



## HERITAGE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Reception Parents/Carers

### Parent guide to supporting their Reception child with reading at home

At Heritage Park Primary School we know how important it is to establish good reading routines as early as possible. Reading is an important skill in order to access the rest of the curriculum and, by reading regularly, children can also develop their vocabulary, imagination and knowledge of authors and illustrators.

Our expectation for home reading practice in Reception is outlined below:

- To practice phonics sounds taught in school each day, using their sound book
- To read their reading book, for 5-10 minutes each day
- To share a picture book with an adult regularly throughout the week

Our reading books have been carefully selected from the Collins Big Cat reading scheme for Letters and Sounds. These books offer a variety of fiction and non-fiction and are fully decodable – this means your child will have been taught all of the sounds contained within the book. Your child will have also been taught how to read the tricky words featured in the book before they bring that book home.

Your child will bring a reading book home twice a week. This will take place on a **Tuesday** and a **Thursday**. On some occasions, they may bring a book home on a Friday instead of a Thursday due to the teaching of their phonics sounds for that week.

Your child is not expected to finish the book in one day. It is important to focus on the quality of reading rather than the quantity. Once your child has finished the book, they must have the opportunity to re-read it before returning it to school. Re-reading is essential for all children to develop their fluency skills, and also promotes a love of reading. In most of our reading scheme books, there are focus points and questions which are useful for the adult who is hearing the child read.

All reading books will be collected in on the following **Tuesday** so please ensure these are in your child's book bag ready to be collected in by the staff.



In addition to the reading book your child brings home, they will also be able to choose a picture book to bring home to share with you. These books are to be enjoyed between your child and an adult at home and it is not expected that they are read independently by the child. These books can be exchanged on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

It is important to sign your child's reading diary daily so the adults in school can see how they are getting on with the books they are bringing home.

Key points:

- Look at the sound book every day
- Read their reading book for 10 minutes every day
- Write in their reading diary every time you hear your child read
- New books will be sent home on a Tuesday and Thursday
- Return both reading books on a Tuesday
- Pictures books can be exchanged on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
- Read and re-read both books, as many times as your child wishes to
- Staff will ensure your child's reading book is carefully matched to their reading ability

If you have any questions about your child's reading book, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Carson-Doughty  
Literacy Co-Ordinator