

THE CROFT LIBRARY

“Stories make you think and dream; books make you want to ask questions.” Michael Morpurgo

Our libraries are a vital resource for our children’s learning and for the enhancement of Reading for Pleasure which has a hugely beneficial impact on their progress and achievement throughout their time in the school. Both of our libraries are accessible to all the children and staff at The Croft and are open during normal school hours. The libraries are located one in Pre-Prep, the other in Prep, and each class from Little Crofters Pre-School to Year 3 has a timetabled library session every week. For all Prep children (Years 3 to 6), the Library is open at lunch times on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays when children can borrow, renew or return books or simply sit and enjoy some quiet reading time. Once a week, Prep children are also welcomed into the Library at lunch time to enjoy ‘Tales on a Tuesday’ where a member of staff reads aloud.

The libraries offer a wide range of age-appropriate fiction and non-fiction resources, and children are encouraged to borrow a broad selection of literature. There is a computerised library management system, Libresoft, and children from Reception upwards are taught to use a scanner to return and borrow books, under appropriate supervision. In Prep, children are encouraged to become Librarians which involves helping other children to find and choose books, giving recommendations, and helping to keep the Library and its books well organised. They are guided and supported in their role by a member of staff.

All classrooms also have a small fiction collection from which children are encouraged to browse and read.

Borrowing periods for the Libraries:

- Pre-Prep – The children borrow a book to take and share at home on a weekly basis. They may borrow one book at a time and all books should be returned at the end of each term.
- Prep – We recognise that as children get older and begin to access more challenging texts, they often need longer to complete a book. We therefore recommend a three-week borrowing period (although children may renew books if they need to) and, as in Pre-Prep, children may borrow one book at a time. Library books should be returned at the end of each term.

Lost or damaged books – Inevitably, from time to time books are mislaid or damaged. In these instances, parents will be asked to supply a replacement copy.