



Dear parents and carers,

At Berkeley Primary School, we aim to spread a love of reading across every year and pupil. The staff are all actively encouraging reading through various methods. Each class has a whole class text that is read to the class daily at 3pm. This provides all children with a book that they can all talk about and discuss as a class. We also promote our teachers to be readers themselves, allowing them to make recommendations to children in the school. In addition to this, we would like there to be maximum parental involvement with reading to achieve our overall aim: a love of reading for everyone, developing a rich culture of vocabulary.

This is how you can help:

- Ensure your child is reading at least 3 times a week for a minimum of ten minutes.
- Sign their reading record each time they read (at least three times), which is a whole school expectation.
- Don't just let them read to themselves as they get 'independent'. There are so many benefits of reading in different ways. You could get them to read aloud to you; get them to read to an older/younger sibling; read to them yourself; try using some funny voices for characters; try reading with different expression, and most importantly, ask them questions about what they are reading.
- Ask them about their class text. Do they like it? Why? Perhaps this might be a style of book or author that they would want to read themselves.
- Talk about reading lots. What were your favourite books as a child? What books did other family members read as children? Why not see if you can find some of those books and read them together?

Apart from helping their education and development in multiple ways, there is a house point and treat day incentive to read at home. Class teachers will check reading records weekly for the minimum three signatures. Three signatures gets a child three house points, but it doesn't stop there! Children can earn up to a maximum of ten house points a week from signatures in their reading record, which is a big boost to winning the house treat day at the end of the term. On top of this, one child with an exceptional reading record will be chosen weekly from each class to enter a golden ticket raffle for the term and will receive a Headteacher's sticker in their reading record. The winner of this raffle will be rewarded a free pass to the house treat day regardless of which house wins. If their house has won the treat day anyway, the golden ticket will carry over to the next treat day. There's a lot to read for!

We hope you will join us in striving to reach our goal and we look forward to hearing all about children's reading in and out of school.

We would love to adorn the school hall and library (Bertie the Bus!) with pictures of children and parents/family members reading in a variety of settings. Please do send in a copy we can keep on display if you want to join in with the spirit of creating a fun, reading culture to help enable children to develop a love of reading and a rich tapestry of language to use in both written and verbal form.

Happy reading!

Mr Chaffey (Reading Ambassador for BPS)

