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 Friday 17th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Reading at home**

We hope that you are enjoying the RWI books that children are bringing home to read. As a school, we have invested heavily in a range of new and exciting reading books to promote a love of reading amongst our children.

Every three days, children will bring home two new RWI books to read. The children will already be familiar with one of the books, since this will have been rehearsed in school, as part of their daily RWI lesson. The other book will be unfamiliar to the children, but will allow them to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding that they have learnt within their RWI lesson. Both books are phonically decodable which will improve children’s fluency.

In return, we would like your support in developing healthy reading habits amongst our children. We kindly ask that all children read at least 3 times a week. This should be recorded in their reading diaries, which will be monitored on a weekly basis. Please see overleaf for suggestions regarding comments.

Prompts for discussion, new vocabulary and guidance can be found inside the book covers. These are invaluable in developing children’s reading comprehension.

Books should be sent to school every day and children should be encouraged to take care of them, since there will be a small cost incurred for any books that are lost or damaged.

Alongside their RWI books, children will also bring home a story to share for pleasure. Research has shown that engagement in reading is strongly correlated with reading performance. Therefore, we kindly ask that you take time to read this book with your child. Keep a look out for our top tips on how to read a story with your child which will follow shortly.

We know that parents and carers are very busy people but reading is the gateway to all future learning and your support can make a big difference.

Happy reading!

Thank you,

Mrs Briggs and the KS1 team

**Suggestions for comments for reading diaries**

Please ensure that all comments are positive, so as to promote a positive attitude towards reading.

You may want to comment upon the following:

**Word skills**

* Read all the words correctly.
* Read unfamiliar words independently.
* Sounded out words which they found tricky. *This is referred to as ‘Fred talk’ in RWI.*
* Needs to practice again to reinforce the words.
* Read accurately and confidently.
* Used picture cues to work out new words.
* Used the first sound to work out new words.
* Recognised when reading did not make sense.
* Self-corrected errors independently.

**Comprehension**

* Understood the story well.
* Good discussion about events in the story.
* Could talk about the story with confidence.
* Answered questions about the story.
* Could talk about what they have learnt from their reading.
* Needs to read again to develop understanding.
* Used the pictures to assist with understanding.
* Retold the story using the story map at the back of the book.
* Discussed which part of the story they enjoyed, giving a reason why.
* Discussed which part of the story they did not enjoy, giving a reason why.

**Attitude and interest**

* Read with enthusiasm.
* Enjoyed the story because…
* Fantastic expression.
* Read with fluency.
* Took punctuation into account when reading the book.
* Was not engaged with this book.