



23rd February 2024

Dear parents/carers,

Reading is one of life's most essential skills which we continue to develop throughout our lives. Starting reading as early as possible has significant benefits for our continued success as readers. As a school, we are committed to ensuring that all of our children become fluent and confident readers whilst developing a lifelong love of reading. This begins in Early Years, with daily phonics lessons as well as regular opportunities to read with an adult on an individual basis.

As parents and carers, you play a vital role in supporting your child in becoming a fluent reader who is confidently able to apply their reading skills across all areas of their lives. The partnership between home and school is crucial in a child's reading journey. Therefore, **we would like to ensure that daily reading is taking place at home to consolidate the work we are doing with your child at school.** Research from The National Literacy Trust states that "by starting the journey of building a lifelong love of reading for pleasure, parents are giving their child the opportunity to be the best they can be: children who read for pleasure do better in a wide range of subjects at school and it also positively impacts children's wellbeing."

Please record any comments about your child's home reading each day in their reading log. Comments can include any words that your child has found tricky that day or simply that they enjoyed reading their book. These comments are incredibly useful for the staff working with your child as they can put extra support where necessary and they serve as a record of how often each child has read at home.

There are many ways to support your child in their reading journey:

- help your child by telling a story through pictures
- let your child talk to you about the pictures - pictures give them clues about the story
- encourage your child to give their opinions and explain their own ideas - talking helps to develop reading
- give your child lots of encouragement and praise
- rereading a book or reading an easy book will encourage a love of reading and will help your child to see themselves as a good reader
- comics and magazines can make a refreshing change from story books
- talk about the cover, the title, the author
- ask them what might happen next

Headteacher: Mrs C Bennett BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH
Newpound Lane • Wisborough Green • West Sussex RH14 0EE
Tel: 01403 700 280 email: office@wisboroughgreenschool.org.uk



- ask them what they liked about the story
- be patient if they get stuck - help them find clues in the pictures
- look for small words within larger words
- little and often is best practice
- go to the local library - by using a library you are introducing them to a wide range of different kinds of books and other materials

If you have any questions or would like any further support with reading with your child at home, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Grace Jeal

English Co-ordinator



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