

Welcome to the Library & Learning Resource Centre

Opening times: - Monday – Friday

Before School - 8.15 am to 8.45 am

Lunchtime - 12.25 pm to 1.15 pm

After School - 3.15 pm to 5.00 pm



Librarian & Learning Resource Centre Manager: **Mrs A Willis**

Welcome to the Birchensale Library & Learning Resource Centre, (LLRC), we have a fantastic library here at Birchensale that can really help you with your reading, studies and homework.

There is a great selection of fiction books that will appeal to all tastes as well as a comprehensive range of non-fiction books that cover every aspect of the school curriculum.

The library is a welcoming and friendly place and is hugely popular with all pupils. Each year group has its own day, at lunchtime, when they can use the library exclusively:



Monday -	Year 5
Tuesday -	Year 6
Wednesday -	All years for homework & reading
Thursday -	Year 7 & 8
Friday -	All years – Draughts & Chess club

You are welcome to use the library at lunchtime on your day for reading, homework, research, and computer work. You can also use the library on Wednesdays and Fridays along with the other years.

Loaning Books - The library has a wide range of books that you may take out on loan. Books may be loaned for up to four weeks; you are usually allowed to borrow **one** book from the library at a time, which must be an Accelerated Reader book from within your reading zone.

The date on which you have to return books to the library is stamped onto a slip in the front of the book. If you have not finished the book you are reading by the return date, you can renew your book by bringing the book back to the library and having the return date extended. You can loan and return books when the library is open before School, on any lunchtime and after School.

Pupils must have their Accelerated Reading book with them at all times when they are in School.

School Shop - There is a school shop in the library which is open at lunchtimes. The shop carries a large range of stationery; pens, pencils, rubbers, rulers, at low prices.

After School Club – In the library we also run an after school homework club every night. From 3.15pm to 5.00pm; pupils can come into the library to do homework, read or use the computers. If you would like to come to this club parents will be required to complete a permission slip; which can be obtained from the Librarian, Mrs Willis.

Pupil Librarians – Every year, pupils are selected from year 7, to act as pupil librarians. They are on duty at lunchtime, and their general duties include helping with the loaning and returning of books, running the shop and sorting and returning books to the shelves. If you need any assistance in the library, just ask a librarian, they are there to help you.



Computers -The computers in the library may be used for homework, project work and research purposes only. Before printing any work, consider the environment; is the work completely finished and ready to print. Does it need to be printed - can it be e-mailed to the Teacher instead? BEFORE you print in the library please ask permission.

Talking Books - The library also has listening sets (with coloured head-phones) where up to 6 people can listen to a story at the same time. The selection of talking books includes Horrid Henry and Roald Dahl, as well as school favourites such as Private Peaceful. So come along and try out a different way to experience books.

Graphic Novels - The library has many graphic novels; which are great for reluctant readers. There is a good selection, with a choice of either classic stories such as Romeo & Juliet and Frankenstein and more modern books like Twilight and Goosebumps. We also have comics, magazines and the First News newspaper.

Accelerated Reader (AR)



At Birchensale we have a reading programme called Accelerated Reader (AR). The AR programme is designed to develop and improve your reading ability and through on-line tests and book quizzes you will be guided to books appropriate to your reading age and ability. You will also be rewarded for your reading progress.

The Accelerated Reader programme will help you to:

- ✓ be a motivated reader
- ✓ improve your reading
- ✓ choose suitably challenging books
- ✓ develop a lifelong love of reading

You will:

1	Take a Star Reader Test
2	Be given a Reading Age and AR zone
3	Borrow a book from within your zone
4	Read the book
5	Take a quiz
6	Aim to achieve at least 80% in the quiz
7	Earn points for each quiz
8	Achieve rewards and certificates
9	Continue reading books in your zone
10	Always have your AR book with you
11	Improve your reading!

The Reading Passport



The Reading Passport is a reading challenge for all pupils to embark on; which is a voyage of reading discovery that will enthral and challenge you during your time at Birchensale!

It is widely accepted that there are certain books in the world that every child should read in order to fully appreciate the wonder of reading.

We have pulled together a list of 100 books, using a list published by The Times newspaper. These books should be read for both enjoyment and knowledge, as well as to expand the range of books that you read.

In Year 5 you will be issued with a Reading Passport which has the full list of 100 books. The aim is for you to target these books during your time at Birchensale and you will be rewarded for each step of your journey of discovery.

Once a book on the list is completed, fill in the details of the book on your passport and get it signed. You can also quiz on the book, if there is a quiz available and this will count towards your Accelerated Reading.

When you have completed the first 10 books, the passport should be handed into your English teacher or the Librarian to be signed and you can then visit the library to receive a reward. You will also receive achievement points for your endeavours.

All books are available in the library at Birchensale and we hope that this will be a new way to inspire you to explore different genres and ways of reading and enjoying books.

We wish you good luck and an enjoyable journey!

Choosing the Right Book

When choosing a book you need to make sure that you pick the right one for you; choose one that is right for your reading level and that interests you.

Before choosing ask yourself:

- What do I like reading about?
- What interests me?
- What style of book do I like reading?
- Is the reading level right for me

It is no good choosing a book if you do not like the subject matter or cannot understand it; so take some time to think before you choose.

Reading should be a pleasure so before you select a book consider:

- Reading the “blurb” on the back that gives a brief description of the book.
- Asking your friends what books they would recommend, what have they enjoyed reading.
- If you have read a book by a particular author and you enjoyed it – look to see if they have written other books.
- If you enjoyed reading a particular type of book (e.g. action or fantasies) – try another author who writes the same type of books.
- Selecting a book suitable to your reading ability, too easy and you may become bored, too hard and you will not understand the book and probably not finish reading it.

Don't forget

- ✓ Reading is for pleasure
- ✓ Be adventurous; try different authors and styles
- ✓ Don't judge a book by its cover – give it a go
- ✓ Don't be afraid to ask for guidance
- ✓ If a book is part of a series read them in the correct order
- ✓ Don't be put off reading a book just because someone else did not enjoy it - we all have our own tastes in books.

But most of all **ENJOY YOUR READING**; it opens up a whole new world just by turning over a few pages.

Library Guidelines

When using the Library please be aware of the following guidelines; failure to follow these guidelines may result in you being asked to leave:

- No drinking or eating.
- No mobile phones/iPod's etc.
- Quiet sensible behaviour only; no running, playing or shouting.
- Library computers are to be used for homework, research and educational purposes only. Playing on GAME SITES is not permitted.
- Only homework may be printed and please ask before printing.
- Do not disturb other pupils working in the Library.
- Please leave the Library tidy, put away any books or items you have used, throw away any rubbish and push chairs under the desks.

Birchensale Middle School



Library & Learning Resource Centre

So get a head start at Birchensale Middle School and visit the library soon.
We look forward to seeing you.

Mrs Willis – Librarian

