

Cheapside CofE Primary School

Watersplash Lane • Cheapside • Ascot • Berkshire • SL5 7QJ

Telephone: (01344) 621112

Website: www.cheapsideschool.org.uk

E-mail: school.office@cheapsideschool.org.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Kate Searle



Reading in Wren Class

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Dear Parents, Carers,

In Wren Class and throughout Key Stage One we follow Little Wandle Letters & Sounds Revised programme; this is a synthetic phonics programme which teaches children to use letter/sound knowledge to read and write words. In school and at home, children use decodable books, that are matched to the Little Wandle progression for children to practice their word reading.

In addition to daily phonics lessons, children also have small group reading practice sessions each week, where they are supported to read decodable books that are matched to their phonic stage. These sessions also develop children's fluency, expression and comprehension.

Wider opportunities are given for children to apply their phonic knowledge throughout the day in speaking, reading and writing, in a language-rich curriculum.

Reading at Home

Children in Reception and Year 1, as well as early readers further up the school, will bring home two types of reading book:

1. A reading practice book: The decodable reading practice book is taken home to ensure success is shared with the family. This book will be carefully matched to each child's phonic stage. They should be able to read this fluently and independently after several reading sessions.
2. A sharing book: Reading for pleasure books also go home for parents to share and read to children. The sharing book is a book chosen by the child simply to be enjoyed.

Supporting your child with reading

Reading with your child at home can have a huge impact on your child's reading journey and will encourage them to develop a lifelong love of reading. There are two types of reading book that your child may bring home:

A reading practice book. This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently.

A sharing book. Your child will not be able to read this on their own. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together.

Reading practice book

This book has been carefully matched to your child's current reading level. If your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading. **Children are expected to read, enjoy and talk about this book at least 3 times, before it is changed,**

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.

Sharing book

In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The sharing book is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together.

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!

The Reading Record: Communicating with School

The teaching team check the children's 'Reading Records', regularly to understand how many opportunities the children have had at home and in school to read and enjoy their '**practice book**'. Working together, we can ensure our children read this book, at least 3 times, as recommended by Little Wandle, before it is changed.

Teachers appreciate our children can be tired at the end of a school day and parents may meet some resistance to requests to "read with me". In which case, the following suggestions may help:

- Parents and children each read a page
- Enjoy discussing what is happening in the pictures only
- Parents read a sentence and the child echoes this
- Find a cosy, comfortable place to snuggle up together and enjoy this time together

Adults in school, reading with the children, are also very interested to hear about other books your child has enjoyed sharing at home. We welcome this opportunity to understand more about the children's reading preferences and

initiate rich and valuable conversations about their responses to the characters and story plot. Equally, a non-fiction book shared at home, allows the team to ask questions and explore a range of interests to deepen a child's love of learning.

Please use the 'Reading Record' in your child's reading folder, to let us know you have shared the 'practice book' at home and to highlight an additional favourite, read with such pleasure.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to speak to Mrs Coe or a member of the teaching team.

Warmest regards

L Anderton