



Ecclesfield Primary School

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16th September 2021

Reading Diaries

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reading for pleasure - the kind of reading children and adults choose to do in their own time, for their own purposes is hugely important. It contributes to our world knowledge, imagination and well-being, in addition to developing children's literacy. The will to read influences the skill (and vice versa). As a school we are exploring how we can encourage children to read for pleasure both in school and at home.

With this in mind, we are reintroducing **physical** reading diaries at Ecclesfield Primary! (Please note, this is now instead of the Google Form.) Your child will receive their own reading diary and we would expect them to have it in school with them **every week**. The purpose of the reading diary is for you (or the children) to record what they have read at home and to let their teacher know how well they have read with you at home. When your child reads at home, please make a note in their diary of the date. This means when they come into school they can show their teacher and tick their name on the 'Class reads' chart. Like last year, we will be continuing to celebrate the class who has the most reads by the end of the week. There may even be a prize or two this year!

It may become apparent that your child comes home with the same book that they have had previously. This will be on purpose to encourage the child to read more fluently. This is a really good opportunity for children to practise reading to you aloud using accuracy, expression and intonation. Fluency is a whole school development priority at the moment and enclosed is a link which shows clearly what fluent reading looks like and sounds like.

KS1 [Reading - Working at the Expected Standard - The Day the Crayons Quit - YouTube](#)

KS2 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fU0jRe5cnMw>

We know that as children get older, they will not necessarily read for you every time they read. If this is the case, your child can write in their diaries for themselves when and for how long they have read. If you could still check this and sign it to show your support each week, this would be very much appreciated. Although your child may be fluent with reading, research shows that reading aloud helps practise the skills of fluency, intonation and expression. Ultimately, this helps significantly with the child's



understanding of the text.

As the children move up through the school to Year 6, the hope is that they will begin to use their reading diary very much like a planner which would be typical in secondary school. Therefore, making their own notes on dates to remind themselves of when homework is due or when key events are happening in the school year. By encouraging them to have their reading diary with them in school every day, this is helping support the transition to becoming more independent in readiness for secondary school.

Reading diaries will **not** be used as a form of communication for other notices as teachers will not check them daily. If you would like to pass on a message, please ensure that you ring the office or speak to your child's teacher when you drop your child off or pick them up.

The reading diaries for FS/KS1 will look different to KS2. Here is an example of how the reading diary can be completed.

FS/KS1 Reading Diaries:

Date: 02/09/21	Book and page number: The Gruffalo	Comments: "Joseph read this book independently. He used expression in his voice and said that his favourite part was when the Gruffalo met the mouse." -John Smith
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KS2 Reading Diaries:

Thursday 9th September 2021

'Sarah started to read *The Giant's Necklace* today for 20 minutes. She read fluently and we discussed why the character might feel frustrated. *Ms Small*'

If you have any questions, please just ask your class teacher.

Mrs Oldham and Miss Naylor

The English Team

