

## Phonics & Reading At Linby cum Papplewick CE Primary School



At our school the ability to read and the **nurture of a love of reading** is a high priority and we work closely with parents to achieve this.



**At our school we teach Phonics using the government validated systematic synthetic phonics teaching programme Little Wandle Letters & Sound Revised.**

The full programme is available on our website and further information can be found by clicking this [HERE](#).

The phonics teaching is supported by the use of a fully decodeable reading scheme from Collins Big Cat Phonics for Letters and Sounds - further information can be found by clicking [HERE](#).

Once pupils have completed the phonics programme at the end of year 1 we use Oxford Reading Tree Books, Rapid Read and Project X Reading Schemes together with a broad range of quality fiction and non-fiction books which are book banded to enable children and their parents to choose appropriate books for independent reading and to enhance progress.



The following guidance supports children's reading:

- Always choose the colour band your child has been sent home with. We regularly 'Benchmark' the children and check their progress and will

change the band when appropriate. The Benchmark assessment is a national standard which is very effective in accelerating progress when used with our colour coded reading books. Only when children are reading above 95% accuracy at the level they are on are they ready to progress to the next level. This ensures a level of reading that enables comprehension as well as the correct level of challenge for word decoding skill development.

- It is essential that children read a broad range of books which extends beyond the Oxford Reading Tree (Biff and Chip).
- Encourage children to re-visit favourite books, its not just a case of getting through the book bands as quickly as possible.
- Do check understanding, the use of punctuation etc.
- Try reading speech in different types of voice, i.e. whisper, gruff etc
- The teacher may send home in the Keeping in Touch books ideas to emphasise or things to look out for.
- Do speak to the staff about any questions you may have.
- Do read to your child (not restricted to the book band they are on), we want above all the children to feel positive about reading and the wonderful world of books, fiction and non-fiction.



We cannot stress enough the impact of reading to and listening to your children read on a daily basis in how they achieve in education. This is the most important aspect of homework for all pupils from Reception all the way through to Year 6. Children that are reading on a daily basis with parents make much greater progress academically and we appreciate parental support in this.

*"The ability to read is vital to pave the way to success in school, which can build self-confidence and motivate your children to set high expectations for life."*

Reading at home enables children to:

- Learn how to read
- Develop fluency in reading
- Develop comprehension
- Widen their vocabulary (it is important to talk about word meanings)
- Improve their communication
- Improve their writing (writing & sentence structure, spelling & vocabulary)
- Improve understanding across all subject areas

We value parental support in reading with children daily and also helping support children in:

- Book choice - Finding books they enjoy and are of suitable difficulty and content
- Ensure they understand the books they read and have the opportunity to talk about the books and any issues raised (stories can provide great opportunities to open up discussions on a broad range of life issues with your children)
- Encourage them to persevere with books and finish them
- Encourage your children to read a broad range of books with a variety of authors and genre



*"As a parent, you are your child's first and most important teacher. When you help your child learn to read, you are opening the door to a world of books and learning"*

We closely monitor how often children read at home. Keeping in Touch Book are used to record reading at home.

Below are a number of links to useful websites to help in book selection and with support in reading with children.



### **Websites to Help in Book Selection:**

The Book Bag

[http://www.thebookbag.co.uk/reviews/index.php?title=The\\_Bookbag](http://www.thebookbag.co.uk/reviews/index.php?title=The_Bookbag)

Books for Keeps

<http://booksforkeeps.co.uk/>

Mrs Mad's Bookarama

<http://www.mrsmad.com/>

Guardian Children's Books

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/childrens-books-site>

Red House Children's Book Awards

<http://www.redhousechildrensbookaward.co.uk/>

### **Tips on Listening to Children Read (more articles available online):**

[http://www.thewhyparent.com/articles/5\\_essential\\_things\\_we\\_need\\_to\\_do\\_when\\_listening\\_to\\_our\\_children\\_read](http://www.thewhyparent.com/articles/5_essential_things_we_need_to_do_when_listening_to_our_children_read)

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/parents/ten-tips-on-hearing-your-child-read>

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/document/brochure/earlyreading/index.html>

**Is reading at home with your child difficult?**

**Do you want ideas for reading activities?**

A great website to help with these questions and reading at home generally is

[www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk) - this has inspiring suggestions, great explanations and

support for parents reading with their children.



*READING with your child daily is the single most important thing you can do to support your child's academic progress and reading quality fiction also impacts their social and emotional development giving you opportunities to discuss many day to day issues they will meet.*