

Abbey Gates Reading Newsletter

Autumn 2023

Welcome to the first edition.

Welcome to the first edition of our reading newsletter. Within this newsletter, you will find out about our reading initiatives and how you can support your child's reading journey at home.

Our 2023-24 Reading Ambassadors

Our reading ambassadors will be involved with helping all children at Abbey Gates to love reading. We can't wait to hear all of their wonderful ideas.

They are...

Foundation 2 - Maddy

Year 1 - Gabi

Year 2 - Hannah

Year 3 - Harry

Year 4 - Willow

Year 5 - Xavi

Year 6 - Freya

Congratulations to the children who completed the summer reading challenge. It was wonderful to see so many of you sharing your achievement during our reading assembly.

We would love to invite parents, carers and grandparents to join our 'Parent/Carer Reading Team'. If you are able to spare a few hours a week to listen to some of our children read, please let your child's teacher know. Volunteers will then be allocated a class to work with. Thank you in advance for your support!

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Mystery Reader

Could you be a Mystery Reader in school? At Abbey Gates Primary School, we want to show our pupils that everyone is a reader and demonstrate the pleasure of reading aloud. What better way to show this than appearing in your child's class as a surprise at the end of the day to share a story with the children! Speak to your child's class teacher if you are interested.

The Book Swap Shop

The book swap shop is located next to the main reception and can be used at your convenience, either before or after school, to donate and take books to read for pleasure at home.

Ravenshead Library

All children in school will be visiting Ravenshead Library this term. Your child's class teacher will let you know when this will be happening. If you are able to join us to walk to the library, we would really appreciate it! Please speak to your child's teacher about this.

Phonics Information Meetings

Our Phonics information meetings are taking place on Tuesday 26th September at 3:30 - 4pm for children in Foundation and Year 1. They will be in your child's classroom. We hope to see you there.

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Supporting your child with reading at home

Talking about books, sharing stories together and pointing out labels and signs are all great ways to encourage children to want to learn to read.

It is also really important to listen to your child read the books which have been allocated by their teacher on a regular basis. Please aim to listen to your child read at least three times per week and record this in your child's reading diary. We are aiming for children to read books with increasing fluency and at least 90% accuracy.

Phonics

In Foundation 2 and Year 1, children are using their increasing phonics knowledge to decode the graphemes in words to read them. Children in these classes will bring home sound mats which include the graphemes which they are currently learning in their phonics lessons. It is useful to refer to these as often as possible, to build up their instant recall of digraphs and trigraphs. Equally, it can be helpful to use a sound mat when listening to your child read their phonics book. Pointing out the grapheme which they are reading on a sound mat can help them to recall the phoneme and read the word.

VIPERS

Children in Year 2 and Key Stage 2 are asked 'VIPERS' questions to support their developing comprehension skills. Useful question stems can be found on these year group's class pages. Please refer to these and use them when listening to your child read at home.

Thank you!

Thank you for your ongoing support. If you have any questions regarding your child's reading journey, please speak to their class teacher who will be happy to help.

Miss Orchard,
Early Reading Lead.