



Reading for Pleasure

Whilst reading is such a vital skill to learn and one we strive to teach the children as soon as possible, we cannot emphasize how inspiring children to love reading, is one of the greatest gifts any adult can pass on. At the Cambridge, we aim to inspire children to choose to read and to develop into avid readers who choose to read for their own satisfaction.

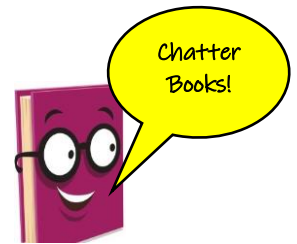
Benefits

Reading for pleasure has been widely researched and some of the benefits are listed below:

- Reading for pleasure has many non-literacy benefits and can increase empathy, improve relationships with others, reduce the symptoms of depression and improve wellbeing throughout life (The Reading Agency 2015).
- Reading for pleasure has social benefits as well and can make people feel more connected to the wider community. Reading increases a person's understanding of their own identity, improves empathy and gives them an insight into the world view of others (The Reading Agency 2015).
- Students with more positive attitudes towards reading are more likely to read at or above the expected level for their age (Clark 2014).
- There is a strong association between the amount of reading for pleasure students say they do and their reading achievement (Twist 2007).
- Students who read for pleasure make significantly more progress in vocabulary, spelling and maths than children who read very little (Sullivan and Brown 2013).

Chatter Books

We enjoy creating a 'buzz' about books at school with events such as our virtual bedtime stories, book buddies and mystery readers and we are now going to focus on helping the children to develop an intrinsic love of reading with a new weekly lesson called 'Chatter Books'. These lessons will begin in the second half of the summer term and they will involve the children deciding what a reader is, their rights as readers (Pennac 1992) and opportunities to read, discuss and recommend the texts they enjoy.



Parents

It is important for your child to read their phonic reading books at home regularly, but it is equally important for them to have the opportunity to share books, be read to and talk about what has been read.

If you would like further information about developing reading for pleasure at home, the following link contains some useful guidance.

https://ukla.org/wp-content/uploads/Reading_for_Pleasure.pdf

We also have access to a free online course for parents:

Raising a Reader: Top Tips for Parents to Foster a Love of Reading

Any staff training from this provider has been excellent so we highly recommend it. This is a short course lasting 45 minutes and there are two dates to choose from:

Thursday 29th April 2021 7pm – 7.45pm

Thursday 20th May 2021 7pm – 7.45pm

To book on the course, please use the link below:

<https://www.dandelionlearning.co.uk/raising-a-reader-top-tips-for-parents-to-foster-a-love-of-reading-free-training/>

