

Reading in Years 2 - 6

From Year 2, pupils will be becoming more confident to accurately and independently read.

In addition to our Guided Reading sessions, we read aloud to our classes daily and enjoy weekly reading assemblies for children to enjoy the shared experience of reading aloud.

Our Book Banter sessions are the highlight of our week, and these times provide the children opportunities to share book recommendations and take part in informal book talk.

Bridging Books

As children master phonics, they will become more fluent and confident in their independent reading. 'Bridging Books' will support the children as they move from phonically decodable books to our Lexile range of books, which begin at 400L.

Bridging Books, which are banded 'A' and 'B' according to difficulty, are shorter, more easily accessible texts that will support the transition to the wider range of more complex Lexile books.

What is reading fluency?

Fluency is defined as the ability to read with speed, accuracy, and proper expression.

Accuracy (reading words correctly)

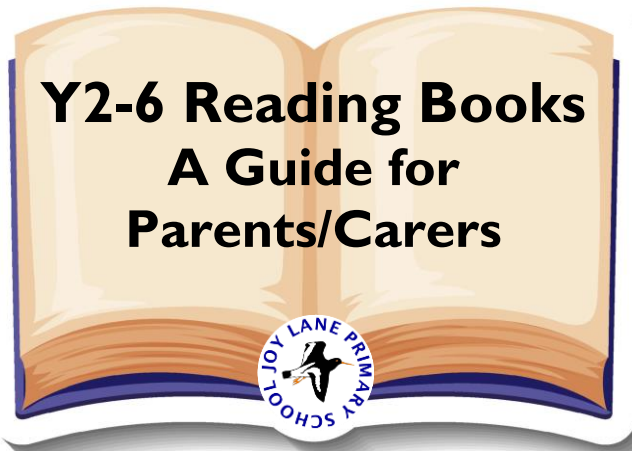
Automaticity (reading words at an appropriate speed without great effort)

Prosody (appropriate stress and intonation).

Fluent reading supports reading comprehension and the ability to access the whole curriculum. When pupils read fluently, their attention can be redirected from focusing on word reading (decoding) and onto understanding the text.

Our Reading Culture

Reading is at the heart of society and our practice at Joy Lane. Children who have developed a **positive approach to reading** and can read **fluently** will be able to successfully navigate our textually rich world. Here at Joy Lane, reading is highly valued and **prioritised**. Reading provides the opportunity for children to develop their **imaginations**; give **opinions** in class discussions; 'magpie' ideas to use in their **writing**; and ultimately interpret and become successfully **engaged in the world** around us.



Little Wandle Phonics Readers

Some children in in Years 2 – 6 are working with teachers in small groups to increase reading fluency through phonics. Each week, a new book is shared in the group and then the child takes this text to read with their adults back in class and their parents/carers at home.

Our Little Wandle readers can also choose from our Sharing Books as an additional text to read for pleasure, but they may need help to decode the text.

Your child's Class Teacher or the Little Wandle Teacher will have been in contact to let you know if your child is receiving this intervention.

'Lexile' Reading Books

After accessing Bridging Books, children are transferred to a 'Lexile' range of books. We no longer use the term Free Reader to describe our readers.

The children sit short bi-termly assessments, which provide us with a range of information about their strengths and areas for developments. A Lexile score is determined from the child's outcomes on the assessment and the teacher's professional judgement and knowledge of the child as a reader.

In the Lexile scale, the demands of a text are represented as a number, such as 520L. The lower the number, the less complex the book. That number is calculated using four research-evidenced indicators: decoding, semantics, syntax and language structure, each of which affects readability.

We are passionate that our children's reading fluency is nurtured, and by matching each child to a range of texts, we can ensure that they are able to practise reading independently with a text that is suited to them.

Children will be given a range (rounded to 100) to choose from, and these are colour coded. The children will have a personal bookmark with their book ranges circled (e.g. 500L – 600L), so that they can refer to it to choose books independently.

Please be assured that our teachers will use the test outcomes as well as their knowledge of your child as a reader to carefully match them to a range of books.

Sharing Books

We are passionate about our children having choice of a range of varied texts to read for pleasure. If they want to choose an extra book to read alongside their Collins Big Cat / Bridging / Lexile book, they can choose from our 'sharing books'. These books are not organised by difficulty, and your child may choose a book that is too easy or tricky for them – but that is just fine as they are making choices and enjoying exploring texts.