**THORNHILL NEWS**

FOCUS ON READING – 16.05.22

Last week our Nursery and Reception class enjoyed celebrating Pyjamarama as part of the Booktrust. Our children wore their pyjamas to school and welcomed in their parents/carers to share stories. Our Nursery children also had a special visit to Shildon Library.

All of the children got a very special bedtime story to take home too!



## NEW READING DEVELOPMENTS

## We are currently in the process of creating a new library space for the children with new furniture, exciting wall art and of course lots and lots of amazing books. We have already received kind donations of new books from the local community ready to go on the book shelves!

## This will be an amazing space for our children to enjoy books! Plans are in place to have this finished in the Summer term.

## Outside on the main yard, we have almost finished our new decking area, which will be an area to relax and chill with a book during lunchtimes!

This area will be officially opened during the last week of half term as part of our Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

TOP TIPS FROM THE BOOKTRUST TO ENCOURAGE A LOVE OF READING:

* Read yourself! It doesn’t matter what it is – pick up a newspaper or magazine, take a look at a cookery book, read a computer manual, enjoy some poetry or dive into a romance or detective novel. And get your children to join in – if you’re cooking, could they read the recipe? If you’re watching TV, can they read out the listings?
* Give books as presents. And encourage your children and their friends to swap books with each other – it’ll give them a chance to read new stories, and get them all talking about what they’re reading.
* Visit the local library together. It’s always fun choosing new books to read.
* Encourage children to carry a book at all times. That way, they’ll never be bored (this is something you can do, too!)
* Have a family bookshelf. If you can, have bookshelves in your children’s bedrooms, too.
* Keep reading together. Just because your children are older, it doesn’t mean you have to stop sharing stories – perhaps you could try the Harry Potter series or *A Series of Unfortunate Events*.
* Don’t panic if your child reads the same book over and over again. Let’s be honest - we’ve all done it!
* Have fun! There’s no right or wrong way to share a story – as long as you and your child are having fun. Don’t be afraid to act out situations or use funny voices… your little ones will love it!

Reading can:

* Develop a special bond with your child
* Improve language skills
* Prepare for academic success and develop aspirations
* Increase concentration and discipline
* Improve imagination and creativity
* Cultivate. lifelong love of reading

