cross-curricular links in other subjects. We have 15 minutes per day, which is dedicated to story time to share our class books and help to develop our children's love of reading.

Throughout the year, we have planned, reading for pleasure sessions and activities set by our Reading Ambassadors. We also have reading huts on both of our playgrounds and a number of inviting book areas in school. Alongside this, our book donation point in school offers the chance for any child to take a book home to borrow or keep. Our aim is to promote and raise the profile of reading for pleasure, as well as highlighting the importance of reading: without sound reading skills, other areas of the curriculum can become inaccessible.

At home, the expectation is that pupils read their home reading book at least **three times a week** for at least 10 minutes each time. This must be **signed in their planners (reading record in Reception) by an adult**. Planners will be checked in school and where these indicate that a child has read at least 3 times during the week, they will receive a raffle ticket for being a responsible learner. They will receive two raffle tickets if they have read more than 3 times in a week.

We can support children who find it consistently difficult to read at home by providing time within the school day for them to read, therefore it is essential that planners are in school every day.

The children will then be entered into a draw to receive special story time with a drink and snack in one of our new reading areas (one child from each class will be drawn every half term).

For any child on RWI, they will receive the book they have read that week, a book bag book and a reading for pleasure book to read and enjoy at home. All other children will receive an AR book, which is within their reading range and have the opportunity to take additional books home, if they wish.

Many children like to borrow books read in our assemblies, from our School Library Service and our displays. We ask that reading books are returned to school, so other children can take them home to read and enjoy.

Together, we can develop the habit of reading for both information and pleasure with our pupils. Reading opens so many doors to future studies and careers. As a trust, our vision is to raise the standards of reading to ultimately transform the life chances available to our pupils. We look forward to your cooperation and thank you for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely

Miss Park
English Lead

