

Reading for Pleasure

The Core Collection

There is a Core Collection of texts in place for each year group. This collection is made up of key texts that we believe children should have read and re-read to them, on many occasions, so that they become very familiar with them. The texts have been carefully chosen because of the richness of language of them, the solid structure of rhyme and repetition (EYFS & KS1), the interest and independent reading level (KS1 & KS2), the extent to which they are suitable for reading aloud and can withstand multiple re-readings, and the degree to which they provide our children with mirrors and windows – children should see themselves represented in these texts as well as being able to read about and value the experiences of people whose lives are different to their own.

The texts are regularly reviewed and updated and staff and pupils' opinions are sought and valued in this process.

Reading Aloud

We value the importance of reading aloud to children. We know that when children are read to by a skilled adult, they are able to enjoy texts that are above their own reading level, they are immersed in rich and vibrant language and they can become engrossed in the stories of other people's and character's lives.

Teachers read aloud to children daily in EYFS and KS1, and four times a week in KS2.

Teachers plan these times to suit the needs of their children and the timetable of the day.

Read-aloud texts are chosen from the Core Collection, from the school or classroom library or from the WCR text (KS2), and include stories, poems and non-fiction.

Social Reading Time

Social reading time is planned for all year groups. Pupils may choose to read with a friend or by themselves. Adults read with pupils who need that support. Pupils are encouraged and supported to choose their own books to read, drawing from classroom favourites, library books, SLS non-fiction texts and books from home. Social reading time takes place every week during each class's library session. Teachers in EYFS and KS1 encourage children to use the reading area throughout the day and Book Talk is planned into whole class reading every week in KS2.

Reading Areas

The school library is visited by all classes, every week. In addition, classes and groups of children can use it for additional reading for pleasure sessions, or for topic research. In the library, non-fiction books are organised by subject and sub-categories within each subject. Fiction is organised into picture books and older fiction sections. Poetry is a section on its own, as is New to Our Library. Every two weeks, a class is chosen to take responsibility for the Recommendation Shelves. They choose and recommend the books they think others would like to read.

All pupils are expected to take care of the library and to value its importance.

Every classroom has a reading area. The class team is responsible for ensuring that the reading area is welcoming and that books are easy to choose. Shelves should not be overcrowded; books should be forward facing and every book should be there for a reason. Pupils should also start to take responsibility for the organisation of their class reading area.

Communal reading areas are found in the corridors and intervention bases throughout school. The reading lead regularly updates displays outside the library, in the Y6 connecting corridor and outside the Community Room. Class teams are responsible for updating the displays outside classrooms and in other shared areas. Pupils are strongly encouraged to borrow from these displays. New displays and titles are introduced to the whole school during virtual assemblies, every other week.

Outdoor book sheds are placed on each playground, allowing pupils to read for pleasure during their breaks.

Reading at Home

Whilst learning to decode, pupils take home an exactly matched, phonically decodable book, every week. This is a RWI Book Bag Book which is linked to the text they have been reading in their reading group. As pupils complete RWI and through KS2, they take home a book that they can read by themselves. In addition, pupils are encouraged to take home a book of their choice to read for pleasure. For younger or less confident readers, this will be a book for adults to read to them.

And there's more...

Every year, we hold a whole-school Poetry Week, during which we immerse ourselves in the work of our chosen poet and use their writing as inspiration for creating our own poems! We always start the week with a visit (real or virtual) from our chosen poet and spend the day listening to and enjoying poems read aloud. Throughout the week, we learn and rehearse poems by our chosen poet, or ones we have written ourselves, ready to perform them in a Poetry Jam, by the end of the week. We really enjoy sharing our love of poetry and have left some of our favourite poems in local shops and libraries for others to enjoy!

Another favourite reading celebration is Author Week. So far, we have focussed on books by Nicola Davies, Nadia Shireen, Rachel Bright, David Almond and Aaron Becker. We use the books as inspiration for our own stories and art work and love to share our enjoyment with other classes throughout school.

We know children enjoy dressing up for World Book Day but at Badsley Primary, it is so much more than a dress-up-day! We take the opportunity to invite visitors in to school to read with us, such as local librarians, parents, authors, and members of the community. To ensure that every child benefits from the WBD vouchers, this year we have purchased the books ahead of time and will give them to children at no cost to families.