



Dear Parents and Carers,

National Storytelling Week

Reading for pleasure is one of the most important gifts we can give to our children and it has never been more important than now when children are shut away from their friends, families and schools. Reading independently, sharing a book or listening to someone read can transport children to other places and help them to forget about their worries and concerns during these very difficult times. Books can be friends that children can turn to when they are feeling lonely and isolated.



Next week is **National Storytelling Week (30th January to 6th February)** which is a great time to make storytelling a priority. It is a good opportunity for you and your children to share stories either through listening or by reading aloud. Here are some ideas for you to try out:

- Create a special time each day to tell stories. Retell your favourite stories or invent new stories with your children.
- Create a den for your children to sit in and read or tell stories to you, a sibling or even a favourite teddy bear.
- Act out a familiar story. You could even make the tea the characters are eating or make your house look like the characters' house.
- Design and make puppets to use when retelling a story.
- Use journey sticks to retell their weekend or evening.



It is also **National Read Aloud Day on 3rd February** and I would encourage you to listen to your children reading out loud on this day and even try to find time to read to them.

Reading during lockdown:

- Your child should be reading every day.
- These reads need to be recorded in your child's partnership book.
- Every time your child reads 20 times, they will qualify for a token as part of our Reading Rocketeers reward system.

- Tokens will be given out and can be spent once we are back in school. We have some amazing prizes!
- Your child must submit a recording of themselves reading out loud via Class Dojo every week.

We would love to see the amazing ways you and your children share stories during this week and photos and videos can be sent in to your class teacher through Dojo.

Happy reading!

Mrs Kay

English Lead