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www.bowerham.co.uk



Headteacher: Mrs Jo Banks

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Dear Parents,

Reading at Bowerham

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We use a wide range of reading schemes to ensure breadth and depth in the early stages of reading. Our schemes include The Oxford Reading Tree, Collins and Heinemann and our online, finely levelled, reading scheme, Bug Club. Bug club has doubled our reading resources within school as well as giving us a variety of up to date texts linked to current predictable interests and activities. The books are constantly being refreshed and provide comprehension quizzes, which the children thoroughly enjoy. These comprehensions support year group expectations, are written at their level creating independence and also supports the adults at home listening to them read.

At Bowerham we will blend this online reading with the hard copies to ensure our children read a wide range of books in a variety of ways whilst building their comprehension, inference and understanding on a variety of platforms.

Reading at Bowerham is a strength, which we constantly review to ensure that we are providing the very best resources to all our children. The world, due to Covid, has changed; it has allowed schools to extend itself beyond paper and books. At Bowerham we see this as positive, allowing children to use screen time, laptops, tablets and kindles for real educational benefit as opposed to gaming time, free time or use of You Tube. This blended approach means that children will get the joy of reading from both books and online.

Reading at Bowerham, whether with books or online is not optional. Regular reading at home is vital for all children of all abilities and ages. It is part of the Bowerham Parents Promise.

Screen time has definitely increased for all our children over the last few years, and although at Bowerham we understand that parents may want to reduce, it this should not be at the expense of your child's reading or education. As they continue on their learning journey the use of the computer increases for educational purposes. High school rely heavily on the use of computers for almost all their homework.

We have noted that some parents are not reading at home on Bug Club, this is having a clear impact on the children's reading ability, fluency, comprehension and inference. There is a notable difference and a gap emerging between the children who regularly read at home on both online and hard copies and those that do not. We cannot emphasise the vital importance of reading regularly at home, please make use of all the available reading schemes that Bowerham provide.

If you are having difficulties with any of our online platforms please do not hesitate to contact school.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Banks & Miss Denison Headteacher Head of Literacy



