

**READING AT HOME**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Your child will bring home a home reading book each Friday to be read at home. This is an opportunity for you to listen to your child read and discuss their reading books with them.

As a parent/carer, you play an important role in helping your child learn to read. Research shows that children who are helped at home make better progress in school. Reading with your child can be fun and very rewarding. It also shows that you value their efforts. If children enjoy reading, it will benefit their whole education. They are also more likely to carry on reading as adults.

Each time you hear your child read, please complete the ‘Reading Record’ which we expect to be at least **3 times a week.** Return the book and reading record to school on a Monday to be checked by the Teacher and Teaching Assistant and books can be changed if necessary. Children will be rewarded for reading 3 times at home and having 3 comments in their Reading Records. Books and records will then be returned home again on the following Friday. In Key Stage Two, books will be changed when your child has completed them and a signed ‘Reading Record’ has been seen. It is still an expectation that they read at least **3 times a week.**

There is more information and useful advice on how to support your child with their reading on our school website and there are some key tips on the reverse of this letter.

If you have any problems or would like further advice about your child’s reading, do not hesitate to speak to your child’s teacher.

Thank you for your support,

Miss West

**** **How to help at home**

**Before reading:**

* Find a quiet, relaxing place away from distractions such as the TV
* Sit comfortably in good light and talk to your child about their book
* Read for about 10 minutes; a regular short time of quality is better than a long session which happens only occasionally
* Talk about the cover and title and what the story might be about
* Ask them to tell you who wrote the book or point to the author
* Ask them to tell you where the story takes place
* If your child has already read some of the book, ask them to sequence what has happened so far and/ or predict what could happen next

**During reading: Word recognition**

* Where possible wait for your child to decode words
* Encourage the use of clues such as the look/sound of the letters, what would make sense and the illustrations
* When your child has successfully decoded the word, ask them to read the sentence again from the beginning.
* Encourage expressive reading by drawing attention to punctuation

**If they get stuck on a word, you could:**

* let them read on so they can work out the word themselves from the context
* give them the first or last sounds to help them
* read the word for them
* let them sound out unknown words – break longer words down in to syllables
* do not sound out words which are not phonetic e.g “because”

**Understanding the text- comprehension, justifying opinions, inferring, vocabulary**

* Help understanding by talking about the story or text – the setting, the plot, the characters
* Ask questions where your child has to select the correct answer from the book
* Discuss the kind of people the characters are and the way they behave
* Ask inference questions – what do you think …?
* Ask questions about vocabulary

**After reading:**

* Ask your child if they enjoyed it and why.
* Compare the text to other books they have read.
* If the book is not finished, ask them to predict what could happen next.

**There is further information and advice about reading at home on our school website.**