

Primrose Hill Primary School

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Friday 22nd April 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are very excited to share with you a new venture that we have started to embark on as a school. Following a recent change in government guidance we have invested in a new phonics scheme called '**Little Wandle-Letters and Sounds revised**'. We started this move last term and the children are really enjoying it and making great progress.

Across Reception and KS1, alongside our daily phonics lessons, each child will take part in 3 reading practice sessions each week using our recent purchase of 120 new early reading books which are fully decodable for the children and are matched to the phonics scheme. The reading sessions will have 3 different foci:

- Decoding
- Prosody - reading with rhythm, stress and intonation
- Comprehension

When the children read the book with you at home it will be to 'show off' the skills they have learnt so you can see the wonderful progress they are making.

Supporting your child with reading

Although your child will be taught to read at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home.

ALL children will be bringing home TWO books each week (a **reading practice book that they have read at school, and a **sharing book** to develop their love of stories):**



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 as it is matched to their phonics stage and what they have learnt that week (hence it may seem too easy, but it will help to develop your child's fluency and confidence in reading).

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. You will know which book it is as it will have '**Collins Big Cat Phonics for Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised**' in the top left corner.



Head Teacher: Phil Allman

Please look at the **instructions on the inside cover** to help you support your child's reading at home.

The book will then need to be returned **every Monday** so that the sets can be collected. A new book will be sent home before the end of each week. Please continue to bring in your book bag every day.

It is really important that you look after the book and return it. **Each book is part of a set that is needed for a group of readers. If you lose the book we will ask for a payment of £5.00 so we can replace it.** Until the book is returned (or paid for if lost) we will not be able to provide a new book.

A sharing book

Your child will not necessarily be able to read this on their own, particularly children from Reception to Year 2. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together.

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 from either their class or school library for you to enjoy together.

You can discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters; explore the facts in a nonfiction book.

The main thing is that you **have fun!** REMEMBER children are never too old to be read to!

Some interesting facts:

Here's how many words children would have heard by the time they were 5 years old:

Never read to: 4,662 words;

1–2 times per week: 63,570 words;

3–5 times per week: 169,520 words;

Daily: 296,660 words;

and five books a day: 1,483,300 words



This demonstrates how what you do at home can positively impact your child's speaking, reading and writing as they move through school!

We hope you are as excited as we are to embark on this new journey into Little Wandle Letters and Sounds.

For more information and videos for you to watch on 'how to' help your child at home follow this link: <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to talk to one of us!

Best wishes,

Lia White and Sophie Tait, The Early Reading Team

Head Teacher: Phil Allman

