

# John Ray Infant School

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**Executive Head**

Holly Gibson

**Head Teacher:**

Lisa Christian



12<sup>th</sup> September 2025

## Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the last term, we have been reviewing our home learning structure. As an infant school, we know how important phonics and reading are for our children's development. We are passionate about helping our pupils become strong, confident readers and enthusiastic book lovers.

Research shows that children who read regularly not only make greater progress across the curriculum, but also develop stronger empathy, social skills, speech and language, and even better mental health.

This term, we are trialling a new approach:

- There will be **no separate home learning** sent home.
- Instead, our **big focus is on reading** – not just schoolbooks, but any books your child loves at home.

## What we'd like you to do:

- Please read with your child at least **3 times a week**.
- Record each reading session in your child's reading record.
- Encourage your child to read both the books we send home and any other books they enjoy.

## Introducing our Reading Menu Bookmark:

- Each child will receive a **Reading Menu Bookmark**, with fun reading challenges and activities to try alongside their reading. These will be coming home this week.
- Completed work from the Reading Bookmark can be placed in a special box outside my office (in our school library) – I'd love to see what the children achieve!
- If your child completes the whole bookmark, I'd be especially excited to celebrate their success.

We hope this will inspire a real love of reading at home and in school. I always enjoy hearing about the books our children read and their recommendations, so please encourage them to share their favourites with us.

Thank you for your support in making reading a joyful part of every child's day.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or speak with your child's class teacher.

Emma Turner

Deputy Headteacher

English Lead



A charitable trust

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