

# Ash Grange Primary School Junior Librarian Case Study

Ash Grange is a Primary school with 260 children. The children here range from 3 – 11 years old. Prior to purchasing Junior Librarian we did not have a computerised library system which made it very hard to keep track of our books and meant we were losing a lot of stock, so the main motivation for purchasing Junior Librarian was stock control.

We were keen to go for this product because we felt it had the best reputation and also because it offered us a full network licence.

We found purchasing and installing Junior Librarian extremely straightforward. The sales team were very patient and answered all our questions with confidence. The documentation that came with the system was easy to follow and I immediately felt confident about using Junior Librarian. I debated about opting for the training day – I didn't think I really needed it. However, I did go ahead and how glad I was as I got much more out of the training session than I would have from the manual alone!

The staff are very impressed with the system... although these days they rarely get the chance to use it because the children manage the system independently. The pupils love it, especially the thumb scanner which was worth every penny. They also love the Happy Birthday tune that plays automatically when they issue a book on their birthday!

The service provided by MLS has been excellent. We have had no problems with software, hardware or upgrades. The only issues we've had have been caused by us changing our hardware and a burglary when our main computer was stolen. MLS helped us to resolve them all, thank you! I would strongly recommend Junior Librarian to other schools, and have done so several times. The benefits have been many. Stock control means that for the first time we are able to keep track of all our library books. The enquiry module means that children can search for books and locate them easily in the library.

Junior Librarian gives each child an individual reading record which not only lists the books they have out on loan, but also all the books they have ever borrowed and written reviews for. The reports and statistics are obtainable at the press of a button and provide useful feedback on whole school library use as well as individuals.

Finally because Junior Librarian is so child friendly it encourages independent browsing and borrowing for all children.

As far as the software goes the only thing I would add to my wish list is to be able to minimise the screen when I am in 'Librarian Only' so I would be able to move back and forth between screens without having to log back in all the time. I cannot think of anything else that MLS could do to improve their service. The phone is always answered quickly and problems resolved...unless you would like to come and tidy the books away for me!!

Jackie Chitson, Librarian  
Ash Grange School

