

**Ripponden Junior and Infant School**

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***Deputy Headteacher: Miss Lucy Taylor***

***Growing Together, Reaching for the Sky***

**Headteacher: Mrs L Bamforth**

**Changes to How we Teach Early Reading Skills at Ripponden :**

We have recently invested in a new reading scheme called Little Wandle Letters and Sounds to bring our reading approach directly in line with the new DFE guidance about how to teach children to read. Little Wandle Letters and Sounds is a systematic synthetic phonics ( **SSP** ) programme which is taught daily to children who are at the decoding stage of early reading. This is usually children in Reception and KS1 and some in lower KS2.

Along with daily phonics lessons and additional interventions where needed the children have 3 reading sessions per week with an adult in class. The book they read in school will have been chosen carefully to match the level at which your child is using phonics SECURELY and the children are assessed every 6 weeks to be absolutely sure of this. They read this book 3 times on 3 different days in the week but concentrate on different skills each time. These skills are: decoding, prosody (fluency and intonation) and comprehension. This book will then be sent home at the end of the week that they have read it in class for them to show off their skills to you. If your child is reading it with little help, please don’t worry that it’s too easy, it just means that our reading sessions in school have been successful! Your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading and this is greatly increased by re-reading books which have they have already had success with. Please listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! If they can’t read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together.

There are two types of reading book that your child will bring home:

* **A reading practice book – by Collins Big Cat.** This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently as explained above.
* **A sharing book.**  Your child may not be able to read this book on their own as it is not fully decodable.

**The Sharing Book:**

This has been chosen by your child as a book they would like to share with you at home. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together. In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader,

it is important that they have lots of opportunities to read for pleasure. Please remember that you shouldn’t expect your child to read this alone. Read it to or with them. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun when reading this book!

**Support for Parents**

These three videos (link below) show you how to pronounce the sounds. Notice how the children don’t add an ‘uh’ sound at the end, so they say: ‘t’ not ‘tuh’. Use the downloadable information to help your child remember how to write their letters and say their sounds.

Further Support can be found via this link: [**https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/**](https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/)

The resources on the above link will also help you support your child with saying their sounds and writing their letters. There are also some useful which demonstrate how they are taught phonics and reading at school.

**Further Information:**

Please join us for further information sessions which we will be holding by zoom for anyone interested on Monday 7th March to talk about this in greater detail and to answer any questions. These will be at 11.00 am and 6.00 pm.

**To join the 11.00 am meeting please follow this link**:

Topic: Changes to the early reading scheme at Ripponden J&I School

Time: Mar 7, 2022 11:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85738756858?pwd=M2kvaURjL1R5YkVnRGdHd0RzeFJxdz09

Meeting ID: 857 3875 6858

Passcode: hQBVn2

**To join the 6.00 pm meeting please follow this link**:

Topic: Changes to the early reading scheme at Ripponden J&I School

Time: Mar 7, 2022 06:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87931364216?pwd=QU1JQmVaMyt1MXlkaUJqQzMyZ2dZZz09

Meeting ID: 879 3136 4216

Passcode: Dt6jZs

Thank you for your continued support

Jude Kenny

Assistant Headteacher