

## SINGLETON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

### KS1 READING GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL AND HOME READING

At Singleton C of E Primary School we acknowledge and value the support of parents in enabling their children to become fluent readers, who read for pleasure and enjoyment. Please find below an overview of how we teach reading in school and request your support at home to ensure all pupils can make the maximum progress during KS1.

#### Organisation

All KS1 children are assessed regularly using a recognised reading assessment which determines their reading age. However, we also have a very structured programme for teaching reading in school based on synthetic phonics. We teach phonics using the letters and sounds programme and also Read, Write Inc, daily and all pupils will also be heard to read within the guided reading Literacy lesson and other subjects as appropriate, as well as individually from their reading book by the Class Teacher and Teaching Assistant.

The reading scheme we follow is Oxford Reading Tree which is banded by reading age and phonic understanding in order to ensure that each child is reading at a level most suitable for them, both in terms of word recognition which develops fluency and comprehension of the text which shows understanding of what the child has read. The reading book for each child is selected by the child with classroom teaching assistant and monitored by the class teacher.

We ask that children read their reading book regularly and out loud to an adult at home, at least every other day but preferably daily, and discuss the content of what they have read. At this stage little and often is the best approach to reading, therefore it is better to read and discuss a few pages at a time as this helps with comprehension, making predictions about what will happen next and discussing the text in detail.

We also ask that you read the book together more than once in order to develop deeper understanding of the setting, characters, topic and style of writing.

Once or twice a week your child will be given the opportunity to change their home reading books (we usually send home two books at a time.) This will be after they have read with the TA or class teacher who will assess their fluency and comprehension before giving a new book.

#### Home Reading Expectations

We ask that parents or the adult hearing a child read records this reading in the child's reading diary which is supplied by school. As mentioned above we ask that this occurs every other day (but encourage daily). In KS1 home reading is the main focus for a child's literacy homework.

We value comments from parents written in the reading diary and this becomes an important record of your child's development as a reader, as well as a vital communication tool between the teacher and school.

It is important to stress that racing through the reading levels without regard for comprehension and understanding of the content is not the most effective approach to reading. We therefore encourage parents to spend time discussing what has been read and the meaning of unfamiliar words. Children reading without regard for comprehension often results in them struggling with understanding as they move up the reading stages, as they would be reading at a level that is above their comprehension ability.

As highlighted above all pupils in KS1 will read to a member of school staff every week. In these sessions the adult will question the children about the content of the previous book and work with the child on blending unfamiliar words. This reading will be recorded in the reading diary.

We aim to encourage children to develop good, regular reading habits and they will be rewarded for showing a positive attitude.

We want all pupils to develop a love for reading and reading for pleasure so would also encourage other reading by the pupil and by the parent reading to their child. This will help pupils develop understanding of a range of books and also hearing an adult reading for them enables a child to deepen their understanding of vocabulary and love of books.

### Class Based Reading

As mentioned above, as well as individual reading, we also build reading into the daily Guided reading session (5 sessions per week) and pupils also have a dedicated 30 minute phonic session each day. These sessions use systematic phonics (letters and sounds / the Read, Write Inc programme) and are vital to teaching pupils the phonetic alphabet and practising the skills of blending and segmenting, it is these tools that give children the skills they need to tackle unfamiliar words when reading and begin to develop spelling strategies when writing. Copies of this phonetic sound alphabet are available from school and discussed in annual reading meetings with Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

### Special Education Needs

In KS1 any child who has identified Special Educational Needs (SEN) will have an Individual Education Plan (IEP), if this relates to reading they will also receive additional support (provision mapped) to develop their reading during the school day.

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