



Frances Olive Anderson C of E Primary School



*'Being Different, Belonging Together.'*

Thank you for encouraging your children to and supporting them in participating in our World Book Day celebrations.

You have sent in some great pictures of your children's favourite places to read. We are keen to further raise the profile and love of reading for all of our pupils. Being a confident and successful reader opens so many avenues for our children.

*"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."*

— **Dr. Seuss, I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!**

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we ran a competition to reward those pupils who are reading at home with their grown up and to encourage the grown up to initial when this has happened. This is so we know how familiar the child is with the book, their fluency and understanding before we change the book as well as what else they are reading or have had read to them at home. There is a huge amount of evidence available which shows the positive impact that sharing time with your child with a book has; from a feeling of wellbeing, belonging, having that special quiet time together to improved achievement in reading, which clearly impacts on all other subjects and success in examinations at secondary school. This is equally important across all age groups but will be quite different depending on the age of your child/children. The collation of the charts which staff completed from the children's reading records show that this clearly is no longer a priority at home; this came as a surprise, we thought it was. We would like to ascertain the reasons why this is and support if possible to ensure that every child is receiving quality time, sharing a book with a grown up or older sibling at least 3 times a week, which is our minimum expectation. In one of the younger classes 2/3 of children had been listened to read less than 4 times in a 5 week period.

We would very much appreciate your honest feedback on this issue and assure you that it is not a criticism but we were certainly not aware of this being so common across school. It may be that there is no acknowledgement in the reading diary to show that a book has been shared.

We are committed to raising the profile of reading in school and have recognised that we do not give the children access to our library as we would like to. Over Easter we are going to re-arrange the rooms and are asking for any finished with, but in reasonable condition, children's books to add to our collection. We are also engaging with the library service for support and resources. Over the next year we hope to develop the library further into a calm, inviting and working environment which all of the children can access more readily.

We look forward to hearing your feedback and want to work with you in partnership to improve the reading experience for all of our children and to develop a thirst for books.

Many thanks

Mrs Sarah Woolley

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Name: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ Age of child/ren: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

How school could support: