



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

## Blast Off For Reading

As well as being such an important life skill we want reading to become one of life's great pleasures for all of the children.

Various initiatives are in place to encourage the children to read a wide variety of books for pleasure and understanding.

This letter is to explain our Blast Off For Reading initiative.

Each time a child completes a book they complete a review; the 'book' can be any genre of fiction as well as non-fiction books including magazines and manuals (for example a cookery book). When they have accumulated 10 reviews they are rewarded with a special certificate. With each additional 10 reviews the children collect further rewards which are presented in Celebration Assembly. The children will continue to bring home a reading record so that we can maintain a dialogue with you about your child's reading and keep track of what they are reading.

All the children will have a book mark on our reading display in the hall, so that they can watch their progress as they blast into space. We hope you will continue to support us in encouraging your children to read and develop a love for reading.

Reading is a key skill for learning, and just as importantly, we want reading to be one of life's pleasures for our children.

"Reading is the one ability that, once set in motion, has the capacity to feed itself, to grow exponentially, providing a base from which possibilities are infinite."  
Michael Morpurgo

The idea is that the books being shared are not those from our school reading scheme, but books from our library, books you have at home or from other libraries. By reading with your child they will be exposed to a range of stories and rich language they wouldn't necessarily encounter in their independent reading, and which they will be able to use in their own writing. Pupils in reception,

year 1 and year 2 will bring home book review forms too (they are also on the website). Please use the review forms with your child to share what they enjoyed and/or didn't enjoy about the book they have chosen.

Children who are free readers are being encouraged to broaden the range of books they are reading to again expand vocabulary and interests. They too will have a reading book and a library book and can complete their reviews on either. The older children (KS2) will be asked to independently complete book reviews; either at home or in school. We have varying formats for these depending on the class, ability and genre.

Mrs J Barmby  
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