

Developing a Love of Reading

At St Matthews, we want children to develop a love of reading even before they have learnt to read. With this in mind, we want our children to spend **family time sharing a book**. It is a precious time for you to relax, share your thoughts and feelings, have fun and chat together. This is different to your child's reading book where they are practising reading using their phonic knowledge. This is a book your child has **chosen themselves** and they can change it as often as they like.

Research indicates that parents who regularly read with their children at **home lay solid foundations for language and literacy development**. Whilst sharing books, your child has your undivided attention, and the conversation, connection and enjoyment they experience is invaluable. **These conversations are crucial as they help children to engage and think deeply.**

