

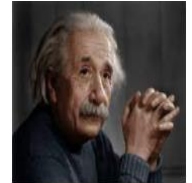
# Reading at Norwood

Autumn 2021



The ability to read is one of the greatest gifts we can give our children at Norwood. One of the most renowned scientists understood the importance of reading.

*Albert Einstein said "If you want your child to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales".*



This fact remains true today. The ability to read allows both children and adults alike, to develop their understanding of the world, to grow in confidence, to be more empathetic, to develop imaginations and to build upon their knowledge. At Norwood we hope that we can heed Albert Einstein's words and become the 'MORE' in your children's reading journey.

Each term, we would like to share a Norwood Reading update with you. This may involve sharing books, offering support and guidance. More information about the Reading Team can be found on the Reading part of the school website. If you would like to be involved in any future reading updates or have any questions that you want answering, please email the Reading team on:

[team-reading@norwoodmail.co.uk](mailto:team-reading@norwoodmail.co.uk)

## Support at home

Sometimes reading at home can become a real battle with our children. Here are some tips about what you can do.

- Set aside a regular time each day for reading. Stick to it. Say it's 'the rule'. If your child refuses to read during this time, use the time to read to them, talk about the pictures, play some word games – make it routine and it becomes easier.
- If it is the books that are the problem, (e.g. maybe your child only likes books with photos rather than cartoon characters) – let the teacher know. We have lots of books in school and we should be able to find something that your child will get interested in.
- If there are too many words on the page, cover some with a bit of paper and just reveal a line/a word at a time to make it easier to tackle.
- If there's a sibling making it difficult to focus on one child – put the TV on in another room for ten minutes and then swap children so that each of them gets a bit of undivided attention.
- Ask them to choose two words on the page that they want you to read instead of them.
- Play 'word hunt' on the page instead of sentence reading (Can you spot the word that says 'fish,' can you spot all the words with the 'ch' sound, can you spot the word which describes the dog?)
- Get the child to use a pointer (lolly stick for example) or a toy (lego man?) to point to each word while they're reading it.
- Let your teacher know if none of this works – we will get there between us!

This year we have created three fabulous library nooks, where the children visit each week and pick a book of their choice.

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The **Library nooks** are called:

**Year R, 1 and 2** - Nick's Nook  
(named after the author Nick Sharratt)

**Year 3 and 4** - Kessler's corner  
(named after the author Liz Kessler)

**Year 5 and 6** - Rosen's Retreat  
(named after the author Michael Rosen)

## Norwood Reading celebration days

Over this year, we will be celebrating different literary days with you through Class Dojo. We would love you to share these days with your children. It does not matter how you do this, but the more we share the joy of reading, the greater our love for the subject will grow. This terms celebrations are:

Autumn Term
September
Roald Dahl Day - 13 <sup>th</sup> September
October
Myths and Legends Day - 11 <sup>th</sup> October
Dictionary Day - 16 <sup>th</sup> October
November
National Author's Day - 1 <sup>st</sup> November
National Non-fiction Day - 4 <sup>th</sup> November
December
Crossword puzzle day 21 <sup>st</sup> December

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## Reading skill - PREDICTIONS

Predicting what will happen next is a huge part of reading. We always encourage our children to consider what might happen next. This is an incredibly important skill because you can't make a sensible prediction if you don't understand what has already happened. Here are some sentence prompts that may help you:

**Why will...? How will...? When will...? Where will...?  
Who will...? What will...?**



The Reading Team asked the children to make predictions based on their whole class texts. Have a look at some of our examples of predictions that the children made.

Tabby McTat by Julia Donaldson

My prediction of the story

I think that the cat will go for a walk

**Y1**

The Witches by Roald Dahl

The Witches by Roald Dahl is one of those books that when you start reading it you can't put it down. The story is about a boy, his grandma and some witches. So far we learnt that a boy and his grandma are staying in a hotel in England at the same time as a group of witches. The main characters are the boy, his grandma and the Grand High Witch. My favorite character is the Grand High Witch, because it would be nice to be in charge of all the witches!

I think that the boy will turn into a mouse and will escape the mouse traps. I predict the witches will call "Get the mouse traps!" I would be shocked if the boy was killed. I wonder if the grandma will save the boy or if the boy will not himself out? If I was the Grand High Witch instead of killing children I would save children. I hope that is happy only because I think he will not be killed and will be turned back into a mouse.

**Y4**

Monday 14th September 2021

To discuss the book and make predictions

To create someone's good thinking

Someone working for a skilled person

out or the book

To finish the book

I predict that this story will be about a girl who stole a magic clock given to her by her father. But later on she has magic she gets her clock into a world of adventures and magic. To finish the story she has to complete a series of tasks. I think this because on the front cover the girl is looking back at something in the distance that could potentially be holding her back from escaping or achieving her goal.

**Y6**

Prediction skills can be used at all times, even with picture books and real art work. Allowing children to question what they see and hear helps develop them further into critical thinkers. This in turn helps build upon their natural curiosity, which leads to more reading. See Albert Einstein was right!

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## Did you know?

10-year-olds who enjoy reading have a reading age 1.3 years higher than their peers who do not enjoy reading, rising to 2.1 years for 12-year-olds and 3.3 years for 14-year-olds (National Literacy Trust, 2018).

Multiple studies prove that reading aloud to children is just as important when they're 11 as it is when they're 4. Children at Norwood tell us they love story-time at school. They love it just as much, if not more, when their parents read to them.



Children who are the most engaged with literacy are three times more likely to have higher levels of mental wellbeing than children who are the least engaged. (National Literacy Trust, 2018)

## Oxford Reading Buddy

We are delighted to tell you that after October half term, Norwood will be launching Oxford Reading Buddy throughout the school. This is a digital reading service to support children's reading development at home as well as at school.



Oxford Reading Buddy contains hundreds of digital books and book-quizzes all matched to each child's reading ability. Children can earn badges for good reading behaviours, be coached in their understanding by their personal 'Reading Buddy', take quizzes and record all the reading they do. Everything is captured so that your child's teacher can see how they're getting on.

Please log in to Oxford Reading Buddy when your child brings home their sign-in card and have a look around. Do encourage your child to use it regularly and discuss what they are reading with them. You might be interested in watching them reading one or two of the Coaching eBooks because Reading Buddy is a good model of how to support and encourage children's comprehension skills as they read.

When your child is taking a quiz, please try to provide a quiet workspace for them, but resist the temptation to help them because their answers will help your child's teacher understand their needs.

If you don't have a tablet or PC at home, the service works on smartphones as well.

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It's important to be aware that Oxford Reading Buddy is a new service and the programme is still working out ways that they can improve their service. Therefore, please be patient as there may be some glitches that you come across when accessing the website and let your child's class teacher know so that they can pass this information on to the Oxford Reading Buddy support team.

For more detailed information, go to this address and choose Parent Support: <https://support.oxfordreadingbuddy.com/> or look at the introductory video at <https://www.oxfordreadingbuddy.com/uk>.

## Southport Library Reading challenge

Every year Southport Library launch a reading challenge over Summer. It is a wonderful opportunity to visit the library and immerse our children in a range of reading materials.

It is great fun and we encourage as many children as possible to take part.

Here are some of our Reading champions for this year, with our Reading Challenge Trophy.

**SUPER READING CHILDREN!**

