Stay & Read

How can we help our youngest children to learn to read?
The first and most important teacher

• As a parent or carer you play the leading role in helping your child move through the stages of reading.
• The link between home and school is such an important one - children who are encouraged, supported and taught in both environments will obviously have the best chance of success.
• Reading happens daily in school and ideally daily at home too.
How can parents support reading at home?

• Ensure that from a young age children observe positive examples of reading/books/papers/magazines.
• Establish good reading habits for your children - bedtime stories, making time to hear them read to you during a quiet time.
• Include reading into daily activities when you’re out and about - reading labels, shop signs etc.
• Make reading fun - reading games are key, see Twitter for ideas.
• Expose your children to a wide range of subjects, authors, genres and themes.
How can parents support reading at home?

• Read with your children as often as you can - ideally each day but if not, at least five times per week.
• Discuss the language used in the text - do they know what certain words mean?
• Ask children a few questions about the book.
• ‘Tell’ your children stories - you don’t always have to ‘read’ them!
What to do if your child is stuck

- Use phonics first:
  Eg what sound does the word begin with? Can you say the sounds in the word? Blend them together.
- Read to the end of the sentence. What would make sense?
- What is the text about – what might fit here?
- Does what you have just said sound right?
- Look at the picture. Does it help?
Teaching reading

Reading requires two skills:

**Phonic & Word Recognition - decoding:**

- The ability to recognise words presented in and out of context.
- The ability to blend letter sounds (phonemes) together to read words.

**Understanding:**

- The ability to understand the meaning of the words and sentences in a text.
- The ability to understand the ideas and information in a text.
What does reading look like within our school?

- Phonics sessions (daily)
- Shared reading (all sharing a text together)
- Guided reading (a small group led by an adult)
- Children will bring home a library book, please read this to your child and enjoy reading together
- Focused reading task (a variety of activities based around a book)
- Reading across the curriculum
Guided Reading

• Guided reading is a technique used to teach the skills of decoding and understanding of the text.
• Throughout the week, children will complete a range of different reading activities.
• The children will share a book with the class teacher in a small group.
• This book will then be sent home for you to enjoy together.
• Children currently have a sound key ring and key words.
• Once children are confident with these words they will then bring home a reading book.
What will be in your child’s book bag ...

• A key ring containing the sounds we have been learning. Please recap on these sounds daily to help recognition but also letter formation.
• A green word wallet – these words can be sounded out (sounds blended together to make a word).
• A red word wallet – these words can NOT be sounded out they just need to be known as sight words (do not try to blend these words).
• A reading book. This will already have been shared in class, please let us know how your child has understood the story / read the words at home.
• A library book – this is for sheer enjoyment and to develop a love of reading. Your child does not need to read this book, just enjoy sharing a story together.

• Yellow Reading Diary – Please comment in here 5 times per week. We love to hear about stories you have read at home!
• Please comment on how your child is progressing at home with sounds / words / books 😊
What the EYFS profile says about children working at the expected level by the end of Reception

Children can:

• Read and understand simple sentences
• Use their phonic knowledge to decode regular words and read them aloud accurately
• Read some common irregular words
• Demonstrate understanding when talking to others about what they have read

What we want for our Reception children:

😊 A LOVE OF READING! 😊