

Dear Parents/Guardians

From Thursday 5th March –Friday 27th March, we are supporting World Book Day's **Share A** Million Stories campaign, championing the importance of sharing stories and at the same time <u>raising money</u> for much needed literacy resources in our school as part of the new Primary Language Curriculum.

Why Share a Story?

Sharing a story for just 10 minutes a day can have a lasting impact on a child's future, and can help to create readers for life.

How can you take part?

In March, your child will receive their <u>Readathon Reading Record</u>, for children to record how many stories they're sharing at home and at school, which we can then add to our school total. Every time your child reads or is read to for <u>ten minutes</u>, please <u>sponsor</u> your child as much as you can. As we are a growing school, new literacy resources are always needed.

Why is this campaign so vital?

- Our school is currently implementing the new Primary Language Curriculum and in order to provide your child with the best learning experiences, badly needed resources need to be purchased.
- Sadly, reading for pleasure is in decline: only 29% of 0-13s read for pleasure daily (down from 30% in 2017). Children's Reading for Pleasure: Trends and Challenges, Egmont, 2019
- The number of parents sharing stories with their children is also in steep decline: only 56% of 3-4-year-olds are read to daily or nearly every day (v. 69% in 2013).
- Fewer than 19% of 8-10-year-olds are read to daily or nearly every day (down from 25%). *Understanding the Children's Book Consumer Nielsen, 2018*

So, let's boost reading for pleasure back up! There are so many benefits to sharing stories together:

- It boosts creativity and imagination
- It's a calming, bonding experience that improves well-being
- It builds empathy and closeness
- It's great fun for everyone involved!

Scoil Bhríde needs ALL of our support and we look forward to helping the children raise much needed funds for our school. The children will also receive rewards during the month for reading regularly throughout the month of March.

Thank you for taking part.

