



Head Teacher - Alison Pass

# Wootton Bassett Infants' School

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14<sup>th</sup> September 2021

## Reading at Home

Dear Parents/carers,

Developing your child's reading skills is a team effort to enable them to become fluent readers. With this in mind we will be changing children's books once a week providing they have read their books a number of times.

1. To help them with their decoding skills. Can you encourage them to read it fluently? This might mean reading it a few times so they get used to the words they can read.
2. For fluency- read the book again, this time encourage your child to use a reading voice with expression and intonation.
3. For understanding. Do they understand all the words in the book? Are there any new words you can talk about? Can they answer questions about the characters, the event or the information?

The children will bring home a colour-banded reading book and a decodable reading book everyday. There will be a coloured bookmark in your child's reading folder with suggestions of the types of questions that might help develop their comprehension.

Please record when you read with your child in their reading record book and return it to school every day in their book bag. The more you can read with your child at home the more confident they will become and the more progress they will make. We are hoping that you will read with your child at least 5 times a week. We are continuing our '150 Club' challenge so that we can celebrate all the reading they do at home. Children will be sent to the office to collect a raffle ticket. Winners will be chosen every term.

The children will also choose a book from the book corner to share with you over the week and this will be changed within the school week.

The children will continue to read with an adult in school as much as possible and there will be lots of opportunities for whole class reading and guided reading in school.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Happy Reading!

## Top Tips to support reading at home

### **1. Encourage your child to read**

Reading helps your child's wellbeing, develops imagination and has educational benefits too. Just a few minutes a day can have a big impact on children of all ages.

### **2. Read aloud regularly**

Try to read to your child every day. It's a special time to snuggle up and enjoy a story. Stories matter and children love re-reading them and poring over the pictures. Try adding funny voices to bring characters to life.

### **3. Encourage reading choice**

Give children lots of opportunities to read different things in their own time - it doesn't just have to be books. There's fiction, non-fiction, poetry, comics, magazines, recipes and much more. Try leaving interesting reading material in different places around the home and see who picks it up.

### **4. Read together**

Choose a favourite time to read together as a family and enjoy it. This might be everyone reading the same book together, reading different things at the same time, or getting your children to read to each other. This time spent reading together can be relaxing for all.

### **5. Create a comfortable environment**

Make a calm, comfortable place for your family to relax and read independently - or together.

### **6. Make use of Wootton Bassett library (and don't forget the bookshop!)**

Visit when you're able to and explore all sorts of reading ideas. Local libraries also offer brilliant online materials, including audiobooks and ebooks to borrow.

### **7. Talk about books**

This is a great way to make connections, develop understanding and make reading even more enjoyable. Start by discussing the front cover and talking about what it reveals and suggests the book could be about. Then talk about what you've been reading and share ideas. You could discuss something that happened that surprised you, or something new that you found out. You could talk about how the book makes you feel and whether it reminds you of anything.

### **8. Bring reading to life**

You could try cooking a recipe you've read together. Would you recommend it to a friend?

Alternatively, play a game where you pretend to be the characters in a book, or discuss an interesting article you've read.

### **9. Make reading active**

Play games that involve making connections between pictures, objects and words, such as reading about an object and finding similar things in your home. You could organise treasure hunts related to what you're reading. Try creating your child's very own book by using photos from your day and adding captions.

### **10. Engage your child in reading in a way that suits them**

You know your child best and you'll know the best times for your child to read. If they have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) then short, creative activities may be the way to get them most interested. If English is an additional language, encourage reading in a child's first language, as well as in English. What matters most is that they enjoy it.