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Dear Parents

14th May 2021

How to Help your Child with Reading at Home

In Reception and KS1 your child will bring home a reading book that is closely matched to their current reading development. This means that, on the whole, the book will contain the specific phonics and words they have been learning at school.

Please support your child to read this book as independently as possible. It is a good idea for them to read the book more than once to help them practise fluency. If they get stuck help them to sound out the word or tell them the word and make a note of the difficulty in the Reading Record comments section. Many books contain inside-cover guidance, which is designed to help you talk with your child about the book. Some pupils may have a book that is below the level being taught in school but one they are mostly able to decode by themselves and the book will be chosen so they can improve their fluency and decoding skills with sounds they already know.

Children in KS2 who are still working on their phonics will have a similar arrangement. When pupils have a good grasp of their phonic skills (confident at Phase 6) they will progress onto book bands which will be aligned to their reading capabilities and are not entirely phonetically decodable. They will still need to read aloud regularly to help them develop their reading fluency. Once a child has progressed through the bands they will become a free reader.

From next week, your child will also bring home a library book and/or a story to share. These books may contain phonics and words that your child has not yet been taught. These books are chosen by the child to help them develop their love of reading and knowledge of the world around them. Nursery children may also bring home a story to share.

Please support your child by reading these books to them or sharing the reading together. Please enjoy reading with your child and chat with them about the contents of the books they bring home.

Your comments in the Reading Record help us to understand your child's preferences, successes and challenges.

For further guidance on how you can help your child with reading at home please refer to our guidance booklet by [clicking here](#) or ask your child's teacher.

Yours sincerely

Faye Dodds-Aston

