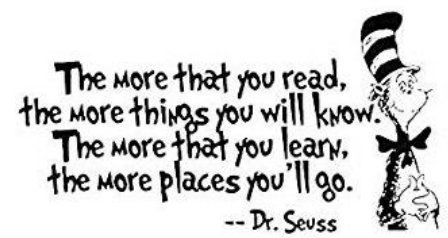


# Let's get Boughton reading!



Dear Parents/ Carers,

In our school, we believe whole-heartedly in the importance of reading. Not only do we aim to teach all of our children the reading skills that enable them to access all areas of the curriculum, but we also highly value the way we nurture our pupils' love of reading, so that they will enjoy books long after they leave primary school.

We are always looking for ways to keep the children motivated to read, and as such, we have continued to make reading a whole school priority during this academic year. In this letter, I would like to share with you some of the excellent work around reading that has been going on at our school and to inform you of our upcoming reading initiatives to encourage reading at home.

## 'Reading for Pleasure' project days

Back at the beginning of Term 3, every class spent the first two days of term completing work based around reading for pleasure. There was a wide range of activities taking place, all stimulated by books, including storytelling and drama; artwork based on story characters; a bear hunt around the school grounds; book-making; story writing; designing comics and pictures books, and much more. The teachers spent some time swapping classes to share stories with children in different year groups, and we finished our project days with a celebration assembly, in recognition of all the excellent work that had been going on. We were thrilled to receive such positive feedback about these two days from many parents and children.

## Reading Recommendations

While the majority of our pupils are currently working their way through the colour-banded reading books at school, it is also very important that we encourage children to choose books that particularly interest them. Your child's class teacher will often be recommending texts that might appeal to them, and the websites below may help your child in selecting reading materials they might enjoy.

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/> (Recommended reading lists, sorted into year groups)

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/book-sorter> (A book sorter to help find books within particular age groups, genres and themes)

As parents, you have an invaluable insight into which books your children enjoy, and we would welcome any suggestions you might have, so that we can recommend these to other children. Please find recommendation slips in the school office. We know that many of the children have lots of books at home, but they are welcome to borrow books from our ever-growing school library, and not forgetting our local public libraries in Boughton, Faversham and Sittingbourne. Reading does not have to be limited to books alone of course; children may wish to read comics, magazines and e-books as well.

### Local library opening times:

	<b>Boughton</b>	<b>Faversham</b>	<b>Sittingbourne</b>
<b>Monday</b>	Closed	9am-6pm	9am-6pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	10am-12pm/ 1pm-4pm	9am-6pm	9am-6pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Closed	9am-6pm	9am-6pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Closed	9am-6pm	9am-8pm
<b>Friday</b>	2pm-4pm	9am-6pm	9am-6pm
<b>Saturday</b>	9am-12pm	9am-5pm	9am-5pm

### 'Extreme Reading' homework challenge

For our February half term homework, we would like every child to take part in a reading challenge: to have a photograph taken of them reading in an unusual place. These places can be as weird and wonderful as you'd like, and we would love to create a display of the interesting places the children have found in which to read. Please look out for further details about this homework challenge at the end of Term 3.

### 'The BuB Reading Raffle'

Despite the high profile of reading at school, we are aware that not all children would rather pick up a book than a football or an iPad, but we would really like to go some way to changing that! To encourage reading at home, we are setting up an incentive from the start of half term to mid-way through Term 4, in which we are challenging the children to read as many books as possible. Every child will be given a sheet to record the books they have read, which must be signed off by an adult at home. This will be collected in by class teachers on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March**. Children will gain raffle tickets for the number of books they read in this period (e.g. 5 books will equate to one raffle ticket, 10 books for two tickets etc.) and these tickets will be added to a class raffle. One winner will be drawn from each class and will win a £10 voucher for Waterstones. The winners will become our 'reading role models' for Term 4, and will go on a trip to Waterstones to buy a book of their choice. We will then look to repeat this in a similar way in Term 6. Please look out for the reading raffle sheets coming home at the end of Term 3.

### PTFA Book Sale

Following the success of this event last year, the PTFA will be holding a book sale again this term from **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> - Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February** in the hall before and after school. Books will be sold from as little as £1.50 each and, in the hope that every child will have the chance to buy a book, the PTFA will be giving every child a voucher for £1 towards the cost. These vouchers will be issued to each child on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February, the day before the book sale begins and will need to be handed in to the adults running the book sale when buying a book.

### A final thank you...

As with many areas of the children's learning, we know that the links between home and school are vital for supporting children's progress with reading, and for developing their enthusiasm and enjoyment of books. Thank you for your ongoing support with reading at home, for your positive response to our school book sales and for helping us to promote a love of reading here at Boughton.

Miss Holmes  
Literacy Leader