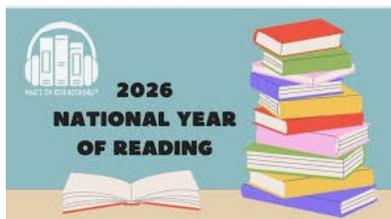


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# The National Year of Reading

## Dear Parents and Carers,

We are thrilled to announce that this year is the **National Year of Reading** – a whole year dedicated to celebrating the joy and magic of books! Reading opens up new worlds, sparks imagination, builds language and confidence, and creates those special shared moments that children treasure forever.

At Harewood Infants School, we are passionate about nurturing a lifelong love of reading. Throughout the year, we will be running a variety of exciting events and activities designed to make reading fun, interactive, and inspiring. These will include storytelling sessions, creative workshops, puppet-making and storytelling activities, book-themed activities, and other special projects. Each activity is carefully planned to engage children, encourage their creativity, and show them the joy and adventure that stories can bring.

We hope these activities will not only help children develop their reading skills but also encourage them to discover the sheer joy of stories – and maybe even share them at home with you, siblings, or friends! Reading together is a wonderful way to connect, have fun, and spark conversations that continue long after the story ends.

We love to see children enjoying their reading at home, and we encourage them to read their school reading books three times a week – don't forget to record it in their reading record. Don't worry – it doesn't need to be for long periods. Short, focused reading sessions are often the most effective, and it's all about quality over quantity. Regular practice helps children gain confidence, improve fluency, and really understand the stories they are reading. To keep their reading progress on track, please make sure your child brings their reading book into school every Friday. This allows us to change their book so they can start the next week with a fresh story. Just a few minutes of reading at home each week can make a huge difference and helps your child develop a lifelong love of reading.

We can't wait to embark on this reading adventure with your children and look forward to sharing many exciting events and experiences with you over the year. Keep an eye out for updates and invitations to our upcoming reading activities!

With warmest wishes,

Harewood Infants Team