

Reading in Key Stage One



Changing Reading Books

Your child will be changing their own reading books on a Wednesday, supported by an adult, and they will bring home three books to last throughout the week. These three books will then be changed the following week with another three books, as long as your child has read the books and there is a comment in the reading diary to show this.

The children will be directed to the appropriate level reading books for their ability. They will choose two reading scheme books and one 'real' book, i.e. a picture book, which they may require more support and guidance with. Once they are on Level 8 and above they may bring home only two books as the text becomes longer and they begin to move away from scheme books on to 'On My Own' books.

As we read a range of other texts for Guided Reading sessions within school, and not the reading books, we rely on you commenting upon your child's progress with their reading books, we will then assess your child within school to see if they need to move up or down the reading stages.

It is good for the children to read their books more than once as it helps them develop fluency and on the second read you can spend more time discussing what is happening, why certain characters act the way they do etc. We would also like to encourage the children to not only read their school books at home but to read a wide variety of text such as information books, could be about something they are interested in or our topic, comics, First News (children's newspaper) etc. Any text your child reads please write in their diary and will count as one of their reads for the week, we encourage your child to read at least 4 times a week.

As well as their reading book your child may also bring home key words to learn to read or spell continuing on from Foundation/ Year One, the learning of these key words are paramount to your child developing their reading fluency. The practise of key words can also count as one of the four reads.

Reading Targets

In the back of your child's reading diary you will find a target sheet with your child's current reading level targets on with the next level up on the reverse. The level is broken up into seven Assessment Focuses (AF), each AF is designed to cover all areas of reading, eg decoding words to understanding inference of a text. The children in Foundation and Year One, where appropriate, will be working on the targets taken from the Early Learning Goals (ELGs).

We will be working on these Assessment Focuses or Early Learning Goals within school as part of our Guided Reading sessions. The target your child is working on will be highlighted then ticked when the target is achieved and a new target will be highlighted. If you could also work on this target when reading at home it will help your child greatly to move through the level.

Reading Journals

We also use reading journals (in a purple folder) for all the children from Year One. These will be used within class and for use when reading at home. The children will be encouraged to cover a range of reading activities within the journal, such as book reviews, character profiles, writing a different ending etc, all differentiated to suit the age and ability of the child. Please encourage your child to use their reading journal as part of their home reading, doing a reading journal activity can count as one of their four reads per week. Your child will bring this home in the next few weeks.

Yours sincerely, Jo Hawker, Year 1 / 2 Leader