

Success for Norfolk's Reading Recovery Teachers

Ten Reading Recovery teachers celebrated the successful completion of their training at the Norfolk Children's Book Centre, near Aylsham, in October. The teachers received their certificates and badges from teacher leader Jill Oakes, and reminisced about their experiences, which included teaching demonstration lessons and observing their colleagues. As a result of the course, the teachers agreed that they have become "more reflective, observant and perceptive," and have gained "greater insights and expertise in the methods of teaching struggling readers." They have also been active in supporting the teaching of reading in their schools and monitoring the success of other intervention programmes.

Reading Recovery is part of the Every Child a Reader programme, and aims to support young children who are experiencing the greatest problems in learning to read. During their training year, the teachers have helped over 30 five and six year olds to become skilled in the reading process. Most of the children entered the programme unable to read the simplest text and made between one or two year's progress in reading age after only 50 hours of individual instruction.

Parents have been thrilled by their children's progress, and have commented on how the programme has had a positive influence on self-esteem, attendance and attitudes towards learning.

A further eight Reading Recovery teachers are currently in training. Schools interested in accessing Reading Recovery or Fischer Family Trust training should contact Jill Oakes on 01603 433276.

