

Literacy News



February 2010



Bedtime Reading

Following the phenomenal success of last year's bedtime reading event to celebrate World Book Day we are repeating the event this year with a few minor changes.

The event will take place on Thursday 4th March from 5-6.30pm. Families are invited to return to school anytime from 5pm wearing their pyjamas, bringing their blankets and snuggle up to listen to some lovely bedtime stories.

As you are aware, the government recommend that children hear 5 stories every day. Although we do our best in school we do find it hard to keep to this target, so we really encourage you to reading to your child and bedtime is one of the perfect times to curl up with a nice story.

Last year the event took place in the hall, but we were taken by surprise by the number of people who joined us, meaning the hall was just too



crowded. This year we are going to clear the teaching areas so that everyone attending can spread out and really enjoy the books being read. A range of books will be available for you to read or you are welcome to bring some of your own.

Millies are providing us with some cookies to share and we will also have milk available for that true bedtime experience!!

The event is free to attend but we would encourage you to make a donation of 40p for a cup of milk and a cookie, all money raised will go towards buying some new books for school.

We had so many positive comments following last year's event and we hope that as many of you as possible will join us this year.

World Book Day

As always, the children will receive a £1 book voucher next Thursday to celebrate World Book Day. The voucher can be used as part payment towards any book from any UK bookstore or towards a purchase from the forthcoming book fair. There are also 11 special £1 books which will be available from book shops.

On World Book Day and for a month afterwards school will have access to live video broadcasts of the authors reading the 11 specially commissioned £1 books so why not ask your child which ones they enjoyed listening to?

Book Fair

Friday 12th March until Wednesday 17th March

8.30am-9am and 3pm-3.30pm

In the Activity Room

Please come along with your family.

Once again we are pleased to be holding a "Travelling Books" Book Fair starting on Friday.

School earns commission on all books purchased at the fair. This often amounts to over £100 of free books, so please come and support the school and buy some new books for your home at the same time.

Remember you can spend your £1 World Book

Day Token at the fair.

We are always looking for help from parents to run the fair. It is difficult for school staff to be on hand for the whole session because they have to see their children into and out of their classes. If you are able to help please contact the office and they will gladly sign you up for a slot!

Thursday 4th March

Reading at Home

We continue to encourage you to listen to your child read at home, as well as reading to them.

Remember, reading at home should be an enjoyable experience for you and your child. Just because your child has started to learn to read you should not stop reading stories to them. Although your child has started to learn to read it is still very important to read to them.

We hope that the new books in the reading boxes are more enjoyable for both you and your children and we would encourage you to share them with your child rather than expecting them to read the whole text.

Children in all year groups have access to a range of books that they can bring home. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are asked to take a book from a specific colour band. These bands are specifically matched by a member of staff in school to suit the reading ability of your child. This banding is reviewed at least once per half term and where staff feel it is appropriate your child may be allowed to choose a book from a different colour band.

Please do not worry if your child does not change their colour band every time that an assessment is made. All children's reading develops at a different pace and staff will have informed you if they are concerned about your child's progress and you will know how to support their reading at home.

We would ask that you do not change the colour band your child is reading without speaking with the

class teacher.

Reading is not just about being able to read all the words in a book; it is far more than that. In the early stages of learning to read we are encouraging the children to sound out (blend) new words, also to use the picture clues, miss out the new word and read to the end of the sentence to see if

that can help them. But, as they become more confident readers, they must learn to talk about what they have read, make predictions about what they think will happen next, discuss the characters and describe their likes and dislikes about a story. They should also be able to read with expression, perhaps using different voices for dif-

ferent characters and intonation, giving feeling and changing the tone of their voice depending on what is happening.

So, just because your child can read a book from cover to cover they may not be ready to move to the next level.

If you think that your child is ready to move to the next level please speak to their teacher.

Please remember, learning to read is not a race. We are aiming to develop a love of reading and books and enjoyment is one of our priorities. Your child can read all sorts of other books at home to supplement the ones they bring home from school if you feel they are ready for an increased challenge.



Scholastic Book Club

We are continuing to send home the Scholastic Book Club leaflets. These leaflets come into school each half term. The next one will come very soon and you can use your £1 World Book Day token towards any purchase.

We really appreciate you making purchases through the book club. Many of the titles are offered at a discounted price and, as with the book fair, school earns commission on all purchases made. This year alone we have earned over £100 in commission from the book club.

We use the commission earned to purchase books to add to our library or to be used during lessons linked to our topics.





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**Tomorrow's Success
Begins Today**

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