

Important Information about changes to Phonics and Reading

We are proud to be a school that inspires and supports children to be lifelong readers. In response to recent requirements from the Department for Education and Ofsted we are making changes to the way we teach phonics and reading. We have subscribed to a new Phonics Scheme called 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds' revised. It is a comprehensive systematic scheme that teaches children from Reception to Year 1 how to read and spell. This year, because of the lockdowns, we will also be using it in the Autumn term of Year 2.

We need your help!

- Please watch the Parent Information video (emailed to you) for essential information.
- Please take a look at the Little Wandle website parent pages to watch videos and get more information. <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk>
- The scheme also relies on help from parents to support children read at home regularly. We will no longer be using the book band colours. Instead, children will receive the following books to read at home each week.

Book type	Description	How do I help at home?
Decodable phonetic reading book	Reading scheme book with only the sounds and tricky words the child is secure in. At first it may be a book with no words.	Encourage your child to read by spotting the graphemes in the words and then blending them. i.e n- igh-t has 3 sounds. Encourage them to spot 'tricky words'. Reread to build fluency.
Ebook from Big Cat Collins (parent logins coming soon)	A Reading scheme book exactly matched to Little Wandle phonics progression book your child has probably read in class. Reading scheme books with only the sounds and tricky words the child is secure in.	If it is a wordless book please talk about the pictures.
Reading for Pleasure non-decodable book	A book containing many or some words with sounds in your child has not yet been taught.	Share this book with your child. They may be able to read some words but do not expect them to read it independently. Encourage them to 'have a go'. Look at the pictures and talk about the book.
Library book (Year 1 & 2) or self-chosen book (Reception)	A book your child has chosen to bring home.	Read this book to your child, model using expression, voices and talk about the book. Enjoy, ask questions and predict what might happen next.

We will begin giving your child the Reading for Pleasure non-decodable books from Monday the 11th October. Please be aware that, as we have to assess which phonemes your child is secure in, we will be gradually rolling out the allocation of Decodable and Ebooks between now and the week after half term. Please ensure that the books are returned on the day requested by your class teacher. There will be a £5 fine for books not returned within 2 weeks in order to ensure we keep our stock up to date. Please continue to complete the Reading Record each week.

Thank you very much for your support.

Best wishes, Mrs J Davies, Reading Leader