



*“So please, oh PLEASE, we beg, we pray,
Go throw your TV set away,
And in its place you can install,
A lovely bookshelf on the wall.”
(Roald Dahl, ‘Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.’)*

At Newlands Junior School the active encouragement of reading for pleasure is a core part of every child’s entitlement, whatever their background or attainment. Newlands strongly believes that extensive reading and a wide exposure to a range of texts makes a vital contribution to every child’s educational achievement.

“Schools that take the business of reading for pleasure seriously, where teachers read, talk with enthusiasm and recommend books, and where provision for reading is planned carefully, are more likely to succeed with their pupils’ reading.” (Ofsted)

Reading for pleasure at Newlands Junior School aims to establish each child as a lifelong reader based on developing a love of reading. We believe that reading for pleasure impacts on children’s futures and their life chances. According to OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development):

“Finding ways to engage pupils in reading may be one of the most effective ways to leverage social change.”

At Newlands we aim to:

- Develop the concepts of reading for fun, enjoyment and pleasure.
- Develop happy, healthy and curious learners who read confidently and independently.
- Encourage the children to walk through doors to the past, to the future and to other worlds, both real and imagined, by offering a wide choice of texts.

In order to achieve a love of reading, the school will:

- provide access to a wide range of texts/books.

The school ensure that there is a wide range of texts within each classroom. Texts include:

- age-related fiction and non-fiction; magazines; comics; and access to e-books. It also includes the children’s own work. Provision is made to provide texts that accommodate all reading ages within a class.
- a range of materials which promote equality and represent individual characteristics positively and inclusively.

- regularly participate in and promote reading events.

As a school, we regularly take part in different initiatives such as Roald Dahl Day, AA Milne’s birthday, National Poetry Day, National Storytelling week, World Book Day and library reading quests and challenges.

- provide DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) sessions to ensure that children spend regular time reading aloud to adults.

DEAR sessions are about creating a positive reading time to engage the children, so teachers model their enthusiasm for books and reading. DEAR sessions allow every child to read for pleasure.

Teachers do not just listen to children read, but interact with them, ask questions about what has been read or the pictures in the book. This helps improve children's comprehension of the story. Regular DEAR sessions allow a conversation about books to continue over a longer period of time. Excitement can build about what might happen and then conversations take place about what actually happened. Children feel a sense of engagement and genuine interest in their reading as well as develop confidence and motivation to read a wide range of texts.

- actively encourage a love of reading; promote the reading of wide range of books.

Teachers at Newlands regularly read to children. Class novels are read and discussed during whole class Close Reading sessions. Regular discussions about books that are being read in class will help promote different types of books.

Classes will also engage in additional **daily** story-time sessions with a 'non-Close Reading text'. Children can benefit tremendously from being read to. When choosing story-time books to be read aloud, a balance is struck between following children's preferences and inviting them to try new types of books to widen their reading experiences.

*"We shouldn't teach great books, we should teach a great love of reading."
(B.F.Skinner)*

- produce reading displays and reading areas.

Children have access to different books through the book corner in their classroom and a year group non-fiction library in shared areas between classrooms. Each classroom within school has a book corner that focuses on a love of reading and promotion of books. The book corner will provide a central location for reading resources. It will serve as a place where each child can talk and interact with books. It will help each child learn about books and the pleasure of reading and provide opportunities for independent reading. Non-fiction year group libraries contain books from a variety of genres, by a variety of authors and cover a wide range of interests. Children are encouraged to use their library area to stimulate and support their reading and provide curricular extension.

- reward children for reading at home.

Reading is promoted by rewards when children have read regularly. When children have read 25, 50 or 75 times, they receive a certificate, and when they read '100 reads' they will receive a book of their choice. The parents/carers of children who are not reading regularly will be informed and requested to support their child at home.

*"Children are more likely to continue to be readers at home where reading is valued."
(Department for Education, 2012)*

In order to achieve a love of reading, parents and carers will be encourage to:

- Share books with children, taking turns to read, without the TV on.
- Let children see them reading and enjoying reading. This could be a newspaper, magazine, book, or something on the internet.
- Visit the local library. It is free to join. They have great books and lots of different events throughout the year.
- Make sure there are lots of different things to read at home.
- Listen to their child read their reading book, talk to them about it and record it in their reading diary.