



Southbourne Infant School Home Reading Letter



Dear Parents/Carers,

We wanted to take this opportunity to update you on the teaching of early reading at Southbourne Infant School. Early reading simply means the stage of reading where children are learning to become fluent readers through the use of phonics. The government has recently introduced a number of changes regarding the teaching of early reading and this will mean a few changes to how we do things in school.

This year, we are going to be using some new resources from an organisation called **Little Wandle**. We will be using these resources to teach phonics and reading from Early Years up to Year 2. It will mean some changes in the books that children are bringing home to read and share with you. Each child will bring home a reading practice book, a book to share and once the children have settled into school a library book.

The reading practice book:

This will be a book which is at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently. This book has been carefully matched to your child's current reading level and they will have read it a few times in school already. If your child is reading it with a little help, please don't worry that it's too easy; your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading. Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise and celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book and please record the book in your child's reading diary.



The children will change this book weekly. Please keep the book in your child's book bag as it is really important we are able to access the books at all times and we need to keep them in sets of 6.

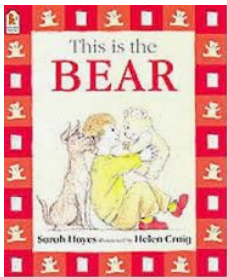
When your child has read all the phonics based books, they will move onto colour banded books, starting with purple.

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The 'book to share' and the library book:

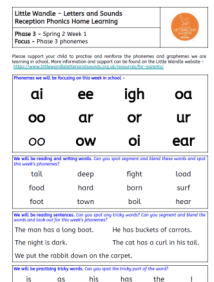
If children are to become lifelong readers, it is essential that they are encouraged to read for pleasure. The desire to read will help with the skill of reading. To help foster a love reading, the children will bring home a book that they can share and enjoy with their parents/carers. These books offer a wealth of opportunities for talking about the pictures and enjoying the story.



Your child might not be able to read this book independently. The book is for you read to or with your child and repeated readings will bring even more benefits and enjoyment. We will change these books **weekly** too. These can also be recorded in your child's reading diary.

Phonic Sheets:

In school your child will be learning new letter sounds and they will practise applying these sounds to words. We will send a sheet home on a Thursday so that you can practise the words and sounds that your child has been learning in class. This will really help your child become secure in recognising the sounds so that they are able to read lots of words fluently. It will help them in their journey to becoming confident and fluent readers.



THE EXPECTATION IS STILL THAT YOU READ WITH YOUR CHILD 5 TIMES A WEEK; PLEASE COMPLETE THE READING DIARY EACH TIME, AND YOUR CHILD WILL THEN RECEIVE A STICKER.

If you have any questions please do come and have chat with your child's class teacher.

Best Wishes

Cathy McErlean and Jemma Riggs
English Leaders

