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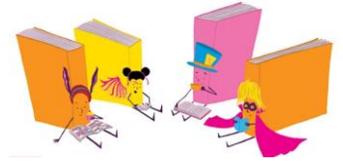


Henbury View First School

Every Child Matters, Every Moment Counts

Headteacher: Mrs S Wall

Assistant Headteacher: Mr D Saunders



Monday 9th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

This year, the government has launched 2026 as the *National Year of Reading*. At Henbury, we have always placed a strong emphasis on developing children's love of reading, and it remains at the heart of everything we do.

Over time, we have introduced a number of initiatives to support this, including investing in new and exciting books for our library, sharing termly recommended reading lists, and ensuring that every classroom is filled with engaging, high-quality texts for daily story time.

We are passionate about the importance of regular reading, as it is the gateway to successful learning across the whole curriculum. When children first learn to read, they focus on recognising sounds and blending them together to read words. This early reading development is taught through daily phonics lessons and practised at home using the phonics books sent home each week.

As children grow older, it is important that they continue to develop their reading accuracy, fluency and stamina when reading longer texts. One of the most effective ways to support this is through regular reading with an adult, both at home and in school. Our next challenge is to work together to help even more children feel motivated and excited to read for pleasure at home.

After half term, we will be introducing a raffle ticket system to encourage regular reading. Each week, teachers will check children's reading records. If your child has read at least three times during the week and this has been recorded in their reading record, they will receive a raffle ticket. At the end of the half term, Mrs Wall will draw raffle tickets from each class, and the winners will be able to choose a prize. To make this extra exciting for the children, we will be asking them to share their prize ideas over the next few weeks.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope the children are excited to take part in this new reading challenge and to work together to develop a lifelong love of reading.

Kind regards,
Laura Dawson

Proud to support
The National Year
of Reading 2026.

**GO
ALL
IN.**