

Witton Church Walk CE Aided Nursery & Primary School
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*'Where Every Door is Opened
and Every Gift Unlocked'*

Head teacher: Mrs K Magiera

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14th March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Reading is happening all the time in our classrooms and throughout the school. It is taught in specific reading and English lessons, but children are practising and using their 'reading' constantly across all subjects too.

In our home school agreement parents are expected to support this 'reading journey' through **regular reading at home**. Reading to and with your child 5 out of 7 evenings for at least ten minutes can make a dramatic difference to your child's achievement within school.

*A report from the Oxford University Press highlighted the importance of parents reading with their children.
'Children who read outside of class are 13 times more likely to read above the expected level for their age'.*

Not only does reading at home improve your child's performance in school, it also contributes towards them developing a wide vocabulary - after the age of 5, 85% of all the new words that your child learns, will come from their reading.

It has come to our attention that many children are not being supported at home with their reading, and this can have a significant impact on their learning in school. It may be that you are reading and not noting it in their journal. Please, if you are reading with your child, ensure you sign or write a note in their reading journal.

Phonics

All our school reading books are now 'fully decodable', this means that children will rely solely on their phonics knowledge to read the book. This stops children being frustrated that they cannot read the book and builds good reading habits.

Their reading book should be EASY for them to read and will only contain sounds they have already learnt in school.

This phonics knowledge is part of the reading programme the children follow in school to learn to read. They will complete the phonics test this June, it is imperative that you support your child with reading, sharing the phonics pack that Mrs Osborn will send home during the Easter break and that you read with your child regularly to support them in being able to read fluently, which in turn will allow them to access the whole curriculum as they move through school.

We hope that you will support us in sharing the love of reading with your child and if you need any further support in helping your child to read at home, please see your class teacher.

Many thanks,

Mrs Kenyon
Reading Lead and Senior Leader

Mrs Magiera
Head Teacher

