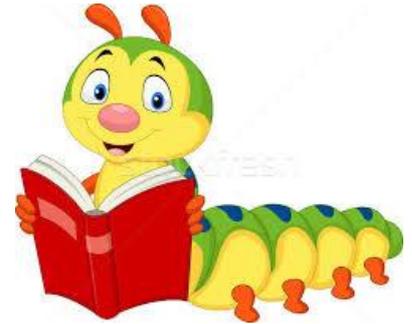


Reading in Year 1.

Dear Parents and Carers,

For those of you who maybe didn't make it to the Meet the Teacher evening, we wanted to write and clarify a few points.



Reading Groups.

Your child is part of a reading group, usually 6 children, who read together. For the children's own confidence and to maximise our teaching focus, this group is based on their reading ability. By reading ability we mean, fluency and pace, word decoding skills using their phonics, comprehension and discussion, expression, switching between character and narrator voice, locating parts of the text to support a particular question, prediction skills, using context to support their answer, and an increasing grasp of new and tricky words becoming part of their sight vocabulary, to name but a few.

Book Bands Reading Scheme Session

When your child reads as part of a group, many different things are asked of the children and several different approaches and teaching styles are used.

They may be asked to:

- read a page out loud whilst the rest of the group follow with their finger, so they know where they are up to when it is their turn to read
- read a page in their head and to look out for / notice certain things
- read a section and find the answer to a given question
- look at a picture to make a prediction
- find a section of text to answer a particular question
- read a page in unison
- read a page to their partner

- listen to the teacher read and follow in case the teacher makes a mistake
- find a particular word that means
- think of a different way of saying what they have read

For this session to work as effectively as possible your child needs to be within a group of children all reading similarly.

Classroom Secrets Reading Session

This session is targeted slightly differently and all children will access the same text in either a mixed ability group (Rainbow Reading) or their ability group depending on the teaching focus of the session.

A short text / poem / information piece or sometimes a picture will be discussed, questions will be answered using the text, follow up activities will be done and the children will develop and extend their vocabulary thinking about how their language choices in their own writing may be influenced by what they have read.

Your child will have two reading sessions per week, one book bands session and one Classroom Secrets session.

Changing reading books

In a 'normal week' most children will have their books changed on a Monday and a Wednesday. Sometimes we will hear them read the book first and then they will bring it home for a second read with you. Sometimes they will bring it home first for you to hear and we will hear it second. If we are satisfied that they are confident in the text, understand what they have read, are fluent and expressive, can talk about it and answer questions, then their book will be changed. Sometimes it may need to be read again.

If your child brings home a book that they have already read, don't panic! As we said at the Meet the Teacher evening, if we are concerned about your child's reading or there is a problem,

please be assured that we would speak to you about this. Children and particularly their reading development happens at different rates and we try to be as fluid as possible with the approach we take in supporting your child on their reading journey.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to speak to us.

Year 1 Teachers