



18 May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Important changes to home reading

We have recently invested heavily in new books from picture books, phonics books, whole class reading sets, fascinating nonfiction to high quality texts that open doors to literacy heritage. We are in the process of replenishing and expanding our collection of home reading books. As we await the final delivery we thought this would be a good time to introduce you to how our new reading system will work.

We will be moving to a more systematic approach for changing books within school, with children changing their home reading books weekly. Children will be bringing home multiple books to read during the week before returning back to school the following week. A member of staff will check reading logs and support children in changing their books. We are currently in the process of updating our reading logs, these new logs will be available to all children in September.

Books that are sent home will soon be labelled with a sticker to indicate the purpose of the book. They will fall into one of the below three categories. What books your child will bring home will depend on your child's stage in their reading. For those children still mastering the mechanics of reading they will be bringing home all three types of books whereas those who have mastered decoding and no longer require Read Write Inc books will bring home, I read to you and We read books.



I READ to you

As you know our learners learn to read using speed sounds as part of their Read Write Inc phonics programme. These books are directly linked to RWI and are sent home in a very specific order so your child can practise reading at home at exactly the right stage for them. They should be able to read these books without any help as they have already been taught the speed sounds and "red words" for that specific book. These books unlock the code of written English.

As children progress through RWI and eventually leave phonics behind, they will experience a wider range of books that are still relevant to the words they are learning for their reading stage. We would expect you to listen to your child read these and use the questions on the inside covers to help.

Please do not focus on the Read Write Inc colour band as they have their own colour sequence which does not match our old colour band system. For those children who have completed the Read Write Inc scheme, they will move onto the higher stages of our existing reading scheme which begins with turquoise.

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We READ together

These are the traditional coloured book band books used in almost every school. They come from a mixed range of publishers that have been precisely levelled and skilfully written to support reading development. Children should be able to read most of the words with a good level of accuracy, but they will still need you to read alongside them to help pronounce tricky words or understanding new vocabulary. You should definitely be part of this reading experience as it is a two-way approach to reading, taking turns, talking about the text and illustrations, and of course checking for comprehension. It is best practise for you to read the book to them first with plenty of discussion about the plot, characters and new words. Your child will then experience far more success when they take their turn to then read the same book.



You READ to me

Finally, a real reading treat! Our library is a special place that offers a mix of stories, poetry and non-fiction for all ages and interests. It is a cosy area of the school much like a living room stocked with hundreds of great books all lovingly chosen by our teachers and recommended by experts. These books have been chosen by the child and should be cherished and shared together as an intimate time to develop vocabulary, language comprehension, imagination and to develop a love of reading. The best thing that you can do is to foster your child's love of reading and enjoy reading great stories to them. Spending time reading is time spent investing in your child's future chances.

We have invested a considerable amount of money in these books and ask that you support us in ensuring these are returned to school in a neat and well- loved condition. We understand that accidents happen and books may get lost however we will be asking parents to contribute to the cost of replacing any damaged or missing books, we appreciate your support in looking after our new books.

Please bear with us as we transition over to this new system. It will take us a couple of weeks to get all books labelled.

Any questions or advice can be sought from your child's class teacher in the first instance. We wish you luck in devouring a few books this term!

HAPPY READING!

Rebecca Wood
Head of School

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Assistant Head