

Supporting your child's reading in Year 1

Dear Parent,

To achieve the expected standard at the end of Year 1 your child will not only need to read the words in a book, but also be able to re-tell the main events in a story and answer questions about what they have read.

To help your child achieve this we have decided to change our home reading system so from now on the children will only choose a new book to take home on **Monday, Wednesday and Friday.**

We would be grateful if you would:

- Listen to your child read the book on the day they bring it home
- Keep the book for another day and ask your child to read it again and then re-tell the main events
- Finally ask your child some questions about the book to check their understanding

Here are some questions to help your child talk about books:

- Discuss why characters acted as they did and how they might feel
- Relate the events in the story to those in their own life
eg 'Do you remember when you.....'
- Compare the story with other similar texts
eg 'Do you know another story where a character gets lost?'
- 'What did you like about the story?' (encourage your child to give a reason)
- 'What didn't you like about the story?'
- 'Did anything surprise you?'
- 'What puzzled you about the story?'
- 'What did it remind you of?'

Reading stories to your child is also an excellent way of improving their understanding. Discuss the main events in stories you have read to your child and use the above questions to encourage a discussion about the book.

Thank you for your support.

Year 1 Teachers