

11 September 2020

Dear Parents,

In the front of your child's reading log you will find some information about the new reading scheme we are using in school. This letter contains some further information about the scheme and some suggestions that you might want to consider for supporting your child's development of reading.

The class teacher will hear your child read weekly and will expect the book sent home to be read with fluency when they are re-read a week later. PLEASE read this book as often as possible at home with your child to increase fluency, confidence and understanding about the book. (A Playlist of videos can be found on the school YouTube channel or by visiting <https://bit.ly/3ikTwc3>, the videos illustrate the increasing fluency by reading regularly and some ideas for supporting questioning). After reading with your child, note that they have been heard read and write any comments you wish to share into their reading record.

When your child next reads with the class teacher, as well as sharing the old book, a new one will then be introduced and your child will have a chance to read some of it to the teacher before bringing it home (provided the last one was returned!) It is essential that the book is returned each week so that the teacher can monitor progress. You will be contacted by the school if books are not returned when required. A new book will not be supplied until that book is returned.

Please be aware – book bands may be different. We are using a new scheme to help us assess and support progress so your child will be put on an appropriate level. The book bands we are using have been carefully selected to ensure that they match with the phonics learning that has been taking place in class.

Progress through the bands will be assessed on fluency, comprehension, decoding and ability to predict what new books may be about. Please do not worry about the bands, your child will be working on the band that best meets their phonics level and comprehension skill.

Re-reading the teacher given text is the priority for your child, however, they will also have access to the library and some other banded books. Further information will follow soon as we embed the new reading scheme.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Howie (Vice Principal)