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Dear Parents and carers,

As we begin another school year, we wanted to share with you all our aims and visions for our reading curriculum at Horsford CofE VA Primary School.

The importance of reading:

Reading regularly is important and matters. As stated in recent Department of Education guidance, 'The Reading Framework: July 2021', 'reading matters emotionally, culturally and educationally' and 'it matters to everyone'. At Horsford, reading is the centre of school life. From the teaching of phonics and whole class guided reading; to welcoming book corners and libraries; to daily story times and the introduction of reading buddies and reading champions; the children have access to good quality reading experiences, multiple times a day.

Reading regularly, reading for pleasure and reading at home:

As also stated in the recent reading framework, 'children who enjoy reading and who are good at reading will do more of it'. Children who read and are read to regularly will have their vocabulary expanded and will learn more both academically, emotionally and socially. At Horsford, the children are encouraged to explore a variety of different texts including fiction, non-fiction, poetry and rhyme, to help support and develop a love of reading. The children also read and are read to on a daily basis.

Reading regularly at home is also very important. At Horsford we really appreciate and value the support that parents and carers provide when supporting reading at home. To help support you all with reading at home, here is a [link to our website](#) where you will find a selection of recommended reads for each year group.

The selection includes a range of good quality book titles that your child/ren might enjoy sharing with you at home, or as they become more confident readers, they may wish to read independently.

Many of these texts will be available in our school libraries, but you may wish to take your child to your local library in Hellesdon where you may wish to use this list to help guide your book selections. Additionally, if you are looking for birthday/Christmas present ideas, the recommended reads is a good place to start.

Reading books – phonetically decodable books

For children who are learning to read, we have recently been reviewing our phonics provision, and our colour coded reading book levels. We will be sending a separate letter with information about this soon.

If you have any questions or queries about reading, and how you can support reading at home, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's classteacher.

Yours sincerely,

Ms McMurray and Miss McIntyre

English subject leaders