



Reading at Shirley Infant School in year 1

During your child's time at our school, we strive to install all children with a love of reading and to build them to be fluent by the end of key stage 1. Each fortnight, the children have the opportunity to visit the school library and choose a library book to read at home. (Your child will have a set day to change their book so please ensure their library book is in their book bag ready to change). Each half term, the children will learn about a popular author and will enjoy hearing a range of their stories. We encourage you to visit your local library and look for books written by the chosen author.



Applying phonics to reading

Within daily phonics sessions, your child will continue to learn new and alternative letter/sound recognition through phonics, and we continue to encourage this as their first strategy when reading unfamiliar words.

Word Lists

To consolidate your child's blending skills, we will send home lists of words concentrating on the sounds your child is currently learning. This will also be sent as a Marvellous Me. A couple of minutes on sound recognition or spelling rules before reading each day can really help boost your child's confidence.

The children will continue to learn more words which cannot be phonetically decoded. We will send home the 'common exception' lists so that children can practise recognition and add to their fluency. They will also be expected to spell these words.

Tracking text

Please encourage your child to point at the words they are reading as long as they need to, and continue to help your child break up words that they find hard to blend. As your child becomes more confident, they will be able to track text with their eyes, and begin to scan ahead within sentences.

Reading at School

In year one the class teacher will continue to play close attention to the reading level your child is at. Your child



will continue to read daily in phonics and guided reading sessions. Your class teacher will change their book weekly. Please practise this book several times so that your child is confident and can answer questions about what they've read. Reading at home should be a pleasurable experience and a chance for your child to consolidate what they've learnt and show off their new skills. If your child would like an additional book, they can choose one from their coloured book box when they arrive in the morning. Please check your child's reading diary for targets to work on, and use it to communicate your own comments about your child's reading progress.

Reading colour sequence system

The colour system has slightly changed from last year. If your child was on red 3, they will now be on red 2 or yellow. Your child's class teacher will read with your child during their first 2 weeks to confirm the best colour for their current reading level. Your teacher will write a more detailed comment in your child's diary at least once per half term to give next steps. Please continue to sign the diary every time you read with your child. Your teacher will check this regularly. Please ensure this is in your child's book bag at all times.



Reading at home

- Please encourage your child to read their coloured book regularly at home. Remember to encourage your child to re-read the book to build confidence and to ask them questions about what they've read.
- Visit the local library to find books written by the chosen author study.
- Read a range of stories to your child to help promote their love of reading and to be able to retell different stories.
- Your child's class teacher will marvellous me, the new sound of the week so you can practise reading words with this sound.

Thank you for your on-going support.