

16<sup>th</sup> November 2018



## FS2 - Reading at Home

**Dear Parents / Guardians**

**Now that your child is bringing home reading books, we would like to share our school expectations of reading at home**

You child will read to an adult in school at least once a week and will change their home reading book once a week (the day will vary). We ask that you read that book with your child and record their reading in their reading records. You can also record in the reading records any other books you have read at home with your child or any phonics activities you have done. Each child has a log on to Bug Club in the inside of their reading record book. This is an online library of books at the correct stage for your child to read. Your child's teacher can see online which books your child has read but please also record these in their reading record. There are little activities to complete on Bug Club when you see a green bug. Your child is rewarded with virtual coins to spend on little activities for reading.

As a school our expectation is that your child is reading to an adult at least three times a week. This could be only a few pages of a book and does not have to take a long time. Your child's teacher will check the reading records weekly and sign them but will use their own record sheets to record reading done at school.

**We recognise that younger children in EYFS and in Y1 will be still developing their reading skills and so it is really important to share a book with your young child, reading to them as well as listening to them read or talk about pictures in a book. Reading to children and talking about books is vital for good language development. It broadens children's vocabulary and models sentence structures. It opens up conversations between you and your child about people, places, activities and emotions that your child may or may not be familiar with or have experienced. It fosters a love of books which motivates children to learn the skill of reading.**

**When talking with your child about their reading, it can be really helpful to ask them questions about what they are reading. Here are a few suggestions:**

*What do you think this story will be about?*

*What do you think will happen next?*

*How do you think (a character in the story) feels about that?*

*Why do you think he/she did that?*

*What do you think that word means?*

*Can you find a word that means?*

*How do you know she felt worried/happy when that happened?*

In the early stages of reading, your child will be sounding out each word. We ask that after sounding out each word you help them to read the sentence again to make sense of it. They may need lots of support with this at first. We also suggest that you talk about features of books and stories such as the title, contents page, speech bubbles, headings, beginning, middle and end of the story, the problem and the resolution. All of this talking will prepare your child for the curriculum taught at school.

We want to ensure all children are secure in a full range of skills they will need to prepare them for the next year.

We value your support with these Homework arrangements.

Mrs Vicky Ross  
FS Phase Leader