



Dear Parents/Carers,

Reading at Home and School

Facilitating reading at home, each day wherever possible, is the most powerful way in which you can support your child with their learning.

However, different children will benefit from different levels of your support.

- If your child is developing their early reading skills, close support and listening to them read is important. Your child will bring home appropriately levelled books to read which match the sounds they have learned in their phonics lessons. They may seem to be very confident when reading these books and will usually have read them previously in school. This is important as it allows your child to practise reading with expression and with deeper comprehension. Asking questions about the text, often using some of those suggested in the back of the books, will help your child to master their reading for meaning.
- If your child is a more confident reader, they may well prefer to read 'in their head'. This is an important skill and one which should be encouraged. You still have an important role to play in talking with them about their reading and asking questions which challenge their reading for meaning further.

Reading Records

- For children up to Year 2, we do ask that parents keep a very simple record of children's daily reading in their yellow reading record. This allows children to celebrate their reading journey with pride.
- For older children, we ask that they write in their reading records themselves, sharing with you regularly for checking.

Reading at School

- Staff at school will usually check reading records weekly. As always, if you have any questions or comments to share more urgently with your child's teacher, please do get in touch directly.
- We use well-planned, evidence-informed approaches to teaching your child to read at school. More information can be found in the *Reading and Phonics* section of our website.
- Many parents ask about how often we hear children read in school. Teachers most regularly hear children read as a part of Guided Reading sessions and these are found to be the most effective way of supporting progress. We are lucky to be supported by a number of reading volunteers who supplement children's reading at home by hearing them read on a 1:1 basis where possible.

Returning books

- We invest carefully in the reading materials available for children to enjoy at home and at school. As you can imagine, this represents a sizable portion of our school budget so these books are a highly valuable resource. Please do make sure that books are sent back to school on time. The easiest approach to this is keeping books in your child's book bag whenever they are not being read. **We would also be very grateful if you could take a moment to check at home for any old books that have got lost on their way back to school.** These can be dropped off at reception with no questions asked!

Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Best wishes,

Chris Chislett
Headteacher

Headteacher: Mr C Coyle-Chislett Phone: 01736 753472 Email: secretary@penpol.cornwall.sch.uk Online: penpolschool.co.uk



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