

Reading for Pleasure at Haydon Abbey School

At Haydon Abbey School, we believe that encouraging reading for pleasure is an integral part of our role as educators. We value and celebrate reading for pleasure in a number of ways here:

School library and other spaces to read

We have a wonderful library, that is well stocked with wonderful texts, both old and new and the children are encouraged to visit and take out books that interest them. Each class has a dedicated library slot once a week, where the class teacher may read aloud their class text, recommend books to children or just provide the children with an opportunity to read quietly a book of their choosing.

Moving forward, we are looking to develop areas around school where children can sit and enjoy a good book during their free time. We hope to develop outdoor libraries and seating areas where the children are to read independently or share books with friends.



Class libraries

All of our classes have their own libraries that are stocked with books appropriate to the ages of the children, but also books that may challenge. This provides the children the opportunity to engage with a variety of current and older texts and going forward, we hope to encourage the children, led by the class reading ambassadors to review the books that they have read, recommending books to each other to help foster that love of reading and encourage discussions around texts in the classroom.

Reading ambassadors

At the beginning of every term, a reading ambassador is voted for from each class. Their role is to work alongside the reading lead to encourage reading for pleasure and develop the love of reading around school. They are also involved in ensuring the class libraries are tidy

and accessible for their peers and helping to encourage their classmates to review and recommend the texts that they are reading.



World Book Day

Every year, we celebrate World Book Day. Over the years we have encouraged to dress up as their favourite book characters, bring in their favourite books to share with their class or come in wearing pyjamas to celebrate getting comfy to enjoy a great story!

Teachers share their favourite stories with different classes, maybe reading within a different key stage and the day is about celebrating reading and our favourite stories and characters.



Book Fairs

Our bookfairs are well received by the children and their families at school. The children in Years 6 and the reading ambassadors are in control of promoting and selling the books, which creates a real buzz around the school for reading.

Class Texts

At Haydon Abbey, we have a reading spine, developed by Pie Corbett, that we use to highlight texts that each year group should be reading across the course of the academic year. This can be flexible, with teachers remaining up to date with new texts. The class text is to be read every day in a dedicated slot and as the year goes on, the texts will become more demanding. Some of the texts will link closely to the topics that are being taught, for

example Year 4 learn about the Stone Age and their class text is 'Stig of the Dump'. The teacher will often read through the text, allowing the children to enjoy the text, but on occasion encourage and demonstrate how to 'think' and 'question' as a reader. This supports the children with their comprehension. The children really enjoy their class text time and make themselves comfortable!

Visiting Authors

We love having authors visit our school and in the last few years have enjoyed meeting Olaf Falafel; author of Blob Fish and Trixie Pickle – Art Avenger and M.G. Leonard; author of Beetle Boy, the Twitchers series and the Adventures on a train series, such as The Highland Falcon Thief.



These visits have truly inspired our children to love reading and writing, with their engaging and entertaining story telling. M.G. Leonard told the children how at school, she wasn't the best at writing, often finding it very difficult and struggling with her spelling. However, she is now winning awards for her fabulous tales.

Mystery Reader

Preschool and Reception both enjoy mystery visitors every Friday. The Mystery Reader is a surprise to the children. They excitedly anticipate who it might be. Parents, carers, grandparents and people from the school community are invited to share a story in a variety of ways including:

- Simply share a picture book that you think the children will enjoy.
- Share traditional tales – this could be tales that are traditional to other countries too.

- Dress in their uniforms and read a story linked to their occupation for example a police officer, post person, fire fighter, nurse etc.
- Read a story linked to their family customs and beliefs. Some people also like to bring in artefacts or traditional clothing that are linked.
- Accessorise as the main character of a story for example if you were reading 'Room on a broom' you may wear a witch's hat.
- Read bilingual stories, celebrating home languages.
- Read a story linked to the time of year.



We have had children from Year 6 and Reading ambassadors reading to the children. Some of our bilingual parents have shared bilingual stories with the children. Many of the Readers dress up or have props to really celebrate the books they are reading.

Parents Reading

The whole school enjoy inviting parents in to their classrooms to read with the children. This is always really well attended and it raises the profile of reading within our school community.

Avondale visitors

The local care home have visited us to read with our Reading Ambassadors. They spoke of their childhoods and the influence that stories and literacy have had on their lives. The children spoke about their favourite books and some of these were classics that the elderly visitors had also enjoyed such as The Famous Five.

Home Reading

We have a home reading incentive.

Early Years and Key Stage One:

Children collect a stamp for reading their book x3

- 10 stamps: They receive a reading bear
- 20 stamps: They receive a book
- 30 Stamps: They receive an invite for a teddy bears picnic with a story teller

Key Stage Two:

The children read x3 to collect a stamp.

Every 10 stamps they receive a star pin badge that represents part of the 'Galaxy'.



	Star
	Moon
	Comet
	Sun
	Mercury
	Venus
	Earth
	Mars
	Jupiter
	Saturn
	Uranus
	Neptune