



KS1 Home Reading

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week we are pleased to be able to begin re-sending reading books home with children. However we would like to make you aware of some changes that we have made.

In line with the Revised Ofsted Framework teachers will be selecting children's home reading books ensuring that where possible, they are closely matched to the phonic phase that the child is working on.

Last year a substantial amount of money was spent on purchasing new and additional books which are fully decodable. These are books that contain only phonetic sounds that the child has already learned. For example, a child at the beginning stages of reading who has learned the short vowel sounds could decode simple words like *hat*, *bed*, and *pig*, but would not be able to decode words like *see* and *owl*. A child at a more advanced reading level who has learned many of the di-graphs and tri-graphs would be able to decode more complex words like *snail* and *goat*.

Please be aware that there is some over-lap with phonic sounds and book band colours. Therefore please do not be alarmed if your child brings home a book from a colour band they have previously worked through. Our priority will be on ensuring the books contains the phonic sounds that they are currently working on.

Once a child moves to green banded books and is subsequently secure with all di-graphs and tri-graphs in phase 5, they may be encouraged to select their own books. This is because they should have become less reliant on the use of phonics to sound out words.

At present due to COVID, children will be able to change books on **Tuesdays and Fridays**. Once returned these books will be quarantined for 72 hours before being re-sent out again. We are also asking that you please wipe the covers of books before sending them back into school.

Reading diaries will be sent home at the beginning of each half-term so that you can record comments about how your child has read at home. These diaries will be kept at home for the half term and will then be collected in by teachers at the end of the half-term to review and place reward stickers in.

Reading awards will work in the same way as the previous year. The expectation is that children will read at least 5 times per week. Where this has been achieved a sticker or stamp will be placed at the bottom of the page. Once a child has received 10 stickers then they will receive a reading award certificate e.g. bronze, silver, gold, platinum (medal).

We hope that your child will enjoy being able to bring home books again and please do ask your child's class teacher if you have any further questions.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs A Eason

Assistant Headteacher EYFS and KS1