



ST CUTHBERT'S C of E ACADEMY

INFANTS & PRE-SCHOOL

21st January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

At our school, we believe that learning to read is one of the most important skills your child will ever develop. Reading opens the door to imagination, knowledge, and confidence — and it's a journey we are excited to share with you.

Recent findings from the 2025 National Literacy Trust show just how powerful reading can be: Children who read daily are four times more likely to read above the expected level for their age. 88% of children who enjoy reading say it helps them feel happier and more confident.

Reading together at home for just 10 minutes a day can boost a child's vocabulary by over 1,000 new words each year.

We encourage you to read with your child every day, even if it's just for 10 minutes. Please remember to sign your child's reading record to count towards the school challenge. This could be a bedtime story, looking at picture books together, or letting your child "read" to you by describing what they see.

Every little moment counts.

Here are a few tips to make reading time fun and engaging:

Make it cosy – find a quiet, comfortable spot.

Talk about the story – ask questions like "What do you think will happen next?"

Celebrate effort – praise your child for trying, even if they make mistakes.

Be a role model – let your child see you enjoying books too.

Your support at home makes a huge difference. Together, we can help your child become a confident, happy reader who sees books as friends for life.

Thank you for being such an important part of your child's learning journey.

With warm regards,

Miss Beth Hancock
Literacy Lead

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