



Ashford Church of England
Primary School

“The more you **read**
the more **things** you know.
The more that you **learn**
the more **places** you'll go.”
-Dr. Seuss

Dear Parents / Carers,

Reading is a vital part of your child's learning and development. It inspires writing, builds general knowledge, supports the learning of Maths and is the key to progress in most other subjects. The National curriculum places a great deal of importance on children developing a love for reading and the ability to talk about what they have read.

As a result of this, we expect children to read for pleasure at home as part of the home learning that is set each week by class teachers. Reading books may be changed daily as long as your child has brought their current book back to school. Please make any relevant comments about their reading (things they struggled with, questions they asked, etc.) in their Reading Record books or Home Learning Diaries. Your observations form an important part of our continuous assessment process and children may even be rewarded in class for evidence of lots of reading at home.

With help from the PTA, we have amassed a wide range of texts and there is something to appeal to every child's taste. This selection is being expanded with new books all the time.

With children in the Infants, we would recommend at least 10 minutes of reading at home per night. In Year 3 and 4, 20 minutes would be an appropriate amount of time, growing to 25 minutes for Years 5 and 6. Children still need to read to an adult, even when they have graduated to being 'free readers'. The act of reading to someone allows children to demonstrate and develop skills that are not necessarily used during silent reading.

In order to give you some ideas for texts that might be good for your children, you will find a list below with some of the top recommended texts for children in different age groups. We hope you find these useful.

Yours sincerely,

The Senior Leadership Team



School Road, Ashford, Middlesex TW15 2BW
Telephone: 01784 253310 Fax: 01784 240381

info@ashford-primary.surrey.sch.uk
www.ashford-primary.surrey.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs C Dyer BA QTS (Hons) NPQH

Recommended Reading List

Ages 0 – 5 years

Each Peach Pear Plum

by Janet & Allan Ahlberg

Puffin

This classic book from author and illustrator team Janet and Allan Ahlberg is a real favourite with families

The Jolly Postman or Other People's Letters

by Janet & Allan Ahlberg

Penguin

Brilliantly designed with lots of little details to spot, this old favourite will be enjoyed time and time again

The Snowman

by Raymond Briggs

Puffin

James builds a snowman in the garden, then wakes up in the night to find that it has come to life.

Gorilla

by Anthony Browne

Walker Books

Hannah's favourite animals in the whole world are gorillas, but her dad is always too busy to take her to the zoo.

Would You Rather?

by John Burningham

Random House

Would you rather drink snail squash or eat mashed worms? Help a witch make stew? Tickle a monkey?

Dear Zoo

by Rod Campbell

Campbell Books

This appealing story, in lift-the-flap, board-book format has been a favourite with toddlers ever since it was first published in 1982.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

by Eric Carle

Puffin

Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* deserves its reputation as a much-loved classic.

I Will Not Ever Never Eat a Tomato

by Lauren Child

Hachette

Charlie tricks his younger sister, Lola - an extremely fussy eater - into eating all her least favourite foods.

Princess Smartypants

by Babette Cole

Penguin

Princess Smartypants does not want to get married. She enjoys being a Ms. But being a rich and pretty princess means that all the princes want her to become their wife.

Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy

by Lynley Dodd

Puffin

This hilarious rhyming story follows Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy, as he sets off for a walk in town

Room on the Broom

by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler

Macmillan Children's Books

From former Children's Laureate Julia Donaldson and longtime collaborator Axel Scheffler comes this much-loved tale about a witch and her gang of friends.

Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes

by Mem Fox & Helen Oxenbury

Walker Books

This charming first book is perfect for new arrivals.

Little Mouse's Big Book of Fears

by Emily Gravett

Pan Macmillan

Little Mouse is scared of most things, from creepy crawlies and loud noises, to getting lost.

Where's Spot?

by Eric Hill

Puffin

This adorable picture book about Spot the dog is the first in the Spot series

Dogger

by Shirley Hughes

Random House

When Dave loses his favourite toy, Dogger, he is desolate.

Lost and Found

by Oliver Jeffers

HarperCollins Children's Books

Once there was a sad, lonely penguin who appeared at the door of a young boy. The boy decided he must be lost, so he set off to find his home.

The Tiger Who Came to Tea

by Judith Kerr

HarperCollins Children's Books

Sophie and her Mummy are having tea in the kitchen when in walks a hungry tiger who asks to stay to tea.

I Want My Hat Back

by Jon Klassen

Walker Books

A bear sets out in search of his hat - he loves his hat and he wants it back

Not now, Bernard

by David McKee

Andersen

The classic tale of Bernard, whose distracted parents fail to notice that their son has been eaten and replaced by a monster.

