

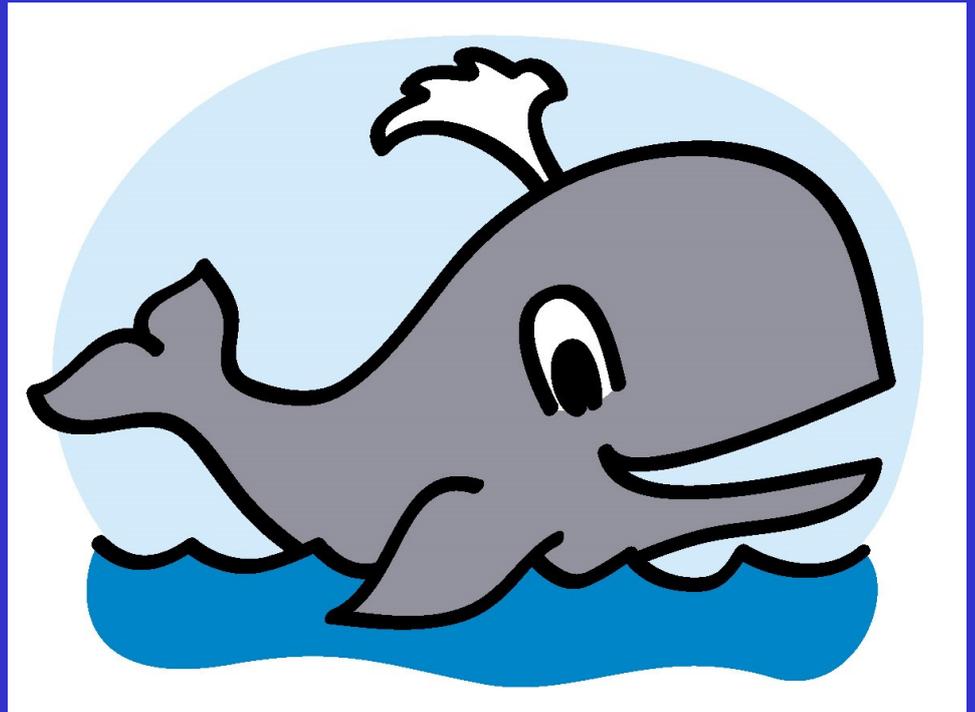
**YEAR 5
AND 6**

Upper School Reading

OCTOBER 2017

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- **Why reading is important.**
- **Key questions to ask your child when reading with them at home.**
- **A guide to reading ages**



“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.”

— Dr Seuss.

**Because Whale Hill Children
Deserve The Very Best.....**

Why is reading important?

It exposes children to a rich vocabulary.

This helps them build their own vocabulary and improve their understanding when they listen, which is vital as they start to read.

It's important for children to understand how stories work as well. Even if your child doesn't understand every word, they'll hear new sounds, words and phrases which they can then try out, copying what they have heard.

Reading is a vital life skill!



"So please, oh please, we beg, we pray, Go throw your TV set away, and in its place, you can install, a lovely bookshelf on the wall"

Roald Dahl, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*

Good readers make good writers!

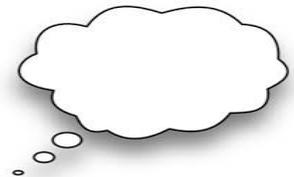
Reading

↓
Thinking

↓
Speaking

↓
Writing

"Think before you speak.
Read before you think."



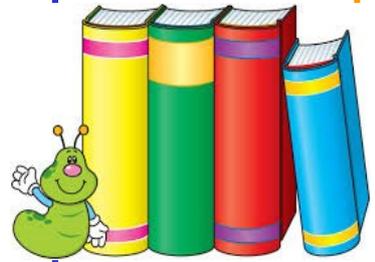
How can you encourage reading?

Some of the things you can do include:

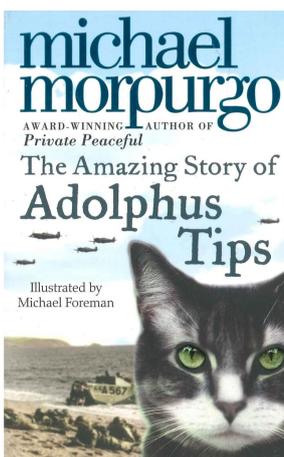
- **Reading aloud to your child,** talking about the words and pictures, and sharing ideas about the book
- **Reading yourself:** Children who see adults reading, and enjoying reading, are much more likely to want to read themselves.
- **Making sure your child is surrounded by books:** You don't need hundreds of books at home, but make regular trips to the library or bookshop, not just to borrow books but to spend time together browsing and learning to make choices. In this way, reading becomes a habit.
- **Most importantly, talk to your child.** Spend time with them, doing simple activities (cooking, making something, building a model). As you talk about what you're doing, you are helping them to learn new words. Later, when they see words written down, they have already heard them and know what they mean.

Key Questions to Ask

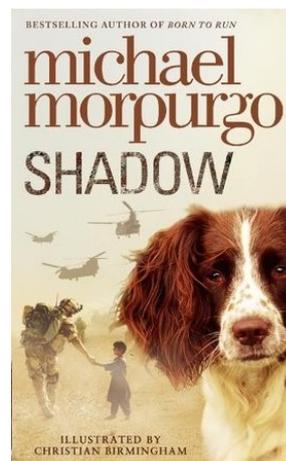
- Who are the main characters in the book? Can you describe them?
- What has happened so far in the story?
- What do you think might happen next?
- Have you learnt any new words in the book? What do they mean?
- Can you find a fact in the book?
- Are there any opinions in the book? Can you find one?
- How is the book organised? Can you find any subheadings? A Glossary? Index? Contents? What are they for?
- Would you change anything about the story?
- Do you think your friend would like the book? Why?



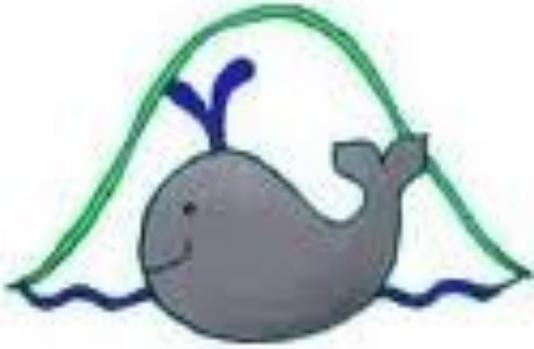
“A book is a gift you can open again and again.”



Adolphus Tips: A fabulous book read by Year 5 during the Autumn Term.



Shadow—a lovely book read by Year 6 throughout the year.



Year 5 & 6

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'The most important skill any child can leave primary school with is the ability to read independently and effectively for meaning.'

A Guide to Reading Colour Levels

Black: Reading Age of 7.5-8 years

Cream: Reading Age of 8-9 years

Purple: Reading Age of 9-10 years

Pale Blue: Reading Age of 10-11 years

Cerise: Reading Age of 11-12

Red: Reading Age of 11-12 years

Dark Blue: Reading Age of 12+ years

