

Dear Parents and Carers,

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November

Today we are sending your child home with one or two reading books to read to you at home. These books are brand new so please ensure that your child treats them carefully and keeps them in their reading wallet so we can share them with your child during the week. We will keep a log of the titles of the books your child brings home and will only issue new books when previous ones are returned. Returning and re-issuing books will always be on a **FRIDAY**. In addition, your child will also bring home a “free choice book” for you to read to your child and enjoy at home, a bedtime story perhaps.

The reading books are colour coded and are for **your child** to have a go at reading. Encourage your child to:

- Sit so that they can navigate the book themselves, turning the pages and holding the book. It may be helpful to sit at a table when reading these books.
- Talk about the front cover – what do they think the book/story will be about? Your child may be able to link a picture on the front to their own experiences – this should be encouraged.
- Talk about the pictures on each page. This is important – let them talk and then draw their attention to the words on the page. Your child should have a go at **pointing** to each word, using Fred talk to sound out and then put (blend) the sounds together to read each whole word. They can then re-read as a whole sentence with your support. If not, you can then read the sentence to them – this develops comprehension as all too often, children reach the end of the sentence and don't know what the first part was about or have forgotten what they read. They lose the context.
- Much of the language in the books will be repetitive – this helps your child to recognise words. You may choose to ask them to point out a particular word after they have read a few times so that the words are not always being remembered.

When reading to your child, it is important to spend time talking about the parts of the book such as the front cover, back cover, spine and title. At this point you could talk about the role of the author and illustrator and children will enjoy looking at the picture on the front cover and discussing what the book might be about.

Thank you for your support

Mrs Carver and Mrs Trembeth