



Supporting with Reading at Home



Our new reading books (new in December 2019) are matched accurately to children's progress in their Phonics learning. The colour bands follow the same pattern but the level of challenge is different. Teachers are currently matching each child to the correct colour band, so please do not worry if your child moves 'down' or 'up' a band; it is not a reflection of their progress, it is to ensure they are on the right level for the new books. This has been explained to the children too so they don't feel worried either.

Strategies for Reading at Home

- Sound out and blend gradually, eg. f-l, f-l-ow, f-l-ow-er, f-l-ow-er-s, flowers
- Use the phonics mat to support with sounding out (on the back of this letter)
- Spot the tricky words first in a sentence, then tackle the phonics.
- Paired Reading-If your child is struggling, it's fine for you to read some first and allow your child to take over when they feel confident.
- Don't push it: If your child is tired, you can read to them and they can watch how you point to the words and sound out. This is really valuable too.
- Little and often is better than one long session a week.
- Finally, please allow your child to read anything else at home as well as their school reading book.

New Reading Routine

Children will now keep a home reading book for longer. This is because we would like them to read it at least three times:

1. To practise their sounding out
2. To build up fluency (reading without having to sound out every word)
3. To develop comprehension (talking about what they have read)

So please don't worry if your child has the same book for a few days-repeated reading of the same book is good practise for them Please keep reading and signing their diary!

Thank you for your continued support with your child's reading.