**Reception Class Reading**

**What can parents do to help?**

We ask parents to help their child to read by practising what they have learnt in school. We hope that this booklet will help to guide you in these early reading together stages.

**The printed books**

We use a variety of reading schemes in the Reception class. The children will not have to work through each book in a scheme, instead the books are colour-banded, which enables you’re your to have a book that matches their level of reading.

The main reading schemes that we use are

* Rigby Rocket
* Oxford Reading Tree

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**Jolly Phonics**

We introduce phonics by using the jolly phonics actions. For each sound there is an action which helps the children remember the sound the letter makes. The letters and sounds are not introduced in alphabetical order. The sound sheets will show you the actions so that you can practice these at home.

**At the beginning**

Your child will bring home a book bag. This will contain a book that we have chosen for your child. It is not intended that you should teach your child to read this book; we do not expect them to come back to school able to read every word. Instead, we hope that you will read the story with your child, bearing in mind these points.

* Make sure the child can see the print and the pictures
* Read the book slowly **pointing to the words** with the child’s finger or your own as you go along. This will enable your child to become familiar with print going from left to right.
* Use the pictures as well. There is often additional story in them.
* Allow plenty of time for discussion before you turn over the page. A valuable question is “What do you think will happen next?”
* Let your child read the story to you afterwards- even if this is reciting by heart or making the story up using the pictures. This is a very important stage. Children learn how to behave like readers with these activities. Praise all their attempts.
* If your child particularly likes a story they may want to hear it over and over. This should be encouraged.

Whilst you are undertaking these activities at home we are also teaching them to skills that they need to be readers at school.

**Later on**

As your child develops their knowledge of sounds they will begin to sound out and read some words. They will also begin to pick out words that they know. They will start to read the text accurately and try to match the spoken words to the text by pointing with their finger.

**And finally …**

**Reading together**

* Remember that the key word is enjoyment
* Find a quiet time where you can both relax together
* Give lots of praise, we all thrive on encouragement
* We will change the reading books on **Monday, Wednesday and Friday.** Please send the book bag every day so that we can send letters home. Please do not put fruit or drinks in the book bags.
* Please sign your child’s reading record so that we know they are ready to change their book
* Teachers and parent helpers will also write in the reading record