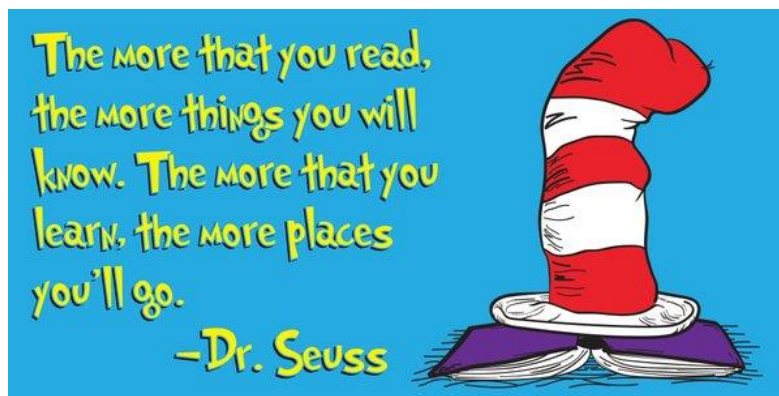


Reading at Shirley Infant School

Everybody read!

Our reading curriculum is designed to instill a love of reading in our children. If children are to become lifelong readers, it is essential that they are encouraged to read for pleasure. The desire of wanting to read will help with the skill of reading. To help foster a love of reading, children will bring books home that they can share and enjoy with their parent/carer. The children will visit our library once a week, where they can choose from a variety of age-appropriate high quality texts. These books offer a wealth of opportunities for talking about the pictures and enjoying the story. This book is for the parent/carer to read to or with the child. The goal is enjoyment.



Promoting a love of reading across the school starts from the moment your little one joins us. We have daily story times which have been carefully sequenced and planned across each year group. This year, we will be introducing ERIC (Everybody Reading In Class), which will encourage all children to take a quiet moment to simply focus on enjoying a book. If you need some inspiration, ask Miss Innes to share her 'Masked Reader' video with you all!

If you find your child is not keen to read at home, why not try to add in a cup of hot chocolate to go with this time or maybe they could read with a chosen family member via the wonders of technology.

Application of phonics to reading

Our chosen phonics scheme is Little Wandle. More information on this is available on the website. We teach phonics every day in school. Children need to be given regular opportunities to apply the phonics they have learnt.

Children will take part in reading practice sessions **three times a week** in class. The book they read in this session will be fully decodable and matched to their phonics progression. These reads **will not** be recorded in the home school diary as the teachers will be making their own records to inform planning. In addition to this, some children may be heard to read in additional catch up sessions.



The reading practice sessions will focus on three key reading skills:

- Decoding
- Prosody – reading with meaning
- Comprehension – understanding the text

Your child will then bring this book home to read, these reading practice books will be at the right level for your child to develop fluency. The children should be able to read the practice book with developing confidence and fluency without any significant help. The parent/carer's role is to listen with interest and, most importantly, to encourage and praise, enthusiastically acknowledging the child's achievement (even if, at the early stages, this is only small). After the child has read the book, it may be helpful to talk about the book, but only so far as the child is interested.

The book will come home on a Friday and should be returned the following Thursday. Reminders will be sent ☺.

We have invested in hundreds of brand new books across the school to ensure our texts are fully matched to the phonics progression. Therefore, it is necessary that we issue a £2 fine for any books that are not returned so that we can ensure the sets stay complete. If too many books are not returned, we would have to fully move to E-books for home reading. This is not something we wish to do so your cooperation and support in this is very much appreciated.

Home school communication

Your child will bring home a reading diary. Your child's class teacher will comment in this once a half term. They will indicate which phase of decodable books your child is reading and they will give you a focused reading target your child is working on. This diary is for you to comment on reading taking place at home and positive comments you wish to let the teacher know along the way. We recommend your child reads their reading practice book at least three times a week. The more they practise, the more fluent they will be!

Key points to remember:

- ❖ Your child will bring two books home each week:
 - a reading practice book matched to the child's phonic stage that they can read independently (**will come home on a Friday and be returned following Thursday**)
 - a sharing book that they can talk about and enjoy with their parent/carer to promote a love of reading
-

Thank you for your support,

Mrs Watts (Deputy Headteacher and Reading leader)