



Pilgrims' Way Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Reading and Phonics in Years 1 and 2

We are excited to share with you our home reading plan for all children in Key Stage One. Our aim is to make reading as enjoyable as possible for your child and to support them in making good progress with their reading. Your child will have time to visit our reading room every Friday afternoon to explore and talk about books before deciding on two to take home for the week.

The first will be a phonics book from our Rhino Readers scheme that links to our teaching of Twinkl phonics. This will be a fully decodable phonics book that is pitched at the correct level for your child. They should aim to read this every day with an adult prompting when needed. The aim is to read this book several times so that your child becomes increasingly fluent at reading it and demonstrates an understanding of what they have read. Please sign in your child's reading record book each time they have read this at home.



The second book will be a 'reading for pleasure book'. This book is likely to be beyond your child's reading ability but is one that you can read and share together. The aim is that your child will enjoy sharing this book with you and talk about what is being read to them.

Why Reading at Home is Important

Reading with your child each day helps reinforce the phonics skills they are learning in school. These skills are foundational for their reading and writing development. By engaging with the Rhino Readers phonics books, your child will benefit from:

- **Improved Phonemic Awareness:** Understanding and manipulating sounds is crucial for reading success.

- **Increased Vocabulary:** Regular reading introduces new words and concepts, expanding their language skills.
- **Enhanced Comprehension:** Discussing stories and pictures helps build understanding and critical thinking.
- **Greater Confidence:** Practice at home helps children feel more confident and motivated in their reading abilities.

How to Make the Most of Reading Time

- **Set a Routine:** Aim to read together for 10-15 minutes each day. Consistency is key to building a reading habit.
- **Create a Comfortable Space:** Choose a quiet, cosy spot where you can read together without distractions.
- **Engage with the Book:** Ask your child questions about the story, characters, and pictures. Encourage them to sound out words and blend sounds together.
- **Celebrate Progress:** Praise their efforts and celebrate their achievements, no matter how small. This positive reinforcement will boost their enthusiasm.

Your involvement in your child's reading journey is incredibly valuable and greatly appreciated. By making daily reading a part of your routine, you are helping to build a solid foundation for their future learning.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please feel free to contact us.

Kind regards,

A. Hilton (KS1 Lead)

K. Read (Lead Practitioner)