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# Hothfield News

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## Use a Sentence Every Time!

On Monday we launched our 'Use a Sentence Every Time' campaign to deepen our children's understanding of what a sentence is, how we make sense and how we can use sentences to communicate clearly in our speech and our writing.

We know that children need to speak well in order to write well. We therefore want to encourage our children to use complete sentences in their lessons and always ensure they make sense.

The children are designing posters to go around the school encouraging all to 'Use a Sentence Every Time!' with prizes for the most effective poster from each class.



## Brilliant Buckden!



Our Year 6 children had a wonderful trip to Buckden House in the Dales for their residential. They learnt so much about their developing 6R skills – especially relationships, resilience and responsibility. Working together and building their independence and self-confidence is such a vital part of their Hothfield learning. Well done to all and a huge thank you to school staff who volunteered of their time to accompany the children – the residential trips couldn't happen without this commitment.

To celebrate 200 Years of the Leeds Liverpool Canal, an original barge – 'Kennet' – is travelling the whole length of the canal. It will moor in Silsden about 6pm on Sunday (16<sup>th</sup> October) and Hothfielders are encouraged to join the people of Silsden to give her a grand welcome.

Please note that a week on Friday – the last day of the half term (21<sup>st</sup> October) is the first of the School Council's Non-Uniform Days. They have chosen to support endangered animals through the World Wildlife Fund and want the day to be an animal theme. (For those new to Hothfield's half-termly Non-Uniform Days – dressing up and following the theme is encouraged but children can just wear ordinary 'non-uniform' clothes if they want to. To take part, children need to bring in £1.)

## Supporting Our Children to Become Thoughtful and Independent Readers:

### Using the Reading Record

Over their four junior years, our children move from learning **how** to read to becoming **thoughtful and independent readers** of books.

As parents, you have a key role to play to support your child on this journey.

**The Reading Record is a record that your child has read, a record of the books they have read and also a log of their thoughts and development as readers.**

Children are developing to become independent readers, reading longer children's novels. As they move through their years at Hothfield, they should read more and more to themselves in their heads rather than aloud to someone else. The parents' role is to move from hearing the child read every page of their book to sharing books with them, reading a section each or encouraging them to read extracts to you. You can talk to them about the book they are reading independently, let them tell you about what is happening and what parts of the book they are enjoying. You can ask them questions to build their understanding and be on hand to help with reading and understanding new words.

Children can record in their Reading Record a book chosen from school, a book of their own or a library book – it doesn't matter as long as it is a book they are enjoying.

Over the year, all children should read a number of the Hothfield Reading Challenge books. If these are too difficult for the child to read alone, they all work very well as a book read together – perhaps taking it in turns to read bits each.

### Completing the Reading Record: Year 3 and 4

In Year 3 and Year 4, children are developing their ability to complete the Reading Record themselves. Parents can continue to comment, but by the end of Year 4, most of the comments on the book should be written by the child.

The Record should show that children are reading at least three times a week – signed by parents to confirm that this has happened. Children are rewarded with House Points if they have read at least three times and parents have signed the Record.

### Completing the Reading Record: Year 5 and 6

In Year 5 and 6, children should note the pages they have read and this should be confirmed by parents with a signature. Children should be reading at least three times a week and parents should sign weekly to confirm that this has happened.

Children are rewarded with house points if they have their Record signed weekly.

Parents can still write an encouraging word or comment about the book, but the main comments should be by the child. They should write a brief reflection about the book they have read – for instance, what they liked about it. They should also comment on what kind of book they would now like to read to show that they are developing as a thoughtful and independent reader, able to choose books to broaden themselves as readers.

