

Weekly Newsletter

'Education on another level, where possibilities are endless'

Reading for Pleasure

As you will know, reading is at the heart of Crown Street Primary School. It is without doubt the most important academic skill we can teach our pupils. The teaching of Reading In Early Years and Year 1 is done through Phonics Scheme FFT Success for All (more information can be found on our Academic Curriculum Page [here](#)).

However, as well as learning to read, the lessons we learn from stories and the enjoyment we get from spending time in a book is of equal importance. At Crown Street we want to nurture this love of reading and want to do this from the very beginning of your child's time with us by building our curriculum around books and using books to support our teaching and learning. Some of the ways we use books and encourage reading are:

- *Through our termly curriculum bookshelves*
- *Using books to support different areas of learning*
- *Having books available and accessible within the continuous provision*
- *Having daily story time – in Reception they currently hold a book vote each day to choose this book*
- *Using books within assemblies and use to discuss our character traits and/or School rules*
- *Encouraging book talk and discussions – with pupils and adults in school!*
- *Through weekly library visits*



What can you do as parents to nurture this love of reading?

Amongst many other things, you need to show your children that you read and make time for reading - for both them and yourself, model your own passion for it, make an event of visiting the library or a bookshop (or the book section of the supermarket) and let your child take the lead in what they want to read.

Making time for reading is one of the most important things you can do – 10 minutes a day can have a huge positive impact. So, make a routine to read and stick with it. This can be reading to your child, with them, them reading to you (even if that is just them turning the pages and pointing to words/pictures), it can be reading the same book you've read every night for the last 2 weeks (it's currently Funny Bones in my house – every night since Halloween!). I say this as a teacher, but also as a parent - there are few things more significant you can do for your child (and your relationship with them) than sharing daily reading experiences - so grab a book, get comfy and enjoy.

Some more tips can be found on the Book Trust website [here](#). If you scroll down there are some reading guides you can download with some top tips based on your child's age.

Mrs Thompson, Head of School

Character Traits

This year across the Laurus Primary Schools we have introduced six 'character traits' as part of our curricula.



Bravery



Citizenship



Curiosity



Gratitude



Integrity



Kindness

These represent a range of qualities which link to our three school rules: we are respectful, we do our best, we make good choices. They also link to the UNICEF Rights of the Child convention and our journey to become a UNICEF Rights Respecting School (*more to come on this*).

These character traits are a central part of our termly bookshelves, are discussed in class, often link to our assemblies and now form the basis for our weekly achievement certificates.

Some of the traits are more complex than others but the concept is that the children's understanding of each one evolves over the course of their time with us and by the time they leave us they are not only able to talk confidently about each one but regularly display behaviours which reflect them.

TERM DATES FOR 2025-26

Term dates for the next academic year, September 2025 – August 2026, can now be found on our website by clicking [here](#).

Please make a note of our inset days, which are school specific and half term dates which fall in line with other Manchester schools.

FEES FOR PRE-SCHOOL AND KIDS CLUB

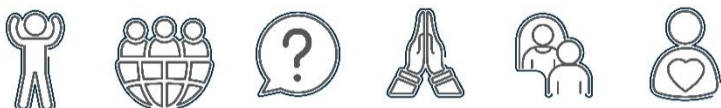
Fees for this half-term have now been added to your My Child At School account. Please note, that payment is due no later than Friday 13th December (the penultimate Friday of the half term). Please contact the School Office should you have any further queries.

Character Award!

This week we have introduced our weekly achievement certificates. These are based on our character traits so aptly named 'Character Award'.

Our teachers will choose a member of their class each week to receive this award each week with the reason being linked to one of our character traits.

The first of these were given out this week to these two superstars, for Citizenship and Kindness - well done!



Reception 2025 Admissions

Admissions for Reception places for September 2025 are now open. You will need to apply through Manchester City Council – the information can be found by clicking [here](#)

The deadline for applying is **15th January 2025**. Please note that having a place at our Pre-School does not guarantee a place for Reception. For more information, please visit the '[Admissions](#)' page on our website.

House Point Total

For RSH are:



Class Points

This week Pre-School got **9** Class Points and Reception got **11** Class Points!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 11th Nov – Parent Tours, 9.30am – repeated weekly + Remembrance Day

Mon 18th Nov – Start of UK Parliament Week

Thurs 21st Nov – Inaugural PTA AGM – all welcome, 9am start

Thurs 28th Nov – Flu Vaccinations for Reception

Thurs 12th Dec – Winter Performance, 9.30am start*

Fri 20th Dec – School Closes for Christmas Holidays

Mon 6th Jan 2025 – Inset Day (School closed to pupils)

Tues 7th Jan 2025 – School reopens – first day of term (Spring 1)

**For the Winter Performance any Pre-School children who do not attend on a Thursday will be invited in to take part in the performance*

