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Case Study

Pendock C E Primary School

We are fortunate at Pendock to have a large number of books and resources for children to refer to. Unfortunately, however, we lack the space to display these lovely resources to full effect. Junior Librarian is helping us to organise and rotate those resources to better effect to ensure that children have full use of the facilities available to them. We hope that by rotating the books available on the shelves, their interest will be maintained. By cataloguing our books and CD's, it is helping open up the school's resources to pupils, staff and parents. However, the cataloguing will be a "work in progress" for some time to come yet!

The Class teachers in Class 2 issued a challenge to the children to submit a written review of a book they have recently read. The best and most thoughtful reviews submitted won the children the opportunity to become "Junior Librarians". The system that we have adopted, enables 2 or more children to be on duty during the class "Guided Reading" time in the mornings. This is a

time when children may change their books and, those allocated as Junior Librarians, are responsible for the issue and return of the books, running them through the system and ensuring they are returned to the correct place on the shelves. They assist by keeping the Library well maintained and in good order. This is a new system devised by the Class teacher and Librarian, and will be tweaked and improved as time progresses. We hope that eventually other children in the class might be inspired and motivated to take part and "earn" their time as a Junior Librarian.

The book reviews are also proving a useful tool in introducing a different style of writing to enhance the children's literacy skills and expand their use of language. Class 2 consists of children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. Therefore, the children's reading abilities vary greatly. The chosen format of 'Reading Gym' was introduced by the Class teacher to enable the children to work in their reading ability groups daily for 30 minutes.





Junior Librarians

The children embrace the opportunity to read in the library and were extremely enthusiastic at the opportunity of becoming a Junior Librarian. In order to apply, the children were asked to complete a 'Book Review' of their favourite or most recent read book. The Junior Librarians were announced in Class 2 and badges will be presented to those selected children in Celebrations Assembly. The children take the role of Junior Librarian very seriously and work alongside Mrs Ashby who assists them in using the computer to log books in and out. The children are also expected to keep the books tidy and support Mrs Ashby where necessary in the library. As Class Teacher I feel that it is very important for the children to take ownership of the literature that is available to them in school. I feel that it not only allows them to appreciate the resources available to them but also allows them to be motivated by the fabulous skill of reading. As a result, all children are making progress in their reading and I look forward to seeing this develop further in Class 2.

Miss Chapman, Class teacher



Reading gym consists of the following activities:

- **Guided Reading- with the class teacher.**
- **Follow up reading (a written activity based on what they have read the previous day).**
- **Independent reading.**
- **Library time (an opportunity to loan a book and read in the library).**
- **Book Activities (an opportunity to complete a book review or choose a reading comprehension activity).**

All children have been, or will be, trained to use the Junior Librarian system and those in Class 1 are supervised during use. It is hoped that, as the children gain experience with Junior Librarian, they will be confident to show new pupils how to use the system. They may also be given the responsibility to show staff members how to use the system too!

Junior Librarian is proving to be a simple system that even the youngest of children are able to use. It has helped to open up the school's library and has enhanced the use of it. It is lovely to see some parents come into the library with their children before the start of the day to help them choose books together, on occasions, with younger siblings. The feedback from parents has been very positive and, with recent developments, it would seem that the children are definitely enthused and excited about their library and resources. We are also very excited that plans are in place to have extra shelving added in due course.

We love the idea of Junior Librarian. It allows the children to run their own library and, as with all things in life, when children are involved in the production or running of something, it ensures a better understanding and instils a sense of responsibility and achievement. We hope that in time they will fall in love with literature and learn to respect and take care of their books –hopefully a skill that many will carry forward through their lives.

Laura Chapman (Class Teacher)

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