



How we Promote Reading at Lower Halstow

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 added to annually by the pupils as well as seating with cushions, beanbags and rugs
- Texts are organised 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.
- Careful spending of the English budget has enabled all pupils have sufficient choice for their reading band into KS2 to maintain engagement and accessibility.
- Volunteer readers use the library to read with children.
- Y5/6 Librarians maintain the Library to help instil the message that books have value.

Engaging Parents and the Community

- We engage volunteers from the village and family members to ensure that pupils have a variety of positive role models showing an interest in reading.
- Phonics workshop/ information session for year R & 1 parents, including an opportunity for lesson drop-ins in Y1.
- 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
- Parent 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. The money is used to update dictionaries, thesauruses, home reader books, poetry selections and class libraries.
- The PFA kindly donates money to each class to update their class libraries with book of the children's choice each year.

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
- Holding special events such as World Book Day and Roald Dahl Day
- Running clubs – Library club and Reading Café
- Reading poetry for performance included in enrichment activities as well as lessons
- Book week activities such as ERIC, book swaps, character studies, dressing up.