



# Witton Church Walk CE Aided Primary

## Early Years and Key Stage One Reading



Dear Parents/ Carers,

We hope that the information in this booklet helps you to support your child at home as they learn to read. Although your child will be taught to read at school, you have a crucial impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home.

### Reading books

There are two types of reading books that your child may bring home:

**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. This book has been carefully matched to your child's current reading level. If your child is reading it needing little help, please don't worry that it's too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading.

Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! After they have finished, talk about the book together.

**A sharing book.** Your child may not be able to read this on their own. 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 for you to enjoy together.

Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it to or with them. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun!



Your child will also soon have a log in to our new online library called 'Collins Big Cat' to read books online.

## Wordless Books

When your child starts Reception they will receive a wordless book as their reading practice book. These books allow children to learn how stories work, including the order and direction in which they read, without the pressure of too many words on the page.

Children will enjoy talking about the story and discussing what is happening in the pictures. The pictures provide lots of opportunities for playing with environmental sounds, an important first step in the teaching of reading.

Activities and ideas when sharing these books with your child:

- Respond to your child's ideas by repeating them back and introducing new words to increase their vocabulary.
- Look at the front cover and read the title to your child. Ask them what they think the story will be about. Relate the title back to your child i.e. 'The lost gloves' have they ever lost anything? or 'Puddles' what do you do when you see a puddle?
- Allow your child to turn the pages of the book and describe what they see in the pictures. You could take it in turns to tell a page of the story.
- Encourage your child to add sounds to accompany the action in story and talk about any sounds that might be found in the story setting i.e. 'Feed the Birds' what sounds might you hear outside?
- Once you have finished sharing the book ask your child to retell the story in their own words.
- Did they enjoy the story? Why?
- Ask your child to point to different things on the page e.g. The angry man.



## Reading for Fluency

Once your child has read their reading practice book once, they should re-read it several times over the week to build confidence and fluency in reading the words. As your child re-reads their book they should be able to say the words without needing to sound them out. Aim to read 5 times a week to develop this fluency in reading. Once your child can read the words fluently, encourage them to add expression to their voice. For example, adding the rise and fall to their voice when reading a question, adding surprise to the tone of their voice when needed.

Each time your child has read, please write it in their red reading record as this helps their teacher to see how your child is getting on at home with their reading and also allows us to count how many times they have read at home so the children can move up the Star Readers Chart.

The Star Reader Chart is made up of 10 different coloured stars, every time they have read 10 times, they move up a star. The last star is gold and once they reach this, they receive a bookmark from Mrs Magiera to congratulate them on reading 100 times at home. When they reach 200 reads, they receive a reading teddy bear and if they manage 500 reads by the end of the year, they receive a book token.



If you would like any further information about how your child is being taught to read in school please see our school website. Please visit 'Phonics and Reading' under the 'Curriculum' tab.

You will see the phonics programme your child is following and watch videos to help you to feel confident supporting your child in partnership with their teachers in reaching their best outcomes and importantly inspiring their love and enjoyment of books.

Kind regards,  
Mrs Ball

