



Dear Parents and carers,

We are very excited to be launching our new reading initiative in which we would like to invite you and your child to take part. Reading is a skill for life and reading regularly at home helps in so many aspects of the children's learning. As well as improving the children's fluency and comprehension skills, reading serves to: improve children's spelling; helps them to develop a richer vocabulary; enhances their knowledge of grammar and punctuation and fosters children's imaginations. Most importantly, reading helps children to build a lifelong love of books.

Each child will come home with a booklet of recommended books for their year group. On the lists are approximately 30 books, which we would like to challenge your child to read before the end of this school year. We have broken the challenge up into terms, so your child will have anything from 6-10 books to read each term (depending on how thick/difficult the books are).

Please do not feel like you have to go out and buy the books on the list. We have spoken to the children in assembly and they had some good ideas about what they can do. The children said they had some of the books on the list at home and were willing to share them with their friends in class. Other children suggested that they could go to the library and borrow books from there (libraries will order the books in for you). Other children said they might ask for a book for a birthday. We are trying to create sets of these books in class, for the children to be able to borrow from to read.

Library Visits - the children have all been sent home with forms to join the library. Only fill these forms in if your child is not already a member of the library. If they have a library card already, we will ask your child to bring it into school at different points throughout the year. After October half term, each class will visit the library on a half termly basis. The children will need their forms back in school before we break up for half term. During our visits to the library, the children will be able to listen to stories being read; take out books to read at home and order books from their reading challenge lists.

Twitter and Facebook - if you follow Priory school on social media, you will have noticed us posting photographs of teachers and TAs reading in different places - 'Where Can You Be Caught Reading?' We are trying really hard to promote a love of reading in school so that children want to read for pleasure. We do expect children to be reading for 15 minutes every night - this can be their school reading book or one from their year group list.

We are very excited about this reading challenge and would like to thank you for your anticipated and continued support. Should you have any questions, please pop in and see either myself or your child's class teacher.

Kind regards,

Mrs Grimes