

Dear Years R, 1 and 2 Parents,

The English team have been reviewing and updating our current phonics planning and reading material in order to meet current requirements with the aim being to support your children in making quick progress to become fluent and confident readers. We have been very lucky in being able to purchase over £6000.00 worth of new books which are directly linked to the phonics being taught in class each week. We have also signed up to Oxford Owl which provides an online eBook library where staff can assign your child to an eBook to read at home. Children's login details will be sent out shortly. We will be changing children's reading books once a week, this allows your child to re-read each text several times, building their confidence and fluency. This is especially important as they begin to learn that the sounds within our language can be spelt in different ways. It is a key part of learning to read that children re-read words and sentences that they can decode (sound out) until they are fluent (read with ease and precision). By reading texts several times children have the greatest opportunity to achieve this fluency. The texts sent home are carefully matched to the teaching taking place in school. Your child will be practising what they have been taught in school with you at home. Spending 10 minutes a day reading with your child will hugely support them on their journey to becoming an independent reader.

We are also in the process of sorting out our current reading books which will be sent home as a 'sharing book' for you to read together with your child, helping us to instil a love of reading from the very beginning of their reading journey. These could be read together with your child reading the words they are able to decode or could be read to your child.

Over the past year we have noticed an increase in the number of reading books that are not being returned to school each week. This does have an impact on the range of books we can offer to the children as well as needing to buy replacements each year. **Please can we ask that all reading books are kept in your child's book bag and brought to school every day.** With a significant amount of money having been invested in our new books, we will be signing books in and out each week in order to keep track of books that need returning.

We're looking forward to introducing these new, exciting and engaging texts to the children over the coming weeks.

If you have any questions, please speak to or message your child's class teacher.

Happy reading!