We're Going on a Bear Hunt

by Michael Rosen & Helen Oxenbury

Walker Books

Follow a father and his family as they go out in search of a bear.

I Want My Potty!

by Tony Ross

Andersen Press

The Little Princess hates nappies, and thinks there must be something better.

Where the Wild Things Are

by Maurice Sendak

Red Fox

First published in 1963, this classic picture book will fascinate both children and adults, evoking the fierce intensity of childhood

The Cat in the Hat

by Dr Seuss

HarperCollins Children's Books

When Sally and her brother are left alone on a rainy day, they think they are in for a dull time - but then the Cat in the Hat appears.

The Elephant and the Bad Baby

by Elfrida Vipont & Raymond Briggs

Puffin

One day, an elephant offers a baby a ride through the town, and the set off on a great adventure.

Ages 6 – 8 years

- **The Enchanted Wood**

by Enid Blyton

Egmont

When Joe, Beth and Frannie move into a new home, they discover a mysterious wood on their very doorstep.

Five on a Treasure Island

by Enid Blyton

Hodder

Meet Enid Blyton's most famous characters - Julian, Dick, Anne, George and of course the ever-loyal Timmy the dog

A Bear Called Paddington

by Michael Bond

HarperCollins Children's Books

Paddington, the brown bear from darkest Peru, is found by the Brown family on Paddington Station with his hat, duffel coat and marmalade sandwiches.

The Milly-Molly-Mandy Storybook

by Joyce Lankester Brisley

Macmillan

Milly-Molly-Mandy lives with her mother, father, uncle, aunt, grandmother and grandfather in a 'nice white cottage with a thatched roof'.

Flat Stanley

by Jeff Brown

Egmont

Stanley Lambchop wakes up one morning to find he is only half an inch thick

Clarice Bean, That's Me

by Lauren Child

Orchard Books

Clarice Bean gives us a snapshot of her life and family in the book that launched a bestselling series.

That Rabbit Belongs to Emily Brown

by Cressida Cowell

Hachette

Emily and her toy rabbit, Stanley, love to go on adventures together.

The BFG

by Roald Dahl

Puffin

The BFG stands for Big Friendly Giant, who unexpectedly spirits a little girl named Sophie out of bed, and into the land of the child-eating giants.

The Story of Babar

by Jean De Brunhoff

Egmont

'In the great forest, a little elephant was born. His name was Babar...'

My Naughty Little Sister

by Dorothy Edwards

Egmont

This affectionate portrait of family life is the story of a naughty three-year-old sister who is obstinate, inquisitive and full of mischief.

Asterix the Gaul

by René Goscinny

Orion

In a tiny corner of Brittany, one small village of indomitable Gauls hold out against the almighty, all-conquering Romans.

Amazing Grace

by Mary Hoffman & Caroline Binch

Frances Lincoln

This classic story clearly communicates an inspiring message that anything is possible

Finn Family Moomintroll

by Tove Jansson

Puffin Books

Moomintroll is cheerful and chubby and lives in the magical Moominvalley with his mother, Moominmamma, his father, Moominpappa and all of their friends.

The Queen's Nose

by Dick King-Smith

Puffin

Harmony's Uncle Ginger sends her on a treasure trail - which ends in finding a 50p piece.

The Sheep-Pig

by Dick King-Smith

Penguin

When Farmer Hogget wins a piglet at the fair, he is amazed that Fly, his sheep-dog, welcomes him as one of her own pups.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid

by Jeff Kinney

Puffin

Greg Heffley is a normal American kid, albeit one with a habit of getting into (and out of) trouble.

Pippi Longstocking

by Astrid Lindgren

Oxford University Press

Follow Pippi Longstocking on her amazing adventures as she moves into Villa Villekulla with a horse, a monkey, and a big suitcase of gold coins.

Winnie-the-Pooh

by A A Milne

Egmont Books

No child's library could be complete without A A Milne's stories about Pooh, Christopher Robin and their friends in the Hundred Acre Wood.

The True Story of the Three Little Pigs

by Jon Scieszka & Lane Smith

Penguin

What really happened to the three little pigs and the big bad wolf? Find out the truth in this hilarious picture book.

Horrid Henry

by Francesca Simon & Tony Ross

Orion Children's Books

Stories about naughty characters have been told for centuries, and Horrid Henry is a modern-day rogue in the tradition of Dennis the Menace and Just William.

The Arrival

by Shaun Tan

Hachette

In this unusual book, we follow a young man as he packs his bags and leaves his family to go and start a new life in another country

Charlotte's Web

by E B White

Puffin

This is the tale of how a little girl named Fern - with the help of a friendly talking spider called Charlotte - saved her pig, Wilbur, from the usual fate of nice fat little pigs.

