



Reading at Home

Years One and Two

When children are learning to read, it is important that they practise independent reading with fully decodable books that are matched to their secure phonic knowledge. This enables children to decode words and, with practise, develop fluency when reading aloud.

Your child will bring a phonics book, linked to our Little Wandle Phonics scheme, home each week. In Year Two, when your child has completed the phonics scheme, they will begin to read coloured book banded books matched closely to their reading ability.

Books will be changed on a **weekly** basis; this is because decoding is only **one** component of reading. Once the children are able to decode the book, it is important for them to spend time talking about the book; developing an understanding of what they have read.

Comprehension (understanding the text), is an extremely important skill that needs to be taught, and practised, to enable children to make sense of what they read, build on what they already know and give them a desire to want to read.

In school, your child will read the same book each week, in three different guided reading sessions. Session one will focus on decoding the book, session two will focus on reading the book with expression (prosody) and session three will focus on answering questions about the text (comprehension). Your child's class teacher will use the 'guided read' stamp in their reading records when they have read in school. We will no longer be writing individual comments in reading records as this will mean that we spend longer talking to your children about the books that they have read rather than spending time on writing a comment.

When you have read with your child at home, it would be great if you could please date the reading record and name the title of the book. You are welcome to add a short comment into their red reading record, should you wish. There is no expectation for this, as what is more important is the children enjoy spending time reading with you.

Here are some examples of some questions you may wish to ask when reading with your child at home:

- Discuss the meaning of words; e.g. can you find me a word that shows the character is feeling sad?
- Discuss alternative words. Ask your child to think of another word that means the same as one they have read; e.g. can you think of another word that means the same as big?
- Make predictions. What do you think will happen next? What makes you think that?
- Discuss feelings. How do you think the characters are feeling? What has made them feel this way?
- Where is the story set? Have you read another story with the same setting? For example, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen and 'The Gruffalo' by Julia Donaldson are both set in the woods.
- Discuss the problem in the story. What has happened? What went wrong? How are the characters feeling now? How do you know?
- Discuss the resolution. How was the problem solved? Is there another way it could have been resolved?
- Fact or fiction? Is this book a story book or a non-fiction book? How do you know?
- What have you learnt? What do you know now that you didn't know before reading the book?

As well as a phonics book, your child will be bringing home a book from the library which will be a book for you to read together; to help to develop their love for reading. Sharing books with your child can be really magical; a time for you to get lost in a book for just a few minutes a day.

Should you have any questions about how to support your child with their reading please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or Mrs Taylor, our English Lead.

