



**Armathwaite School**  
**ARMATHWAITE**  
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Dear Parents,

### Book Exchange

Thank you to everyone who came along to our reading evening at the beginning of the month. It was a special evening, as usual, with opportunities to share lots of lovely books. The Scholastic book fair allows school to select some books in return for books sold and this year, as always, we will use this opportunity to fill gaps in our books at school. However, we will also be looking for books that can be read aloud to children at home. Please read on to find out more.

### Books for Home

Reading for pleasure is a fantastic experience for children and adults alike. Books can transport us anywhere, on incredible adventures and allow us to step into someone else's shoes and see things from their point of view. They can provide incredibly interesting information or wonderful poetry.

Reading together at home makes a huge difference to your child's future. As well as spending time together it develops vocabulary and conversation, alongside understanding, awareness and empathy. Research shows that children who read and are read to at home make more progress in school and gain better exam results. They also develop a love of reading.

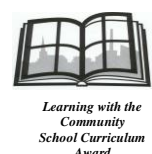
So our staff team have been thinking hard about how we can help more with this.

### Reading Together

All children bring a reading book home every week to read to you. It is appropriate to your child's reading age and progress. We ask younger children to re-read the book, every day if possible, or at least several times during the week. This helps to develop fluency. As children start to read with fluency they read longer books, so we ask that they read a section or chapter a day. We explain in learning logs how you can help and support with this process.

The other way we can support reading is by reading to our children. Research shows that this helps to develop vocabulary and understanding. The books you read to your child are at a harder level than they could read to themselves, so reading to them means you are giving them access to vocabulary and experiences they could not access themselves. At school we read aloud to all children in school. In Year Reception and 1 we devour books every day. In Year 2, 3 and Year 4, 5 and 6 teachers read aloud to children. They discuss the meaning of words and what is happening in the story, predicting what might happen next, or the way something that happens can affect characters and events.

This letter is also available on the website



### Book Exchange

We would like to provide books for your child to borrow so that you can read to them at home. When you read a book that would be too hard for your child to read independently you are introducing them to new and interesting words, expanding and developing their vocabulary and understanding. The conversations you have about stories and information books is so important. It really, really helps all of their learning. Knowing and being able to use words (the more the better) is one of the most important things children can do to be sure to become a confident and successful learner. Basically, the more you read and talk together the better they will do .....and the more they will develop a love of reading.

Each class will have a box of books, including library books. Children can choose from one book at a time, which when they return, they can change for another one. We will have a list for you to tick off when you return a book and then a place to write the next book being borrowed. Your child will be able to do this on their own in the mornings, or you could help them if you are in school.

For this reason we would like children to bring library books back into school on Monday, when we will start the book borrowing scheme.

Happy reading!

### Children in Need

Thank you to everyone for helping us to raise the magnificent total of £328.85 for Children in Need.

### Eden Rock – Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November

Please make sure that you have completed the parent consent form before we set off on Tuesday. Details from Eden Rock below.

“All children must have a parent consent form completed to take part in this experience. This must be completed online at the following link. [https://wallmarket.herokuapp.com/eden-rock/signup/new?child\\_signup=true&unsupervised=false](https://wallmarket.herokuapp.com/eden-rock/signup/new?child_signup=true&unsupervised=false) “

If you need help to complete the form Mrs Wylie or Mrs Dowes will help you to do this in school. Just let us know.

Also, please could you make sure you have sent the contribution of £2 per child to Mrs Dowes.

### Christmas Journey – 27<sup>th</sup> November Wednesday

The Year 1 children will be travelling to Langwathby Methodist Church to take part in the Christmas Journey. They will be going with Mrs Gill and 2 other staff cars. We will leave after lunch and return in time for the end of the day.

### Reception & Year 6 Height & Weight Checks 28<sup>th</sup>

The NHS nurse will come into school to do these checks on Thursday morning. The checks are confidential and the information is sent home at a later date.

Yours sincerely,  
Helen Hepworth

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