



Archibald First School
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September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Reading at Archibald – September 2023 onwards

We would like to update you on our reading journey and explain how reading will take place from September 2023 onwards. This includes how staff and parents should use the Reading Diary.

Phonics and Early Reading

In Reception and Year 1, we teach phonics and early reading via the Little Wandle scheme, and this has proven extremely effective.

As of September 2022, we will be using this with children in Years 2 and 3 who continue with their phonics journey. From September 2023, this will be used throughout the whole school to ensure all pupils complete their phonics journey.

Children accessing the Little Wandle scheme will have their reading books assigned at a level at which they can read the book **independently**. Little Wandle reading books will **only** be assigned **virtually**.

Reading

Once children are secure with their knowledge and application of phonics, the children begin to select their own reading books from our colour banded reading system.

Reading for Pleasure

All pupils from Reception to Year 4 are encouraged to choose a book for pleasure to share **with** an adult at home. This may mean that they read the text in parts, or that they listen to a grown-up reading. They can choose this by visiting the school library or the library which has been carefully designed for their year group.

Children in Reception and Year 1 will bring home a physical book to read for pleasure every week. Their class teachers will take them to the Reception and Year 1 library each week.

Children in Years 2-4 have access to the library on a weekly basis over the lunch hour.

Having fun, learning together.

Curious, caring, creative and courageous.

Reading Diaries

The staff in your child's class read with the children on a weekly basis. They record this in their class reading folders. To ensure the staff's time is spent reading with the children as opposed to duplicating records, the staff do not re-record the in-school reading sessions in the Reading Diary.

It continues to be very important that parents/carers use the diary to demonstrate what reading pupils are accessing at home. Older pupils may do this themselves. Staff collate the diaries in to look at home reading and they monitor engagement with the e-library books too.

The e-library phonics, colour banded, free choice, bedtime, school/home library books can ALL be recorded in the reading diary. This helps us to build up a picture of your child as a reader in addition to what we see in school.

Rest assured, if we need to discuss your child's reading with you, we will make contact, or, if you wish to discuss your child's reading, please contact school. See below to learn more about what reading will look like for your child/children:

Reception/Year 1

- Pupils will be read with in small groups twice a week.
- Pupils may be heard additionally to this on a 1:1 basis with a staff member and/or parent reader.
- Reading books will be assigned **virtually** until at least Summer Term of Year 1. Pupils should be able to read this book fluently.
- Children will use the Reception and Year 1 library to select a hard-copy book for pleasure to share **with** an adult at home.
- In Summer term, pupils **may** move onto the hard-copy colour book bands that will be used in Year 2 onwards.

Years 2, 3 and 4

- Pupils will be read with in small groups once a week.
- Pupils may be heard additionally to this on a 1:1 basis with a staff member and/or parent reader.
- Reading books **may** be assigned virtually to support a child in finishing their phonics journey.
- Children are able to access the library to select a book for pleasure to share **with** an adult at home.
- Children will select their own book based on an assigned colour band. Pupils should be able to read this book fluently.

We thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

The Archibald Team