



Saltford
CofE Primary School

Saltford CofE Primary School
Claverton Road, Saltford, Bristol BS31 3DW
T: 01225 872185 E: contactus@saltfordschool.org.uk
W: www.saltfordschool.org.uk [@SaltfordPrimary](https://twitter.com/SaltfordPrimary)

Headteacher: Dawn Sage
Co-Chairs of Governors: Megan Jackson and Richard Rowland

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Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to you to ask for your support in the area of reading with your child. Thank you to all our parents who read regularly with their children. However, we do have a number of children at Saltford School who appear not to be reading regularly at home. Staff are feeding back that regular checks of the reading records are revealing, for an increasing number of children, there is little parental involvement in the form of signatures or comments to indicate that they have read with their child.

For those of you who attended the [reading workshops](#) led by Miss Davis last year, I know you will agree that the statistics speak for themselves. Children who read for 20 minutes at home every school day, read for 3800 minutes per year. From EYFS- Y6 that is 73 ½ complete school days. They are the children who will decode quicker, who will have a better vocabulary, will be able to access more of their learning and ultimately have the reading fluency and stamina to manage the transition to secondary school.

Here is a link to last year's [Y2 reading paper](#) and [question booklet](#) to highlight the high standard we need to get your children to at the end of Key Stage 1 and the level of vocabulary knowledge required. This will come only from reading and whilst we work extremely hard as a staff to get your children to these expected standards we cannot do it alone.

I know that many of our parents work and that many children attend several clubs and take part in out of school activities. At Saltford, we encourage the broad and balanced development of every child and place huge value on these extra-curricular opportunities. However, embedding reading as a daily practice is essential to your child's development.

This does not always need to be done formally sitting down and hearing them read, it could be through reading a recipe whilst making a cake, reading instructions whilst constructing some Lego, reading road signs etc. If we can just ask that you record this in the reading records we are able to keep track of the reading that is happening outside of school. Please support us by explaining unfamiliar vocabulary or turns of phrase they may come across. All of this will help to build a large bank of knowledge and vocabulary that the children can then draw upon in their reading and school work.

Please continue to read to your children, even if they are "free readers" as this is often where more challenging vocabulary is likely to be found and it is imperative that you can explain these words to your child so that they can begin to replicate it in their own writing.

At Saltford School we ask that all reading time is recorded in their reading records. Please can you help to support us and your child by ensuring this is done, including if it is to say that you discussed a recipe, read a set of instructions or shared a bedtime story instead of reading the scheme books on that day. You may find the [lists here](#) useful for some book recommendations additional to our reading scheme and don't forget to use the [local library](#) too.

We want to play a key role in developing well rounded children, able to deal with the demands of secondary school and beyond and we ask for your continued support to achieve this.

Kind regards

Mrs D Sage and the KS1 Team