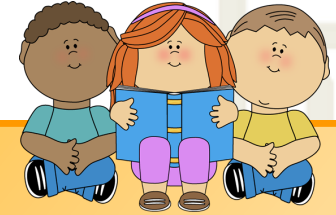


Reading Information Sheet for Parents



The most important aspect of reading is that it should be enjoyable and the children want to do it on a regular basis without it being a chore for them or you. They should be developing a love of books and stories which ignite their imagination as well as encourage and develop an expanding vocabulary.



Reading in School

The children take part in daily reading activities where they are taught to read as well as practice the skills they have learnt. This involves using their learnt phonic knowledge to decode words as well as developing vocabulary and an understanding of a text.

We like to know how the children are getting on with their reading at home so please comment in their reading record. This will help us to know if their book needs to be changed as well.

Reading at Home

The children will bring home a reading book that is decodable based on the sounds they have learnt. This encourages them to read independently and to create a feeling of success. They will also include words, known as tricky words, which the children will have learnt but cannot always be easily sounded out using phonics. Initially they will have help to change these books but we want to encourage them to do this independently. And this may result in the odd random book being bought home.

The children will also bring home a book that is not necessarily decodable and this is for them to share with someone at home. These can be read to the children and used to develop other reading skills such as prediction, word recognition, vocabulary and use of picture cues.



Reading Books

Research recently carried out by the DfE has suggested that children should not read a book just once when learning to read. We want the children to read their book several times over a week. The first couple of times they read the book will focus on them decoding all of the words. The next time will be to develop fluency and then they will read to gain an understanding of the story and a comprehension of the text. This means that they may get one reading book a week.

You can make this fun by doing things like getting them to read in funny voices, performing the story or asking them questions about the characters.

This should not be the only book they read as they will also have their reading for enjoyment book they have chosen from school as well as any books they may have at home.

Reading Aloud

Reading aloud to your children regularly is proven to help develop a love of reading, expand their vocabulary and helps to enhance creativity as well as modelling correct speech patterns. Reading aloud offers great quality time together. It's nice to snuggle on the sofa or on cushions, create a calm atmosphere before bed and settle down to some reading with each other. It increases your child's attention span and power of staying engaged, regardless of whether they read to you or vice versa.

