

### How will we keep you informed?

We will use the Reading Record and we will speak at Parents Evenings. If there is something that is worrying you it is always best to have a quick word with the class teacher at a mutually convenient time.

### Why does my child have a different book from their friends?

Learning to read is a journey not a race. We teach children to read as individuals so they learn at their own pace. As professionals we will use the tools we have to best support your child. This means that what we do for one child may not be the same as for another. So don't worry if your child doesn't seem to read the books in the same order as their friends.

### Will my child get a book to bring home every night?

No - they will bring home an individual reading task or book twice a week. One book they will already have read in school, the other will be unseen. They will read in many ways every day in school.

Thank you for your support; it is much appreciated.



# Reading in Reception A Guide for Parents

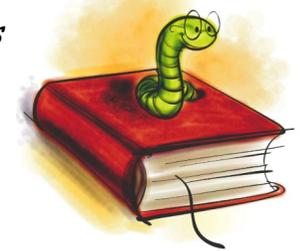
"Reading aloud with children is known to be the single most important activity for building the knowledge and skills they will eventually require for learning to read."

*Marilyn Jager Adams*



"To learn to read is to light a fire; every syllable that is spelled out is a spark."

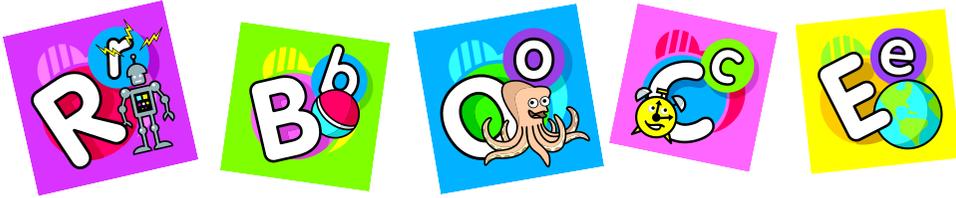
*Victor Hugo, Les Miserables*



"Outside of a dog, a book is a man's best friend.  
Inside of a dog, it's too dark to read."

*Groucho Marx*





### How can I help my child with their reading?

Reading a story to your child is one of the most rewarding parts of being a parent. It is also one of the most important ways of showing your child how much you enjoy reading. Having fun and a lovely 'snuggle' at the same time is a huge incentive!

### Why does the school send books home with just pictures in?

Pictures are a vital clue in the early stages of reading. They can give children lots of support when trying to make sense about what is going on in the story. These books encourage the children to really look at what is happening and to talk about it - and they're interesting!

### Why do children have to learn the sounds of the letters?

We use Phonics to help the children 'sound out' and build new words. It would be an enormous task for a child to learn every word they will ever read so we use letter sounds to help them. At first, sounding out new words takes a little while but eventually it is so quick you are not even aware they are doing it.

We use 'Jolly Phonics' which uses a sensory approach to phonics and is a lot of fun!

### What about words that don't make sense when you sound them out?

These words just have to be learned. This is often called 'sight vocabulary.' We also teach the children the 'high frequency' words that they will see regularly in books.



### How do you start?

We use a reading scheme as one of our tools to teach reading. We will start with the characters in picture books having 'adventures' that the children can easily identify with. The children will learn first words as sight vocabulary, we will play games and have lots of practice. As the children become confident they will start to bring books home with text in to share with you at home.

### How can I tell you how my child is doing?

Every child has a Reading Record to communicate how they are reading at school and at home. Staff will write in it each week and we would appreciate it if you could sign to say you have heard your child read and add your comments.

Thank You

