

READING AT ARNETT HILLS JMI

“Read, read and read some more”

READING RECORDS

Please ensure reading records are filled out every time your child reads (whether from a reading scheme book or a free reader text).

Q. If my child reads material that has not come from school, should I record this in the reading record?

A. Yes please. This will reflect that reading has taken place and shows us your child’s reading tastes/interests. This may include articles from magazines and newspapers or items read on a computer.

LIBRARY BOOKS

Your children will have a library card so that when they visit the school library, they can borrow a book of their choice. The card will be scanned, and details saved on the computer.

Q. What happens if we lose a library, scheme or class book?

A. You will be asked to pay £5 towards the cost of replacing the book.

BOOKS HOME

Please remember, **reading is not a race**. Please do not approach the teachers about other children’s reading colours/levels. **Teachers will decide when a child will move on a book band level**. Please feel free to let your child read other materials at home in addition to their school reading book.

Q. How often will my child’s book be changed?

A. Typically, books will be changed twice per week in Reception Class, three times a week in Years 1 and 2. In the junior classes, this may decrease as children move on to become free readers (longer texts). Reading scheme books must be returned before a new one can be issued. Only books and reading records that have been put in the correct place in the classroom (basket, box, table) will be changed.

Please do not get annoyed if a book has not been changed, this does not happen often and there will have been a reason – sometimes there are no staff members available due to absence. In such an instance, please listen to your child read a book that you have from home OR read to your child and write that in their reading record.

READING AT SCHOOL

The children get many opportunities to read: from the shared class texts in English lessons; reading materials used in other curriculum areas such as geography, history, and RE; instructions in science; lyrics in singing assemblies....

Q. How often will my child be heard to read?

A. Frequency varies according to age, levels and needs. Reception have phonics sessions and are heard to read 1 to 1 once a week. Years 1 and 2 are taught phonics every day. Children read during guided reading sessions (rotating groups with an adult throughout the week). These sessions focus on understanding as well as decoding.

Some children have intervention programmes in reading so are heard more frequently. Some children have the experience of reading to the ‘Pet Therapy dog.’ Others read additionally to volunteer adults.

SHARED READING ON FRIDAYS

This takes place on Friday afternoons from **3pm to 3.15pm (Please note Reception Class will start shared reading on September 27th)**

Q. Where should I go to listen to my child read?

A. Enter through the front door. Please do not enter via the external door to your child's classroom (even if you have come via the field). If you have one child, go to his/her classroom where you will need to **sign in**. The class will be reading so **please sit and read peacefully with your child in the room** (unless any of the below applies to you)

Q. I will have a younger sibling with me (a buggy with me) what should I do?

A. Reception Class - If it is a dry day, you can leave your buggies on the grassy area directly outside my window then take your little one with you and go to Reception class via the tall wooden gate next to that area and sign in. Please stay in your child's classroom for the session. At the end, please sign out then go and wait on the playground as usual. If it is a wet day, it will be a bit of a squeeze, but you will have to store your buggy under the Reception class canopy.

A. Years 1 to 6 - If it is a dry day, you can leave your buggies on the grassy area directly outside my window then take your little one with you and go to the main hall via the front door. If it is a wet day, please wheel your buggy into the main hall. Your child will need to come and read to you in the hall as it is difficult having buggies in classrooms – movement is restricted and exits have been impeded.

Please wait for your child in the main hall (there will be a sheet there on which you can sign in). Try to remind your child that you will be coming so that he/she knows to meet you in the hall. We will also try to be on hand to get your child for you.

Q. I would like to listen to my children read together. Where should I go?

A. Please go to your younger child's room, collect him or her, ensuring briefly that the teacher knows. Then collect your older child(ren). Again, we will try to be on hand to help out. Please find a space in the hall to sit and read together.

Q. Can I listen to children (other than my own) read?

A. Although this is a very kind offer, please keep shared reading for your own children as, once again, there has been a lot of confusion as to children's whereabouts in past sessions.

If the main hall looks overcrowded, I shall direct groups to other spaces.

Q. Can I look at my child's work books with him/her?

A. Periodically, teachers will put children's workbooks out for you to share with your child. Please do not take them out from where they are stored.

Q. What should I do at the end of shared reading?

A. Please make sure your child remains in his/her classroom, sign out then go to the playground area and wait as usual for the teachers to bring the classes out. Although this may seem a bit long winded, **it will avoid any uncertainty and confusion.**

Please resist the following (all of which have happened):

- the urge to have a catch up with other parent(s) in the classroom
- catching the teacher for a chat (as I expect them to be working with a child/children)
- using your mobile phone or giving your mobile to your child to use
- standing at the classroom door chatting with another parent
- calling out across the room to another parent

We want shared reading to continue, but it has to be an organised, productive time. Your cooperation in this matter is much appreciated.