



Reading

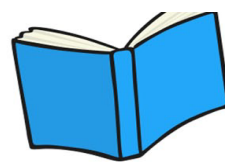
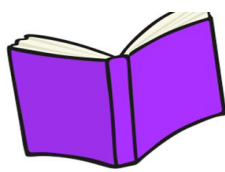
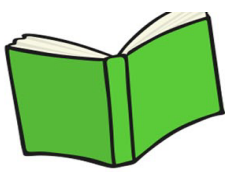
Today your child has brought home their first reading book inside a plastic wallet along with a reading record. We ask that the books are kept together inside the wallet and returned to school each day in your child's blue reading folder.

Please read this book with your child at least 4 times a week and write a comment in their reading record to let us know how they have got on. Your child's reading day is on a _____. Your child will read in school on this day and, as long as their reading record is signed by a parent or guardian, they will be issued with a new book to take home for a week. If you wish to keep the reading book for longer, please let us know by leaving a comment in your child's reading record.

Your child will bring two reading book home each week, but please supplement your child's reading with other books from home or the library. The books sent home from school are not only to read but to start discussions at home. It is important that not only does a child read fluently but that they understand what they are reading. When reading with your child ask questions about the book to ensure they understand what they have read.

Here are some tips when reading with your child:

- Let him/her hold the book and turn the pages.
- Make this an enjoyable and fun time, preferably at the same time each night (i.e. just before bed, after dinner, etc.)
- Draw your child's attention to words on the page and/or individual letters
- Let your child "read" from the pictures – if s/he seems to be "making up" the stories as s/he goes along, don't worry, just let him/her enjoy the experience. This is an important beginning reading strategy.
- To help your child learn a story so s/he develops confidence in his/herself as a reader, read a sentence and have your child repeat after you. With repeated readings, your child will probably memorize the book. Once the book is memorized, ask your child to find individual words such as "at", "and", "or" and "but". This will help your child
- develop reading readiness skills.
- Note: IF YOUR CHILD SHOWS ANY INDICATION THAT THE READING TIME IS NOT ENJOYABLE (i.e. "I don't want to..." etc.) PLEASE STOP AND TRY AGAIN ANOTHER TIME. If your child continually does not seem to enjoy the reading time, please see your child's class teacher and we will talk about ways to help make it fun. This time should NOT be a chore to be "gotten over with" – it should always be a time children (and parents) look forward to. We want to develop a lifelong love of reading and it needs to start now!



The first books your child will bring home are wordless books. These books tell a story through pictures alone. They help children to develop speaking and listening skills through creating and telling stories.



How to support your child reading wordless books



Your child is just beginning to discover the excitement of books. Although these books have no words they are an important introduction to reading . Please encourage your child to:



- ◆ Know that a book has a beginning and an end, and can hold a book the right way up.
- ◆ Know that a beginning and an end, and is able to turn accurately to the beginning or end when prompted.
- ◆ Explain in simple terms what is happening in a picture in a familiar story.
- ◆ Sequence some events from a familiar story.
- ◆ Experience and respond to different types of books, e.g. story books, factual books, rhyming and non-rhyming stories, realistic and fantasy stories.
- ◆ At Lilac level it is very important to read to your child as well as listen to them reading. This can be a cosy, bedtime activity for sharing and enjoyment of a book. Your child can be the listener and will learn a great deal from hearing you read aloud, such as seeing how the pages are turned, how expression is used, how the plot develops and so on.
- ◆ You may find that your child will begin to join in with a favourite book. With a new book you may want to ask your child how they think the story will end, about whether they liked the story or what they think about particular characters.



Please approach your child's class teacher if you have any questions.



We appreciate all your support

The EYFS Team

