

Dear Parents and Carers

Learn to Read – Read to Learn!

The ability to read is the most important skill that the children can acquire. Reading fluency will inform how well they do in their education; it will provide opportunities for independent learning – and most importantly can be a source of joy throughout their lives.

In order to encourage the children to read regularly to an adult, each classroom now has a Reading Rocket. The children will start the term at the bottom of the rocket. We will check the children's reading diary each week and if they have read 5 times to an adult (with the adult's signature in their diary) the children will move their name up the rocket. At the end of each term, those children who have got furthest up the rocket will have their names placed into a hat, and a winner for each year group will then be drawn out. The prize will be an age appropriate text. All children will receive a certificate.

Children have access to the Big Cat Collins reading scheme and the children are encouraged to read a book which provides some challenge, but also allows them to read at a speed that supports their comprehension. If a child reads the same book or chapter more than once, this can support confidence, fluency and ultimately understanding. Whilst many children do learn to decode efficiently, we need to work on their understanding of their reading. Looking up new words, using opportunities to discuss words and language will help expand vocabulary and discussing their reading will help motivate them when tackling new or trickier texts.

We cannot stress how important reading with and to your child will be for their future success, especially in times where other aspects of education and life may be disrupted by factors beyond our control.

Please encourage your children to take part in this scheme! Please remember to sign the reading diary!

Happy reading

“One of the least expected predictors of life success is one's reading ability in primary school. Reading with pleasure, and especially reading fiction, is far more important than we have ever imagined. Finding ways to develop engaged readers is important for every child, but particularly for boys.”

