



How is reading promoted at Lower Halstow Primary School?

Library

- Lower Halstow has a designated space for a library which is accessible for all pupils to use.
- It is a welcoming and inviting space created with a high-quality mural of book characters chosen by the pupils as well as lovely seating with cushions, beanbags and rugs
- Texts are organised neatly into colour bands and re-categorised, so children can see books are valued and can easily find books that suit their reading ability or interest.
- The library contains fiction, non-fiction and poetry books.
- A large amount of money was spent on new books in 2019/2020 and the academic year 2020-2021 for children to take for their home reader. The scheme we chose to invest in was Collins Big Cat due to following the 'letters and sounds' phonics scheme.
- Careful spending of the Literacy budget has enabled all pupils have sufficient choice for their reading colour.
- Volunteer readers use the library to read with children.

Resources

- **High quality texts** (linked with Power of Reading and other curriculum areas where appropriate) sourced to engage pupils
- Money spent on the **library and new books**
- Interventions and texts provided for **non-fluent readers**. Non-fluent readers are made a priority to read every day (with the class teacher, teaching assistant or volunteer reader)
- Most classes have a volunteer reader attached to their class.
- **Benchmarking** system for monitoring and assessing reading fluency and reading comprehension introduced
- Teachers and Teaching Assistants are expected to use the results of benchmark assessments regularly to inform their judgement of a child's reading ability.
- **PIRA standardised assessments** are used 3 times a year to maintain high expectation of performance in reading alongside promotion of reading for pleasure and engagement
- Year 6 have access to First News newspapers

Engaging Parents

- Reading Café (due to start in 2020/2021)
- Phonics workshop/ information session for year 1 parents.

- PINGS about reading as a priority -personalised reminders and praise for those reading at home
- Homework – reading 3x week set as a clear expectation by school leaders and reinforced regularly
- Express events linked to class texts and reading show parents how we use texts in school (example: Year 2 making nightlights based on the book ‘The Dark’ by Lemony Snickett)
- A book fair is held in school over the week of parents evening in January. This is very well supported. In January 2020 we raised over £800 and the school received over £400 in rewards from Scholastic. The money has been used to update dictionaries, thesauruses, home reader books, poetry selections and class libraries.
- In 2019 the PFA kindly donated money to each class to update their class libraries with book of the children’s choice.

Book Corners and Displays

- Each class displays the book they are reading in class on the front door of the classroom to promote interest and engagement for all pupils around the school.
- Each classroom has a designated book corner offering a wide range of books for children to read for pleasure. We encourage all children to have at least 10 minutes of reading for pleasure time during the school day. This is known as ‘Terrific Ten’.
- Teachers use the book corner to offer book recommendations and displays linked to an author study.
- Our book corners aim to promote a love of reading by showing it is valued in the classroom and it is fun!

We love to celebrate reading!

- Promoting reading and books every day – whole class English lessons, reading comprehension, terrific ten and protected story time
- Celebrating children as readers – in class rewards
- Reluctant readers have the opportunity to read with our school dog Teddy.
- Holding special events such as World Book Day and Roald Dahl Day
- Running clubs – Library club and Reading Café
- Teachers show their love of texts, authors and reading. A display of favourite teacher reads will be coming soon.
- Reading poetry for performance included in enrichment activities as well as lessons

Book Week 2020

- Children took part in a book quiz house competition

- They enjoyed ERIC (Everyone reads in class) in which everyone in class stopped what they were doing and read - including the teachers. The children commented in assembly at the end of the week that this was one of their favourite activities.
- Book week is often centred on a theme - in 2020 the theme was heroes (links with the Olympics and 75th Anniversary of VE day)
- Children had the opportunity to take part in a book swap
- Children loved dressing up as their favourite book characters

Guided Reading

- In Years 2-6 we follow our reading progression grids to ensure reading objectives are covered in a sequential order.
- Our guided reading sessions are timetables for 20-30 minutes x 5 sessions a week.
- We ensure prior learning and vocabulary is discussed at the beginning of a week followed by a reading objective teaching focus
- We use VIPERS to ensure our children have regular access to comprehension

Monitoring

- Subject leaders conduct a guided reading book look x3 a year
- Pira assessment data is monitored x3 a year with gaps analysed by subject leaders
- Reading is discussed during pupil progress meetings x3 a year.