



Vernham Dean Gillum's Church of England Primary School

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<https://www.vernhamdeanschool.co.uk>  [vernhamdeanprimaryschool](#)

7th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

At our school, we strive to nurture a lifelong love of reading alongside active learning. With this in mind, we are excited to continue our school-wide reading initiative: the RED Challenge (Read Every Day).

How the Challenge Works

- **The Goal:** Children aim to read at home at least **5 times out of 7** each week. For EYFS/Reception pupils, looking at and discussing wordless books counts!
- **Tracking Progress:** An adult must sign the child's reading record for each day they read at home. Class teachers will check these records once a week.
- **Earning Rewards:** Every week a child achieves 5 signatures, they earn a sticker. Once they collect **6 stickers**, they will be celebrated in our Celebration Assembly and receive a special prize!

Encouraging Independence

We completely understand how busy family life can be. To support you, we have spoken with the children about taking responsibility for their own learning - it is up to them to ask an adult to sign their record after reading.

We also brainstormed quick ways to fit reading into daily routines:

- Reading aloud while dinner is being prepared
- Reading aloud in the car on the journey home
- Reading to a sibling or a visiting relative

Thank you so much for your ongoing partnership and support in making this challenge a success. If you have any questions, please feel free to pop in and see me.

Small school, big heart.

Yours sincerely

Holly Bulpitt
Head of School

