



9th September 2019

## IMPORTANT - CHANGES TO HOME READING

Dear Parents / Carers,

As you will be aware, during the last academic year we began to redevelop the reading provision at school - the new library of course was a big part of this. This year we are really focussing on how we teach reading.

With the generous support of the PTA, we have invested in a new reading scheme to help pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 develop fluent and confident decoding skills, as well as an understanding of what they are reading. The scheme, called Read Write Inc, ensures that the books which your child reads at home directly relate to the sounds (phonics) which they learn in class.

### Monday 9th September

A member of staff will provide your child with their first Read Write Inc '**Book Bag Book**' on Monday 9th September. This will either be a fiction or non-fiction book. They will keep this book until Thursday and will be expected to read it each day and develop their fluency i.e. **they read it three times**. In order to develop their understanding, there are a couple of questions at the back of each book for you to discuss.

Please ensure that you record the name of the book and the dates on which the book was read in their Reading Log.

In order for this program to work, the children **must** have their reading packs in school **everyday**, particularly on Monday and Thursday, as the book which your child has read will be given to another child.

### Thursday 12th September

A member of staff will provide your child with their next Read Write Inc '**Book Bag Book**' on Thursday 12th September. If they were given a fiction book on Monday then they will be given a non-fiction book on Thursday, or vice versa. Again, your child will be expected to read this book three times. In some circumstances, for example if your child has not read the book at home, they will be asked to keep the same book for the week. This cycle will be repeated each week.

### How do we decide which book your child has?

At the end of the last academic year, your child's phonics and reading was assessed. The intention of the Read Write Inc scheme is that the reading, both in school and at home, is appropriately challenging. Further assessments will take place at the end of every half term. Based upon the results the book colour for your child may be changed.

If we notice that your child is excelling at the work in class, and/or that they need more challenge, then we may change their book colour.

### Colours and Book Bands

Please do not focus on the Read Write Inc colour band as they have their own colour band system, which does not match our old colour band system.



If your child is on a yellow band for Read Write Inc then it does not mean that they have suddenly regressed by a year. Equally, if they are on a purple band for Read Write Inc then it does not mean that they have suddenly progressed by a year.

### **What happens after Read Write Inc?**

For those children who have completed the Read Write Inc scheme, they will move onto the higher stages of our existing reading scheme which begins with purple. At this stage, in order to develop their independence, pupils will be asked to choose their own reading book from their particular book band.

As pupils progress onto free-reading they will still be able to access support when making their book choices.

### **Reading for Pleasure**

We are so fortunate to have access to a broad range of high quality books within our School Library. Each class will have a weekly visit to the library, during which pupils may choose to take another book out using their barcode (as in previous years).

We want pupils to be reading picture books, wordless picture books, poetry, traditional tales, graphic novels, fiction and non-fiction. Whilst their Read Write Inc 'Book Bag' book will help develop fluent decoding and understanding, it is very important that they have a broad and rich literary diet. Please record this reading in their Reading Log too.

We would also like all families to visit our library before or after school, as often as possible, in order to explore and enjoy the books on offer, as well as take new books out. Showing that you value reading, and having enjoyable reading experiences, will help nurture your child.

### **Missing or Lost Books**

As stated earlier, the school and the PTA have spent a lot of money on the Read Write Inc books. We understand that accidents do happen, and sometimes books are lost, but we need to replace each damaged or lost book.

In such circumstances, please inform the School Office about the name of the book which has been lost/damaged and pay £5.00 to cover the cost of a replacement book.

### **Further Information**

Your child's teacher will be able to respond to questions about Read Write Inc at the whole-class parent meeting on Tuesday 17th September.

We will be hosting a parental event solely focussed on Read Write Inc and Reading for Pleasure later this half term. Details will follow shortly.

If the meantime, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Miss Hume

KS1 Coordinator and Phonics leader

Mr Lee

Deputy Headteacher



Once the children have completed the Read, Write Inc program in school they will be ready for Purple reading level and they can change their books themselves before and after school.

The school and PTA have spent a lot of money on these books and we do not have spares if any books are not returned. Because of this, we will be charging parents for any books which have been lost (£5).

Thank you for your patience during this week regarding your child's reading book.

At the end of the last academic year the school and the PTA bought lots of new reading books from a company called Read Write Inc. These books compliment the sounds and storybooks they will be reading in their phonics and reading sessions in school but the colour system is different from what you may be used to. Because of this, we will be changing the way the Read Write Inc Book Bag Books are taken out of the library.

Your child's book will now be changed by a teacher, or TA, every Monday and Thursday. In order to develop not only their decoding but their fluency and comprehension skills, they need to keep the same book for three days so they can read it several times. Once they have decoded the words and can read it fluently, please use the questions at the back of the book to develop their comprehension skills. The new style reading log has columns for you to date three times against the same book title. Every week they will bring home one fiction and one non-fiction book. In order for this program to work, the children **must** have their reading packs in school everyday; particularly on Monday and Thursday so that the books can be given to another child.

The school and PTA have spent a lot of money on these books and we do not have spares if any books are not returned. Because of this, we will be charging parents for any books which have been lost (£5). Children's phonics and reading ability will be assessed at the end of every half term and the colour book which will be sent home will be adjusted accordingly. Once the children have completed the Read, Write Inc program in school they will be ready for Purple reading level and they can change their books themselves before and after school.

End of year Expectations:

Book band colour	RWI colour	ARE
	Ditty	End of Autumn
	Green	End of Spring
	Purple	End of Reception
	Pink	Year 1 End of Autumn
	Orange	
	Yellow	Year 1 End of Spring



	Blue	
	Grey	End of Year 1
Purple		Year 2 End of Autumn
Gold		Year 2 End of Spring
White		End of Year 2

In order to continue developing their love for reading, please continue to take out library books / picture books to share with your child during the week. These will need to be logged in and out using the library computer and their individual library cards.

Your class teacher will explain this in more detail during the parent presentation sessions but if you have any questions in the meantime, please see myself or Mr Lee.

Yours sincerely

Miss Hume  
KS1 Coordinator and Phonics leader

Mr Lee  
Deputy Head Teacher