



Nurturing a Whole-School Love of Reading

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For consideration within the Egmont RfP Awards –
Experienced Teacher



Who We Are

Horsenden Primary School is a four-form community school in the London Borough of Ealing, with children aged from 3 - 11. We have over 900 pupils on roll!

I am a Year 4 class teacher and Reading Lead for the school.

The TaRs Research

We identified that we needed to give reading a bigger profile at our school. The Teachers as Readers research proved invaluable in leading this change. We are aiming to develop our practice in relation to all strands of the research findings, but our initial focus was on developing a Reading for Pleasure pedagogy and improving our reading environments, in order to encourage the development of a reading community.



Aims:

- To foster a love of reading in our pupils
- To provide high-quality literature both as part of and in addition to the curriculum
- To create a community of readers within our school

Fostering a Love of Reading

The first thing we did was tackle the lack of high-quality literature available to our children on a daily basis. We are lucky enough to have a full-time librarian and a gorgeous library in both of our buildings, but with over 900 children in the school, each class can only visit once per week!

We decided to create the Reading Hub, a sort of giant book corner for all of Key Stage Two to share. We stocked it with brand new books, partly funded by a grant from the Foyle Foundation. We made sure to include a wide range of picturebooks, novels, poetry and non-fiction.



We also have a gallery of signed poems and illustrations from some of our favourite poets, authors and illustrators!



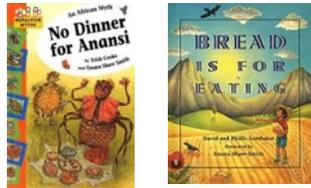
The Reading Hub opened to the children in September 2017.

Inviting in Authors, Illustrators and Poets

Since June 2017, we have hosted visits from an amazing array of talented book people:

June 2017
Emma Shaw Smith

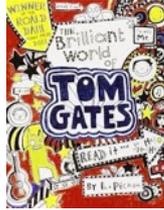
Illustrator



October 2017

Liz Pichon

Author and Illustrator



November 2017

Harry Baker

World Champion Slam Poet



October 2018

Maz Evans

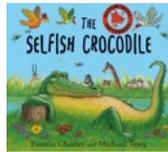
Author



Maz cut the ribbon on our refurbished Key Stage Two library!

October 2017
Faustin Charles

Author



October 2017

Caroline Lawrence

Author



March 2018

A. F. Harrold

Poet and Author



All of these visits were paid for through fundraising – our amazing staff helped me run Bake Sales and Cinema Evenings



Becoming World Record Holders

In October 2017, we were chosen by Scholastic to help launch the new Tom Gates book by attempting to break the Guinness World Record for the World's Largest Disco Dance! Every child in years 4, 5 and 6 had to learn a choreographed disco routine and perform it to the satisfaction of the adjudicators. We managed to break the record and the children enjoyed a fantastic day with Liz.



Our other initiatives ...



Our IT technician helped me create a giant Tube map where each line had been replaced with a genre and each station became a book. It's on display outside the Key Stage Two library, which has copies of each book to borrow.



We introduced the Horsenden Reading Prize. Children collect golden raffle tickets (for reading related activities) to post in the golden post box. Each half term a winner is drawn, and their face goes up on the Reading Hall of Fame, surrounded by the covers of their five favourite books.



We started a Reading Buddies programme, where children from Key Stage Two read with children in the Early Years.



We signed up to Reading Cloud - an online reading community, accessible at home, through which our Key Stage Two pupils can chat about and review books, blog and reserve or renew books from our school library.



Teachers as Readers ...

I co-run an OU/UKLA Teachers' Reading Group along with another local teacher. 10 members of Horsenden Primary staff attend our groups, helping to further develop our teachers as readers.

A West London Teachers' Reading for Pleasure Group — FREE!

UKLA
UNIVERSITY OF KENT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

We are running an OU/UKLA Reading Group, open to anyone who is committed to developing children's desire, delight and engagement as readers. Informal, friendly and supportive, we hope teachers, librarians and support staff will join us and commit to attending all six PD sessions. We will be exploring the engaging resources on the new OU Research-Rich Pedagogies free website and supporting teachers in developing their RIP pedagogy, knowledge of children's literature and the children as readers, and enabling them to build reading communities within and beyond school.

Where: Starbucks, 11-12 The Green, Ealing, London W5 5DA, plus one session at the gorgeous *The Alchemist's Mouth* bookshop in Richmond

When: Monday 24th September 2018
Monday 29th October 2018
Monday 26th November 2018
Monday 25th February 2019
Monday 1st April 2019
Monday 10th June 2019

To secure your place, send an email to:
hwright@horsenden.ealing.sch.uk

See you there! Rich and Hannah

@charlesworth @horsendenschol



Next Steps

This term, I will be hosting our first Reading Café. Parents will be invited to a workshop all about reading with their children, after which they will have an opportunity to enjoy reading with their child in our school library.



We have a brand new Story Shed ready and waiting on the playground. Once the weather improves, it will be filled with books and outdoor cushions and beanbags, so that children can enjoy reading at playtime and lunchtime.

