

Monday, 19th February

Dear Parents/Carers,

World Book Day

As part of the school's continued drive to promote a love of reading, we will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday, 8th March. On this day, like we did last year, children are encouraged to come dressed as something/ someone they would find in a book; this could be either a fiction or non-fiction book. Should they choose to come dressed as someone from non-fiction, this could be an astronaut, sportsperson, scientist, chef, animal, etc.

In school, the children will be exploring a non-fiction book, and producing work based on this in the quest to raise the profile of these text types, and for us to show that we celebrate these books as much as fiction books.

Each year group will be focusing on a different book that is linked to an area of interest:

Year 3 - Egyptology

Year 4 - Atlas of Adventures

Year 5 - The Bluest of Blues

Year 6 - 50 National Parks of the USA.

For children, reading non-fiction texts is a vital part of the reading diet as it allows them to follow their interests and develop knowledge of a subject that they are interested in; they also broaden horizons and help children make sense of the world.

The main benefits of reading non-fiction are outlined below:

1. It can help children find their identity as a reader, allowing them to build and form their own opinions.
2. It will greatly improve their vocabulary, allowing improved communication.
3. It develops different reading skills; for example, children will be accessing a glossary for a deeper understanding of the words.
4. It can stimulate a love of wider reading as children start to vary their reading material.
5. Aspirations can be raised if they are reading about inspirational individuals.

Sharing non-fiction books with your child can be a valuable experience, especially as they love nothing more than sharing some of the weird and wonderful facts that they find out - they can really capture their curiosity.

Reading everyday has numerous benefits in terms of vocabulary acquisition:



A student who reads for **20 minutes a day** will be exposed to **1.8 million** words per year.



A student who reads for **5 minutes a day** will be exposed to **282,000** words per year.



A student who reads for **1 minute a day** will be exposed to **8,000** words per year.

On **Friday, 8th March**, we will be holding a prize draw for those children who have read at least ten books from their year group's reading spine. After completing a reading book, children should be ticking that book off on their sheet, showing that they have read it. Class teachers will be updating reading records over the next couple of weeks.

Reading Parent Event

We will be holding a reading workshop for parents and carers; this will be an opportunity to see how reading is taught in school and to understand the building blocks to good comprehension. Your child is welcome to attend with you as there will be time to engage with a learning activity that your child could encounter in lessons. Please complete the Google Form to confirm attendance.

[Reading workshop sign-up form](#)

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs N. Elliott

Assistant Headteacher/English Co-ordinator