



Summer Reading

The White Horse Federation

Dear Parents and Carers,

As another fantastic school year comes to an end, we'd like to thank you for your continued support and wish you all a wonderful summer break.

Whilst we hope the holidays are filled with fun, family time and new adventures, we'd also love to encourage every child to keep reading throughout the summer as we continue to celebrate the National Year of Reading. Reading for just a few minutes each day helps children maintain the progress they've made this year, builds their confidence, expands their vocabulary and, most importantly, fosters a lifelong love of books.

Below are some simple ideas to help make reading an enjoyable part of your family's summer.

Make Reading Part of the Adventure

Books can be enjoyed almost anywhere!

Try reading...

- In the garden or at the park.
- At the beach or by the pool.
- On long car, train or plane journeys.
- Before bed after a busy day of exploring.
- During a picnic or while enjoying an ice cream in the sunshine.

Changing where children read can make the experience even more exciting.

Let Your Child Choose

Children are much more likely to read when they can choose what interests them.

Encourage your child to explore:

- Storybooks
- Comics and graphic novels
- Magazines
- Joke books
- Fact books
- Cookbooks
- Sports articles
- Instructions for games or activities

Every type of reading helps develop important skills.

Read Together

Reading together remains one of the best ways to encourage a love of books.

You could:

- Take turns reading a page each.
- Read aloud to your child, regardless of their age.
- Listen to audiobooks together on journeys.
- Encourage older siblings to read with younger brothers or sisters.

Sharing stories creates wonderful memories as well as developing reading skills.

Talk About Books

Reading doesn't stop when the book is closed.

Ask simple questions such as:

- What was your favourite part?
- Which character did you like the most?
- Did anything surprise you?
- Would you recommend this book to a friend?
- If you could change the ending, what would happen?

Talking about books helps children develop their understanding and confidence.

Join the Library

A visit to your local library can become a fantastic summer outing.

Libraries are free to join, offer an enormous range of books for all ages and often run exciting activities during the holidays. Many also take part in the annual Summer Reading Challenge (<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>), giving children extra motivation to keep reading throughout the break.

Make Reading Fun

Reading should always be something children enjoy.

You could:

- Create a cosy reading corner at home.
- Keep a list of all the books your child has read.
- Swap books with friends or family.
- Read a book before watching the film together.
- Celebrate finishing a book with a trip, a picnic or choosing the next story.

Small moments of encouragement can have a lasting impact.

Every page turned, every story shared and every new fact discovered helps children continue to grow as readers.

Whether it's five minutes before bed, a chapter on holiday or a comic in the garden, every bit of reading counts.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year. We wish you and your family a safe, relaxing and enjoyable summer, and we look forward to hearing about all the wonderful books our children have discovered when they return in September.

Happy Reading!

Warm Regards,

The White Horse Federation

