



Reading



22nd September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Here at Gentleshaw, we are hoping that with your support we can continue developing a powerful reading culture around our school. One in which our students will thrive as keen, independent readers.

Reading is a skill we continue to develop throughout our lives, but starting this process as early as possible has significant benefits for our continued success as readers. This is why, as parents and carers, you play a vital role in supporting your child in becoming a fluent reader who is confidently able to apply their reading skills across all areas of their lives.

The teaching of reading and text comprehension within the classroom is only part of a child's learning, and the value that is given to reading at home is equally important. Research suggests that children who read regularly outside of school perform significantly better in school assessments and so your support at home is essential in ensuring that your child makes the progress they are capable of. You can help your child to achieve their full potential by listening to them read daily, reading regular bedtime stories and by encouraging them to enjoy reading and sharing books together. Reading widely through all of these approaches will help develop your child's vocabulary, which in turn will make them more confident when reading more challenging books.

At Gentleshaw, we want all of our children to achieve their best and we encourage all children to read at least 5 times a week at home. We are asking that this is recorded in their home reading record each day. In school, class teachers will check the records each week to see what the children have read at home and read any comments from parents.



As a school, we are introducing our new 'Reading Bookmarks'. From years 1 to 6, children that read 5 times a week, with parents recording in the home reading diary, will be given a sticker for their reading bookmark each Friday. This will be celebrated during our whole school assembly. At the end of the half term, those children who have read 5x each week, will receive an additional treat.

Your support with reading at home is essential and by working together, we can ensure your child achieves their potential as a reader. If you require any further guidance regarding reading, please ask your child's class teacher.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Miss Martin
Reading Lead

