



Masefield Primary School

Masefield Road, Little Lever, Bolton, BL3 1NG



Executive Headteacher

Mrs. L. Whittaker

Head of School

Mr. A. Done

15th November 2024

RE: Reading Scrapbook/Reading for Pleasure Journal

Dear Parent or Carer,

At Masefield, the development of your child's reading capabilities are at the centre of everything that we do. To be a 'good' reader is the cornerstone of all learning; it promotes good mental health and wellbeing and facilitates the participation in our parliamentary democracy and civic society. I believe that it is our moral purpose to ensure that your child leaves Masefield as not only a fluent reader, who can comprehend what they are reading, but also to have fostered an intrinsic love of reading for pleasure. Over the course of the last five years, we have introduced a plethora of different measures, which have sort to promote your child's ability and love of reading. From the introduction of Read, Write, Inc., as our primary vehicle for the delivery of teaching and learning of phonics, to the 'new' School Planners and our continual drive to promote reading for pleasure, through author visits and performance poetry, to name just two examples!

The success of our Reading Curriculum was noted by Ofsted, who stated that 'The school's reading curriculum, including the phonics programme, is highly effective. It underpins and supports pupils' learning in all other subjects. Children in the early years begin to learn how books help them to answer their questions about the wider world. Pupils value the high-quality literature that the school provides. Teachers share a wide range of contemporary and well-known books with their pupils. This strengthens pupils' reading knowledge and broadens their reading repertoire. Pupils make effective use of books and other sources of written information to enhance their learning.'

Despite our recent success in national tests, it would be naïve of us to think that our Reading Curriculum is complete. This year we are participating in a cross-Bolton initiative entitled: 'Are You Really Reading'. All our teaching staff will be receiving additional training, to further consolidate their knowledge, skills and understanding pertaining to the teaching and learning of reading comprehension skills from the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) to Year 6. In addition, we will be introducing a 'Reading



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Scrapbook' or 'Reading for Pleasure' Journal. Like a book club, where a child would read a book, review it and make recommendations to their peers, these 'Scrapbooks' are being introduced to further develop children's knowledge of different texts and promote their love of reading for pleasure.

When a child finishes a book, they will be given the opportunity to review that book in a creative way. On a single or double page in the scrapbook, the teacher will provide a photocopy of the front cover of the book they have read. Your child can then take the scrapbook home and complete a creative review of the book, using a combination of artwork, written analysis or typed text or other creative devices, for example, scoring the book out of ten or giving a starred rating! I envisage that each child will have the minimum of two opportunities across the school year to complete a book entry into the reading for pleasure journal. In addition, I hope that it will further cement the bond between yourself and your child and their love of reading. Across school we have numerous gifted readers, who are creative and passionate about what they read. This is a great opportunity for them to share their love of reading, make recommendations to their peers and inspire others in their class to read more or to experience the magic of a book that has touched their heart.

Furthermore, your child's class teacher is also participating within the scrapbook. Over the course of the last few weeks, the class teachers have been reading a new graphic novel, which will be entered into circulation in their class libraries, once they have finished reading it. Their submission will be the first in the scrapbook, a 'What a Good One Looks Like'! Further practical guidance and examples are also shown in the front of each scrapbook, to guide your child through the process, at an age appropriate level. These scrapbooks will be launched after half term and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for continuing to support your child's reading development. Your efforts are making a profound and sustained difference to your child's future life chances!

Kind regards,

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