



13 February 2023  
023/Par/22

Dear Parents,

We want all children to develop a love of reading and increase their knowledge and understanding of literature. The children have enjoyed selecting library books on a weekly basis. Your child will now bring home a reading book once or twice a week. The children read 'Oxford Reading Tree' books with the teacher in class so the 'home reader' is intended to be additional practice of newly acquired skills in school. It is also an opportunity for you to take an active and important part in your child's learning.

There are many ways you can help your child with this important homework task. **Firstly, the book is intended to be practiced EVERY DAY.** Repetition and familiarity will help develop your child's confidence as a reader.

**Here are some suggestions for helping your child develop reading skills:**

- When listening to your child read, encourage him/her to 'sound out' unfamiliar words, to look at pictures and to look at the shape of the word.
- Always allow thinking time before telling him/her the word.
- Ask questions about the story – Who? Why? What? When? Where? are all good openings for questions.
- Ask your child about the characters, story setting, what happens at the beginning, middle and end of the story.
- Ask what they think will happen next.
- Ask your child about the parts of the story he liked/disliked.
- Ask him/her to tell the story in the correct sequence.
- You could also encourage your child to look for some 'high frequency' words or small words within bigger words in the story.

Please initial the Reading Record Book each time your child has read with you. **THE BOOK WILL NOT BE CHANGED WITHOUT YOUR SIGNATURE OR INITIALS.** If for reasons language support is not available in English at home, please call Ms Hanan in the School Office so we are informed of this. Kindly make it a special sharing time for 5 minutes each day.

Thank you for your support and partnership in your child's reading development. We hope this brief introduction has been helpful.

Yours sincerely,

  
Jan Brettingham Ms  
Principal

On behalf of the Reception, Grade 1, Grade 2 Teachers