

IMPORTANT - CHANGES TO HOME READING

Dear Parents / Carers,

As you will be aware, we use the Read Write Inc scheme to deliver our phonics and early reading to pupils in Reception, Year 1 and some of our Year 2s/3s. This helps them develop fluent and confident decoding skills, as well as an understanding of what they are reading. We have recently been awarded some funding which has allowed us to purchase the 'Read Write Inc Book Bag Books' which ensures that the books which your child reads at home directly relate to the sounds (phonics) which they learn in class. These new books will replace our existing-coloured book banded books.

The weeks of Monday 4th March and Monday 11th March

A member of staff, who teaches your child for their Read Write Inc phonics session each day, will provide your child with their first Read Write Inc 'Book Bag Book' during the next couple of weeks. The children will keep this book for either 3 or 5 days, depending on the colour. They will be expected to read it each day and develop their fluency i.e. they read it three or more times. 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 Record. For this program to work, the children must have their reading packs in school every day as the book which your child has read will be given to another child.

How do we decide which book your child has?

At the end of each term, your child's phonics and reading is assessed. This allows us to place your child into the correct group. The intention of the Read Write Inc scheme is that the reading, both in school and at home, is appropriately challenging and matched to their current level. 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.

Colours and Book Bands

Please note that the Read Write Inc colour bands **do not match** our old colour banded books so if your child is on a yellow band for Read Write Inc for example then it does not mean that they have suddenly moved 'down' a level if they were previously reading a blue banded book.

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, 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 and book corners so children will continue to choose one of these books to take home and share with you. 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 Record too.

Missing or Lost Books

The school has had to match a large proportion of the funding that we have received to purchase these new books and we have spent a lot of money on the Read Write Inc book bag 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

Please look out for information regarding some parent drop-in sessions where I'll be available to answer any questions or queries about the new scheme. We appreciate that this is a big shift from our traditional way of changing books each day and children reading a different book every night, however the evidence suggests that by providing children with books that closely match the phonics they have been taught in school and allowing them a chance to reread and practise their reading, they are more likely to make progress and succeed. We appreciate your patience whilst we make these exciting changes to our home reading scheme.

End of year expectations

Book band colour	Read Write Inc colour	Age Related Expectations
	Ditty	Reception End of Autumn (Christmas)
	Red	Reception End of Spring (Easter)
	Green	End of Reception
	Purple	
	Pink	Year 1 End of Autumn (Christmas)
	Orange	Year 1 End of Spring (Easter)
	Yellow	
	Blue	End of Year 1
	Grey	
Turquoise		Year 2 End of Autumn (Christmas)
Purple		Year 2 End of Spring (Easter)
Gold		End of Year 2

Old Colour Book Banded Books

All of our old colour book banded books will now be replaced by the new RWI Book Bag Books. As a result, we will be removing all of our old scheme books. Whilst they no longer match our reading scheme and may not be phonetically decodable, they are still a valuable tool to aid reading at home. We will have these available to take home after school on World Book Day for a small donation, if you are able.

Thank you for your continued support,

Louise Chidwick-Day

Assistant Headteacher, EYFS Lead and Read Write Inc Leader

Claire O'Flaherty

Reading Leader