

Friday 9th September 2022

Dear parents and carers,

As you know, here at Kings Worthy, reading is very important to us. We want to give children a lifelong love of reading, to open their eyes to endless possibilities and to give them the skill to read and learn about what they would like. In order for this to even begin, we have to look at how we teach phonics.

Recently, the DfE have changed the way phonics is taught and recommends that school's follow a validated phonics scheme with complete fidelity to that scheme. Last year, as a school, we researched different schemes to find the one that would suit Kings Worthy the best. From this September, we will now use the Twinkl Phonics Scheme from Year R up until children no longer need it. To support the phonics scheme, we have introduced our Rhino Reader reading scheme. This now replaces the coloured book bands that you will be familiar with.

Rhino Readers are an exciting, original collection of engaging fully-decodable books, exactly aligned with Twinkl Phonics, covering all levels. In the books the children take home, they will only encounter the sounds and tricky words that they've already learnt at their stage of the scheme. Making books they take home a practise for what they have learnt in school. The books include a wide range of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, quizzes and fabulous illustrations. The books reflect the world in which we live, promote diversity, and keep 21st century readers turning pages. We have also aligned existing books in school from other reading schemes to fit with our Rhino Readers. The levels are as follows: Level 1, Level 2a, Level 2b, Level 2c, Level 3a, Level 3b, Level 3c, Level 4a, Level 4b, Level 4c, Level 5a, Level 5b, Level 5c, Level, 6a, Level 6b, Level 6c.



Support at Home

To support children at home please continue to read with children as often as you can and record in their reading diary. Four reads a week earns three house points. This does not just have to be their reading books sent home, but can be library books or simply books you have at home. We will also be adopting a three-read approach for those children who read our fully-decodable books. This has been proven to develop and progress children's early reading. The table on the next page outlines how the three-read approach works. When reading with your child at home please record whether it is their 1st, 2nd or 3rd read. This will be most important as then we then know when to change their book. During each of those reads, it is then important to pay attention to that particular focus.

3 Reads Approach

Focus		Detail
First read	Decoding	Application of GPCs closely matched to those learnt so far - opportunity to apply taught phonics in context Encourage decoding and blending. Draw attention to previous sounds / alternative graphemes etc
Second read	Fluency	A chance to read again. Familiarity should enable more reading by sight and less reliance on decoding and blending. Reading with fluency includes use of: intonation, expression, appropriate pace, prosody Adult could model reading with fluency and children 'echo read' ie read aloud themselves with same intonation / expression
Third read	Comprehension	Demonstrating understanding of what has been read through questioning / discussion about events / characters etc
Further reads as required ...	Focus on an area of need	Does the child need more than 3 reads to achieve fluency and comprehension? Balance number of reads with engagement vs need for success

For further support supporting phonics and reading at home, we will be offering a parent information session for all parents on Tuesday 27th September. If you are interested in this, please complete the following forms so we can accommodate as many people as possible.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=aFGwOuTc0ka4I3AQYuSnnMPuu5_DbbxIslvwzH8sim9UNzE2UVJDSkxaSE83VVdaVzhTTUNLN0FXNi4u This form will be open until 1pm Friday 16th September.

In the meantime, if you have any other questions in regards to reading and supporting your child at home, please do not hesitate to get in contact.

Kind regards,

Mrs Morgan

English Leader

Acting Deputy Headteacher

Telephone: 01962 881410

E-mail:

admin@kingsworthy.hants.sch.uk

www.kingsworthy.hants.sch.uk

