

ASHILL VC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Tuesday 16th September 2025

Reading Reward Challenge 2025-2026

Our reading reward challenge is now into its 9th year, which promotes consistent 'reading for pleasure' at home. We see the impact in our reading results through each year to the end of Year 6, as the children have built their reading stamina and skill regularly over the time they are with us. The Reading Reward Challenge is designed to boost the children's interest by offering incentives for reading that help it to become a regular habit. Reading is an essential life skill, so the more support and encouragement children receive the better.



We have 'tweaked' the offering for this year and made some slight changes. The intention is to be more inclusive for all children to be able to achieve in the challenge, as well as more stretching for those who are already reading regularly. A major change is the end of year trip will now be completely disconnected from the Reading Challenge and will be a trip that the whole school can attend free of charge at the end of the school year – more on this later in the year.

The achievement steps in this year's Reading Reward Challenge.

The 'reading terms' will be as follows:

Autumn: Wednesday 3rd September 2025 to Wednesday 17th December 2025

Spring: Thursday 18th December 2025 to Wednesday 25th March 2026

Summer: Thursday 26th March 2026 to Friday 10th July 2026

Rewards at the end of each reading term:

By the end of each reading term:	Amount of reading to be on target per week – average:	What is awarded?	
		Type of Certificate	Reward Gift
20 reads	1-2 times per week	Well done	A special bookmark
40 reads	3-4 times per week	Bronze	Reading Bronze Award
50 reads	4 times per week	Silver	Reading Silver Award
60 reads	4 – 5 times per week	Gold	Reading Gold Award

By the end of the reading year

We are introducing an incentive to reach even higher levels of reading

By the end of the reading year:	Amount of reading to be on target per week – average:	Type of Certificate	Reward Gift plus responsibilities – see below*
225 reads or more	5 -6 times per week	Platinum	Reading Ambassador Badge

*Reading Ambassadors will have special responsibilities linked to reading in the following academic year, such as being a buddy reader to other children in school, librarian responsibilities and a role in promoting reading to the rest of the school, such as in Collective Worship.

How the reads will be counted:

- All children are issued with a yellow Reading Record Book.
- Please help your child understand the number of reads needed for them to aim as high as they feel they can, and beyond! Younger children will need more help, and our youngest children will rely on their adults to support them fully. Please encourage independent reading with an adult or older sibling alongside. Shared reading can be an option to help your child, but only as often as necessary.
- Encourage the expectation that each time reading happens: Bumblebee children 'read' for 5 – 10 mins, Year 1 / 2 read for 10 to 20 minutes, Year 3,4,5 and 6 read for 15 – 25 minutes per time. Children can read for longer too!
- Reading must be recorded in the yellow Reading Record book to be counted and signed or initialled. Reading to an adult at school will not count as a 'read' unless this has been prearranged as an alternative provision. Please include detail such as below:

Date	Book title and page number	Comments
6.9	Two animal tales from Africa	Pg 10 next Well paced reading discussed meaning of 'withered' JB

- One read will be counted per day (even if more than one read is recorded.) We cannot accept a block entry that says for example '7 reads this week' In this instance this will be counted as one line of the record book and therefore one read. Equally, we cannot accept entries that have been 'made up' over several weeks – recording must be completed within a few days of each read being completed, ideally each time a read happens.
- It is best for your child to read their given school reading book, or, if your child is a free reader, the book they have chosen from school or a book suitable to their level from home. They can read alternative books occasionally as long as these are to their reading level.
- If your child is struggling with the idea of reading at home or they read often and need more variety, encourage reading of magazines to their appropriate level or other reading material, such as information leaflets or boards on days out – these are good alternatives and can be recorded in the Reading Record Book too. Non-fiction (fact and information) books are fine to include on occasion.
- Reading via devices is also fine under supervision, but it is important that the books we issue are the main source.
- We will stamp each entry at school to show it has been counted. We will keep a record of your child's reads at school, and this will be used to determine the level of reading reward achievement at the end of each term.
- There should never be a consequence for not reading.

Note: Bumblebee class children have already been sent information about how reading and the recording of reading will work for them in the early days of their learning. Bumblebee children will rely on having an adult to share books with them, such as bedtime stories and this is important to their reading development, experience and growth. This shared reading can be recorded in their Reading Record Books.

Help for you

Please let us know as soon as possible if there are any barriers to supporting your child with reading for pleasure at home – we are all experienced teachers and all of us have children of our own, so we appreciate the trickiness of fitting in listening to your child. If word reading is very difficult for your child at home and they need an alternative approach, please discuss this with us. We will approach parents/carers where we already know this is the case.

Why it matters

Reading development supports your child to be imaginative, curious and to comprehend well, all qualities that support them in life in general. Reading is vital in all subjects, including maths and science. It helps your child to make important decisions in life and understand fully the extensive paperwork that goes with 'doing' adult life.

Thank you for your support and please do talk to your class teacher if you have any questions.

Yours Sincerely,

Claire Filby

Hedgehogs Class Teacher and English / Art Lead.