

Phonics & Reading



Year 2 Reading and Phonics

Following a recent change in government guidance we have invested in a brand-new scheme for teaching early reading in our school. This means that there are some small changes the way that both phonics and reading are taught and assessed that will enhance our already structured provision.

Phonics will continue to be taught daily and will be taught following a phonics scheme called 'Little Wandle-Letters and Sounds revised'. We have invested in sets of new early reading books which are fully decodable for the children and entirely matched to the phonics scheme and its 5 phases and within each phase there are sets of books.

Your child's reading book:

We have been busy checking the sounds that your child has retained from Reception and Year 1 and how well they blend sounds to read words. We have identified any sounds that your child needs to re-visit, so that we can be sure to close any gaps in learning.

The phonics book your child brings home matches **exactly** all sounds they know and can blend to make words and so they will be able to read it well! When the children read the book with you at home it will be to 'show off' the skills they have learnt so you can see the wonderful progress they are making. This book has been carefully matched to your child's current **phonics level/phase**. If your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading. Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, help them to see the sounds and blend it with them. After they have finished, talk about the book together. The phonics book is their reading book. Please read this book several times to promote a fluid pace, lovely expression, and good comprehension.

There will be support for parents in how we teach phonics on the school website shortly, including useful videos of how sounds should be spoken and how we teach blending.

A Book to Share

We will also be sending home a colour coded book- this is for language acquisition and for your child to **share** with you. These books will have words in that may not be decodable using sounds or use the sounds they know well.

Assessing your child

We will be carefully monitoring the progress of your child. Children will be reading in small, guided groups each week, developing: • Decoding • Prosody- reading with rhythm, stress, and intonation • Comprehension.

We will assess them regularly using the Little Wandle phonics and word checker and, when they are ready, (phase 5), we will Benchmark them using our PM Benchmarking system and they will then continue to move through the colour bands (when mastery of each expectation is secured) as they progress through Year 2 and into Key Stage 2.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's class teacher and they will be happy to help.

