

# Reading is The Key to Success!



Reading is the key to learning... it is our biggest priority. Not only do we want children to know the importance of being able to read fluently, but we want them to experience the enjoyment that books can bring. Please support your child by making time to read regularly with them.

# Home Reading is so important.

## How is it set up?

### Reception and Year 1

- **All children\*** will be given a **phonics based book** linked to their current phonic phase, to enable them to practise and apply their skills with known phonemes. They will also be given an Oxford Reading Tree book to support their understanding of character, tricky words in context and establish common patterns and themes in books.

\* we aim for Year 1 children to move from phonic based books to colour banded books in Summer term.

- **Children will also have a free choice book**, which they will select themselves from the school library. *Children may pick books which are too challenging to read independently but may want to share this book at home with an adult. This promotes reading for enjoyment.*

### Year 2 to Year 6

- **All children\*** will be given a **colour banded book**. *These books are pitched perfectly to enable your child to develop their skills as a reader at the right level and allow for confidence building.* They may finish this book before it is changed, but it is useful and effective to read this book numerous times. When a child reads or hears the same book multiple times, they:
  - become familiar and comfortable with a greater number of words.
  - read without stumbling or stopping (fluency)
  - dive deeper into a story's meaning (comprehension)
  - build reading confidence
- **Children will also have a free choice book**, which they will select themselves from the school library. *Children may pick books which are too challenging to read independently but may want to share this book at home with an adult. This promotes reading for enjoyment.*
- **\*Children whose reading ability is beyond Dark Red Level are classed as 'Free Readers'** and will be welcome to select two free choice books from the library or read their own books from home. They will not have a banded book.

- **Children who have confidently secured Age Related Expectations (ARE) in reading will be given a directed book**, chosen by the class teacher. This will be instead of a free choice book. *These children will be guided which chapters/ pages to read at home and time will be given weekly in class for 'book talk' sessions with other pupils reading the same book. This allows for discussion around themes, plot, characters, authors use of language, etc.* These children will also have a 'Reading Journal' which allows for recording of effective words/ phrases, reflections on what has been read and activities to look at authors' use of specific techniques and their effects.

## What else can the children read?

~ **ANYTHING!** ~

It is important that your child regularly reads their **teacher directed book**, as these are pitched to support skill development. Fostering a love of reading is key, therefore it is essential that they read for enjoyment and see books as fun. This may mean they are reading comics, picture books, story books, topic books, articles, 'How To' guides, recipes, content on the web, etc. **These can all be recorded in children's Reading Records!**



## What else will school offer?

Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 classes will offer '**Knowledge Builders**'. These will be articles/ information texts which link to the topics that children are studying in class. Teachers will make 3 available each half term and children will be welcome to take these home from the classroom to use for home reading if they would like to.

Not sure which books to encourage your child to read? Take a look at our Recommended Reading page on the school website, there are '**recommended reading lists**' for each year group to support parents and children with book choices outside of school.

Children in Years 1-6 will have a VIPERS book mark in their home reading books. These are to offer guidance and prompts for parents/carers on how best to support their child with reading at home.



## What are we asking of you?

1. That you listen to your child read at least **3 x per week and record this in their Reading Record.**
2. That you ensure your child has their reading book and reading record in school **every day.**

## Top ideas to motivate children at home

1. Buying some audio books to listen to in the car
2. Model a love of reading by letting your child see you read (use our lending library!)
3. Find/ make a cosy spot in the house for reading
4. Read a book then watch the movie
5. Read books to your child and enjoy them together
6. Visit the local library/ book shop
7. Reread the same books to little ones, encouraging them to join in with repeated words/ phrases
8. Use cook books and get cooking!
9. Get a headlamp for bedtime reading (get a little goofy!)
10. Give children access to appropriate magazines/ comics
11. Embed reading into your daily routine, e.g. 10 minutes before bedtime

## How will home reading be monitored?

Your child's Reading Record will be checked by their class teacher **every Friday** and rewards issued where appropriate (see below for details).

Adults in school will listen to children read 1:1 as frequently as possible. When this happens, a comment will be written in your child's Reading Record. **This is why it is very important that children have both their reading book and their Reading Record in school EVERY day.**

## How will we reward reading?

### Personal Reward System

When Reading Records are checked on a Friday, if your child has **3 or more reads recorded** they will receive a sticker for their reading chart.

- 10 stickers = Bronze award and reading sticker
- 20 stickers = Silver award and Shield Row Primary book mark
- 30 stickers = Gold award and Super Star Reader badge
- 35 stickers = Book gifted from the reading reward cabinet

If your child collects all the stars, they will be given a **Super Star Reader collection card** and will collect fun weekly stickers and earning raffle tickets!

### Whole School Reward System

When Reading Records are checked on a Friday, if your child has **3 or more reads recorded** they will also receive a raffle ticket. These will be entered into a termly draw.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Kids Kindle & 1 year subscription to book library
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: £20 book voucher
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: £10 book voucher



## Homework Expectations

We understand that life is busy and that finding time to fit in reading and homework on top of everything else can be a real challenge. Therefore, we have made some alterations to ensure that **reading is a priority.**

### Weekly

1. Read 3 x week
2. Practice times tables on TT Rockstars and/ or using school Times table books
3. Practice spellings

### Half Termly

4. An optional challenge which allows for a creative approach! Teachers will set this linked to class topics.



Please see the homework overview sheet for further clarification.

**If you have any questions about how best to support your child with their reading, please do not hesitate to speak to their class teacher. We are always happy to help.**