

IMPORTANT - CHANGES TO HOME READING

Dear Parents / Carers,

This year we are focussing on how we teach reading and as a result we have developed our home reading books to link in securely with our phonics scheme which is Read Write Inc. The scheme ensures that the books which your child reads at home directly relate to the sounds (phonics) which they learn in class.



Starting from this week and next, your child's phonic teacher will provide your child with their first Read Write Inc 'Story Book', which is a copy of the book they have been learning in their phonics lesson that week. They will keep this book until Thursday and will be expected to read it each day in order to develop their fluency. To develop their understanding, there are a couple of questions at the back of each book for you to discuss at the end of the week. Please

ensure that you record the name of the book and the dates on which the book was read in their Reading Diary. This cycle will be repeated each week.

The phonics booklets we will be sending home are paper copies of the books we read in class. They are quite flimsy and could get damaged quite easily. To ensure we get as much use out of the books as we can, we are supplying each child with a plastic wallet to keep the book stored in and would ask that you keep the book in the wallet when not in use. We only have 10 copies of each book so it is important that books are returned on the day requested which will currently be a Thursday. New books will be issued on a Friday. Please also refrain from writing your child's name on the book!

### **How do we decide which book your child has?**

At the end of every half term, your child's phonics and reading will be assessed using Read Write Inc guidance. Based upon these results, it will be decided whether your child changes to a different colour of book. Please do not focus on the Read Write Inc colour banding as their system doesn't correlate with banding systems of other books. You may feel that the books are too easy for your children but the systematic phonics program that we follow ensures that children are reading confidently and fluently before moving on. Please remember that it is not a race to be on bigger books, phonics teaching is about reading with confidence and understanding with a progressive and repetitive approach.

### **Reading for Pleasure**

Along with their weekly Read Write Inc book your child will also be encouraged to choose a book from our reading book library which also links to their phonics book band colour. Whilst their Read Write Inc 'phonics' book will help develop fluent decoding and understanding aligned with their phonics lessons that week, the other book is to read at home for pleasure. You may find that there are words that children need some support with and you may need to talk more about your child's understanding of the book. It is very important that children have a broad and rich literary diet so reading as much as possible at home from food packaging to sign posts, recipes to choosing books from the library are all really important. Please record any reading your child has done with you in the Reading Diary. In addition, children in Class R will still be bringing a sharing book home each week.



Kind Regards  
Mrs Gordon