# Whitegate Primary School

Autumn 1 2024 Reading Newsletter



## The importance of reading at home with your children

Here at Whitegate, we strongly believe in the power of reading **both with and to** your children at home. It is a key part of their reading journey and one that should happen as regularly as possible—whether your child is in Reception or Year 6... and for as long as they will let you beyond! Please do not think that once a child can read fluently, you need to stop reading to them or with them! This is a wonderful time to be able to read together and develop and foster your child's love of reading.



This visual (from Nagy and Herman's 1987 research) highlights how reading for just 20 minutes a day with your child can have a huge impact on their vocabulary as well as the findings telling us that 'Child A' would be far more likely to score higher in their standardised tests than peers who read far less or do not read at home at all.

Of course, any reading at home is better than none but 20 minutes is a goal we would like children to work towards.

Our expectation is for children in EYFS and KS1 to read at least 4 times a week and children in KS2 are expected to read at least 4 times a week. Please do remember to record all reading in the children's home-school contact book.

#### Mystery Reader



We have been running Mystery Reader for a while now in our EYFS and KS1 classes and it is a wonderful way for parents and carers to be more involved in their child's reading journey. Parents and carers are invited into their child's classroom to read to the whole class. This can be a favourite book of yours or your child's from home. As the name suggests, the arrangement is kept top secret so that it is

a wonderful surprise for the children when it is someone that they know, who walks through the door! If this is something you would like to do, please get in touch with your child's class teacher by writing in their home-school contact book to arrange a time to come in and read.

## Recommended Website: The Reader Teacher

tegate

https://www.thereaderteacher.com/

This is a fantastic website for lots of reviews and recommendations.

## 7 books to read before you're 7



### 11 books to read before you're 11



#### Autumnal Book Recommendations



by Sam Usher

by Nick Butterworth

by Lois Ehlert

by Emily Gravett

Books for Topics is a wonderful website that is filled with lots of seasonal book recommendations. Here are some of their more autumnal titles to have a look at.

Please take a look at the Books for Topics website for many more autumnal (and other) book recommendations as well as more information about the stories above. https:// www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/seasonal-events/autumn-winter/

#### Summer Reading Challenge 2024

Finally we would like to say a huge well done to all of those children who completed the Summer Reading Challenge over the holidays.



