

Reading for Pleasure - the Burlington way

At Burlington, we support parents by providing books in a range of ways. Every child can take home a book of their choice from either the classroom reading corner or school library every week.



Start Your Day with a Book

What better way to start the school day than with a book? Children at Burlington are welcome to come into the Small Hall Tuesday to Friday from 8.35am to 8.55am. There are plenty of exciting books to borrow or to take the opportunity to read a school book or library book. We just ask that this is kept as a special time for reading and so mobile phones need to be kept in pockets and chats kept outside!



Story Time and Mystery Readers

The children have story time at the end of every day. The school has a list of high quality books designed for each year group and all the books are available in a special basket for the children to be read and reread over the year. They are also read other books, linked to the current topic or chosen by the children or the teachers. Children are also encouraged to bring their favourite books from home to share at story time.

Normally when the children settle down to listen to a story, it is read by a member of teaching staff but sometimes it may be read by a '[Mystery Reader](#)': a parent or member of the school community who has volunteered to come and read to the children. It is always such a lovely surprise for the children! We actively encourage parents and other family members to come and join in the fun by being a 'Mystery Reader' and coming to read a story to a class in English or their own language.

The Little Free Library

Our wonderful site manager Mr Williams built our Little Free Library with his assistant Mrs. Mann using funds from the school sponsored read. Children, parents, family members, friends and teaching staff have all donated books. There are children's and adult books available to borrow for free. If you would like to donate a book please bring it to the office or Sapphires class. We ask that you just borrow one book at a time and bring it back to swap when you have finished reading it.



The Reading Den

We are very lucky at Burlington to have an Outdoor Reading Den in the playground. It is open throughout our playtimes for the children to read quietly with their friends. There are also outdoor reading corners in Nursery and Reception. It is full of wonderful books that were kindly donated by a relative of some children. There are comfy bean bags and cushions to cosy up with a book on. All of these facilities are well stocked with a range of high quality fiction, non-fiction and poetry books.



Book of the Month

In addition we make sure our children are exposed to new literature through promoting them in our centrally located 'Books of the Month' display. Every month four new books are chosen to be our special books for each year group. They are normally new books by celebrated authors, books recommended by staff or bookshops or award winning books. Children can fill in a review about the books and leave them in the library.



Book Fairs

At Burlington we hold regular book fairs where our families can buy great books at discounted prices. The book fairs feature Usborne Books, The Book People and Scholastic Books and are held in the Halls or outside in the summer. Commission from the book fairs enables us to get free books for the school.



Visiting Authors

In April 2019 children's author Christian Darkin visited the school to talk to the children about writing books. His work has a scientific theme and the children enjoyed looking at dinosaur teeth and hearing about the fun his characters have carrying out experiments. In July 2019 Joseph Coelho, a famous children's poet will be visiting the school and inspiring the children to enjoy poetry and maybe even be poets themselves!

Book Week

Every year we celebrate [World Book Day](#) with a book week of our own, where we have competitions, sponsored events, buddy-reading, dress-up days as well as author visits. For the last three years we have held a joint book week with the Junior School so our families can share the excitement. All classes from Nursery to year 6 use the same book as a stimulus for exciting learning opportunities. Last year we chose 'In the Attic' by Satoshi Kitamura and this year we had a theme of 'animals' and studied the book 'A Mouse Called Julian' by Joe Todd-Stanton. Children enjoyed discussing the characters and predicting what might happen next. We have had fun dressing up as animals and book characters as well as getting into our pyjamas for a bedtime story. We even had 'buddy reading' sessions with classes in the Junior school.



We also have an annual poetry event where all classes learn and perform a poem in front of the whole school.