Little House in the Big Woods

by Laura Ingalls Wilder

Egmont

Inside the little house live the Ingalls family: Ma, Pa, Mary, Laura and baby Carrie.

Mister Magnolia

by Quentin Blake

Random House

Mr Magnolia has many things - but only one boot.

Ages 9 – 11 years

The Wolves of Willoughby Chase

by Joan Aiken

There are wolves outside the walls of Willoughby Chase, but for cousins Bonnie and Sylvia, the real danger lies inside.

Skellig

by David Almond

Hodder Children's Books

Exploring a ramshackle garage with his new-found friend, Mina, Michael discovers a strange, magical creature.

Carrie's War

by Nina Bawden

Puffin

During World War II, Carrie and her younger brother Nick are evacuated to Wales and billeted with the fierce old Mr Evans and his mousy sister, Louise.

Artemis Fowl

by Eoin Colfer

Penguin

Twelve-year-old criminal mastermind Artemis Fowl hatches an ingenious plot to steal all the gold in fairy land.

Millions

by Frank Cottrell Boyce

Pan Macmillan

One night, a bag containing £229,370 falls from the sky and flattens the hermitage. Damian is convinced it is a gift from God.

Matilda

by Roald Dahl and Quentin Blake

Puffin

This modern fairy-tale with a brilliantly inspiring young heroine is one of Roald Dahl's best loved stories.

Flour Babies

by Anne Fine

Penguin

As part of a Child Development project, each boy in Class 4C is given a 'flour baby', a sack of flour which must be looked after for three weeks, ensuring it does not get lost or dirty.

Once

by Morris Gleitzman

Penguin

Morris Gleitzman brings heart and humour to the difficult subject of the Holocaust in this groundbreaking children's book.

The Adventures of Tintin

by Hergé

Egmont

Resourceful junior reporter Tintin embarks on a series of exciting international adventures, accompanied by his faithful dog Snowy, in this favourite series.

Journey to the River Sea

by Eva Ibbotson

Macmillan Children's Books

Orphan Maia is thrilled to learn she is to live with relatives in South America and cannot wait to experience the sights, sounds and smells of the Amazon.

Stig of the Dump

by Clive King

Puffin

Exploring an old chalk pit, Barney meets a strange boy who wears a rabbit skin and speaks in grunts.

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

by C S Lewis

HarperCollins Children's

When Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy - step through a wardrobe door in the strange country house where they are staying, they find themselves in the land of Narnia.

Goodnight Mister Tom

by Michelle Magorian

Puffin

Willie Beech, a lonely and deprived child, is evacuated to a tiny English village just before the Second World War, and finds himself living with reclusive widower Thomas Oakley.

Private Peaceful

by Michael Morpurgo

HarperCollins

Set during World War I, *Private Peaceful* charts eight hours in the life of Tommo, a young soldier at the Front.

A Monster Calls

by Patrick Ness

Walker Books Ltd

Connor's mum has cancer and life is changing. There is the nightmare, then there is school, where people avoid him, or persecute him. And then there is the immense, mythic Monster.

The Borrowers

by Mary Norton

Puffin

The Borrowers are tiny people who live in the secret places of old houses - behind the mantelpiece, inside the harpsichord, under the kitchen clock.

Truckers

by Terry Pratchett

Random House

The first title in the *Bromeliad* trilogy, this is an enchanting fantasy from favourite author Terry Pratchett.

Swallows and Amazons

by Arthur Ransome

Red Fox

It's the summer holidays, and the Walker children are excited to set sail on their boat Swallow and camp on Wild Cat Island.

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone

by J K Rowling

Bloomsbury Children's Books

After the misery of life with his ghastly aunt and uncle, Harry Potter is delighted to have the chance to embark on an exciting new life at the Hogwart's School of Wizardry and Witchcraft.

Holes

by Louis Sachar

Bloomsbury

Stanley Yelnats' family has a history of bad luck, so he is not entirely surprised when a miscarriage of justice sends him to the Camp Green Lake Juvenile Detention Centre

The Little Prince

by Antoine de Saint-Exupery

Egmont

An air pilot makes a forced landing deep in the Sahara Desert. There, he makes a mysterious Little Prince, who tells him a series of wise and enchanting stories.

Ballet Shoes

by Noel Streatfeild

Penguin

First published in the 1930s, this classic story of three very different girls who work hard to master their talents has captivated children's imaginations for decades

The Hobbit

by J R R Tolkien

HarperCollins Children's

This well-loved fantasy story has delighted readers ever since its first publication in 1937.

The Story of Tracy Beaker

by Jacqueline Wilson

Random House

Tracy lives in a children's home but constantly hopes that her absent, glamorous Mum will come and take her away.