



# MAYHILL JUNIOR SCHOOL

The Bury  
Odiham  
Hook  
Hampshire  
RG29 1NB

Telephone: (01256) 702973

Fax: (01256) 702972

Email: [adminoffice@mayhill.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@mayhill.hants.sch.uk)

Headteacher: **Thomas May**

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## Year 3 Reading Challenge

Dear Parents,

As you are already aware, we encourage the children to read at home at least three times a week, in order to develop their fluency and comprehension skills. These skills are vitally important in enabling the children to access learning tasks across the curriculum, as we challenge them to read a variety of texts and gather information in many subjects outside of their English lessons.

As the year has progressed, we have noticed a decline in the number of times that children are reading at home each week, so we have decided to introduce a 'Reading Challenge', with the aim of boosting children's desire to read as much as possible, outside of school. The Year 3 Reading Challenge is displayed on a chart in our Year 3 area and it details the total number of times children from each class have read. Please note that we only display the score for the class, not for individuals. Therefore we are asking the children to collaborate as a class, to try and improve their class total each week in order to become the top reading class in Year 3 for that week.

To assist us with this challenge, we require your help. Please take the time to read with your child at home, as much as possible. Ensuring that children enjoy reading, and are aware that others in their family share this enjoyment can be hugely powerful. We are aware that busy lives and schedules can impact on the amount of free time you have available. However, we have seen first-hand how regular reading practice and discussion about books, in addition to the reading we do in school, can increase children's confidence and fluency which can have a positive impact on how they view themselves as a learner and their ability to access other areas of the Curriculum.

To enable us to track how many times your child had been reading at home, please sign their Reading Record **each time** they have read. We encourage the children to write down the name of the text they are reading and what page they have reached, but it is always helpful to have a short comment from the adult whom they read to, as well. As children become more independent readers, they may wish to read to themselves, however it is vitally important that they get regular opportunities to discuss what they have read, to ensure they understand the narrative and new vocabulary they have come across. Comments surrounding these discussions, written in Reading Records are extremely insightful for staff to read. For further information and guidance, please look at the 'Top Tips for the Reading Helper' pages in the middle of your child's Reading Record.

Thank you for your continued support and efforts. Should you have any questions about reading at home, please don't hesitate to speak to myself or your children's class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Barry

English Leader