



Wombwell Park Street Primary School

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Monday 23rd October 2023

EVERY CHILD A READER!

Dear Parent / Carers,

As a part of your child's educational experience at Wombwell Park Street Primary School, we aim to offer all children access to high quality books in school and at home. Over recent years, we have spent significant time and funds overhauling our approach to reading and ensuring the provision available to them is of the highest standard

Back in Summer 2019, school invested heavily into updating the books available for children to take home and read following pupil voice feedback. Children were thrilled to have new books to read and naturally were eager to take these home. Following the Pandemic, we found a lot of these books had been lost after sending books home in 'lock-downs' and 'bubble closures'.

We rehailed our library yet again using pupil voice and up to date research on the best books to 'hook' our children in to reading, again using thousands of pounds to do this! As such our library is excellent and children fully agree that they have lots of brilliant books to read!

With this in mind, we once again write to ask for your cooperation and understanding on the changes we made last year, to ensure that all books are being returned to school after use **and** to encourage reading at home!

Children's book choices are always recorded on a class document on display and books (and diaries) **MUST** be returned daily. Daily checks will be made across all classes to ensure that children have fetched any school-owned books in with them, along with their reading diary. Should a child forget, they themselves will be reminded on the first two occasions. If a book (and diary) is not presented on the third day, communication will be sent to parents/carers asking them to ensure the book and diary is placed in their child's bag for the following day. **Regrettably, to ensure that there continues to be enough provision for other children throughout school, we will not be able to offer your child an alternative book until a school-owned book is returned.** We are sure you would want to instil the skill (and Golden Rule) of 'looking after property' with your child!

It is essential that children are fetching in home readers daily as they are given daily independent reading time and this is a great opportunity for them to delve further into books they are familiar with. Furthermore, staff can listen to children reading these books and will be able to offer further bespoke intervention to develop your child's reading progress further. In short, books and diaries should be brought in **every day** and we ask you to support your child **daily with reading at home too and noting it in their reading diary.**

Our 'Reading Leader' children exercised their right to pupil voice in school last week and asked for a 'D Day' – a 'Diary Day'. They wanted to see how many children in each Team are reading at home.

Wombwell Park Street Primary School is proud to be part of the



Every Child Matters Academy Trust

Children at the heart

The outcomes are below:

Team	Books brought back in	Diaries brought back in	Amount of reads last night...
CW	17	16	5
EO	21	21	15
CH	18	18	5
JF	24	24	18
AC	21	21	9
SG	23	18	7
JD	21	25	9
LF	26	14	11
DB	23	19	8
AF	17	13	3
LL	17	20	12
	228 / 309 73.8% of the school	209 / 309 67.6% of the school	102 / 309 33% of the school

Last year we were seeing practically 100% of classes reading at home on a daily basis, compared to 33% this year!

Reading at home is the best homework your child could ever have! Some of our staff team are parents of reluctant readers ourselves and we work long hours, so we understand the pressure of this on home life. It is tricky to fit things in with work and after school commitments too, we know! **However, please can all parents have a push on this and keep this daily reading up...there is no better gift you can give your child than for them to understand, from us and you, that reading is important and unlocks keys to all aspects of life!** It makes children make progress! It also relaxes them in a period of time when stress and anxiety, following the pandemic, is at an all-time high. We celebrate our readers who read at home daily in each team classroom too, so please support them in experiencing success in school.

Thank you to those parents who manage to find just 5-10 minutes to enjoy reading to or listening to their child read.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for continuing to support us as a school and to ensure that the best quality provision is offered to **ALL** children at **ALL** times.

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Child 'Reading Leaders' will be doing another 'D-Day' in the coming weeks, to compare and hopefully we will see an increase in home readers!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Lawson
Headteacher

Miss C McGinnes
AHT - Early Years and KS1 Literacy Lead