

Supporting your child's reading in Year 2

Dear Parents,

The criteria for reaching the expected standard in reading at the end of Year 2 has recently changed.

As well as reading a Band 10 book fluently and accurately your child will also need to be able to do the following:

- *Explain what has happened so far in what they have read*
- *Answer questions and think more deeply about the book*

To make sure your child achieves the expected standard at the end of Year 2 we have made the following changes to our home reading system.

The children will only be able to choose a new book on **Monday, Wednesday and Friday**. On the other days we would like you to support your child in developing the skills they need in the following ways.

We would be grateful if you could listen to your child read the book on the day they bring it home. Then the next day:

- *Ask them to re-read the book to help improve their fluency.*
- *Also take the time on this day to encourage them to re-tell the main events in the story*
- *Ask them questions to check their understanding.*

Please sign your child's diary every day and let us know if they have read, retold the story or discussed the book. If it is a long book sign and please write the page number they are up to and keep the book until they have finished it.

Here are some questions to help support discussion about a book.

- Discuss the characters actions and feelings and how they might change in the story.
- 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 2 Teachers