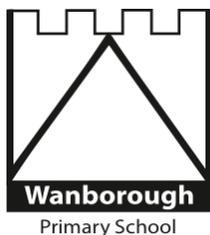


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Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents,

Thank you for supporting your child with reading over the past few months. Reading is a priority on our School Improvement Plan and we have made some changes this school year.

### **Reception and KS1**

Your child will soon be coming home with two reading books: one phonic based and one for pleasure. Remember that reading should not be a task or chore but an enjoyable time together which helps to develop reading skills as well as an enjoyment of reading.

### **Reception**

All children in reception begin with books without words. This encourages the child to talk about the book and make observations about the pictures within that book. A child can read one of these books more than once and they are likely to notice different things each time. After phonics teaching has begun, phonic based books will be sent home with your child.

### **Reception and KS1 Phonic Books**

One of the books that your child comes home with will have a sticker and a phase name on. This is directly connected to the phonic phase being taught in class and will be relevant to their learning. These books are designed to reinforce the phonic learning in school and help your child to be secure in their ability to read that sound and decode words which contain that sound. They will be assessed once the phonic phase has been completely taught to see if they are ready for the next part of the phase. If they remain on that phase, it just means that they need more time to be completely secure with those phonic sounds. This is not something that can be rushed but will ensure that learning is securely embedded. Books can be read more than once as this helps to reinforce the recognition of graphemes(written) and phonemes(sound).

### **Reading for Pleasure**

One book will be a book selected by your child. This may be a book with a subject that interests them, from a familiar series, recommended by a friend or adult or have attracted them by the cover. They may require some help when reading this book and you could take it in turns to read parts of it. Try to spend time discussing the book with them by talking about the characters, storyline or for non-fiction, discuss the layout and information. Take time to enjoy the book together and build excitement about reading it.

Remember that reading is best done in short frequent sessions and you do not need to read both books in a day!



## KS2

Even though most children in KS2 are now ready to read books independently, they learn and progress at a much faster rate when they share their reading with an adult. Spending time listening to your child read is very important and they need to be given the opportunity to talk about what they are reading. We aim to promote a love of reading to help your child become a more confident reader.

In classes, children will have suggested reads which have been recommended by the teacher and they will be able to choose books for pleasure. We try to encourage children to broaden their choices when selecting a new book to read so that they don't read books by a single author only. When they bring a book home, spend time discussing the book and listening to your child read. Share the reading with your child and give them the chance to listen to you read as well.

### Books Going Home

With the current situation in mind, teachers will be allocating separate days within the week where books can be returned (and left for a recommended period of 72 hours) and when books can be chosen to take home. Please bear with us during this time and ensure that you adhere to the days allocated by the class teacher.

Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Miss B Watts  
English Subject Lead  
Assistant Headteacher

