

Dear Parents,

When it comes to reading, all staff at Brook Infant School work extremely hard to support every child's reading journey. However, we understand that it is parents more than anyone who can instil a love of books in their children. Nothing is more important than the early experience of parent and child loving and wondering at the same book. It is a shared joy, the parent's closeness, the familiar voice inviting the child to dream along. No invitation to reading can be more persuasive. Whether it is an old favourite or a new book, parent and child live in the story together.

At Brook Infant School we expect that:

- ♣ Our children will be read to, share read or read as much as possible (ideally every night), but we have asked parents to make this an enjoyable experience and one that really promotes reading.
- ♣ Our children and parents will communicate about reading in a positive way through the reading diary, but we will only expect one comment per week.

Reading is a multi-sensory approach to getting at meaning. It is not simply the decoding of black marks on the page but involves the ability to read, with understanding, a wide range of different types of texts including fiction, non-fiction, real world texts such as labels, captions and lists, and print in the environment.

We ask that the **blue reading diary AND book** are kept inside their book bag each day. We will change your child's book once a week. The reading diaries are a great way of letting us know the books that you are enjoying at home and how your child is developing. We will also be writing regularly in your child's diary. We aim to read with each child individually once every 2 weeks.

Due to COVID we can only change the children's reading book once a week, we will be doing this every MONDAY so please always make sure your child has their reading book on a Monday. This allows us time for the books to fallow before they are sent out again.

Although we have a variety of structured texts within our school for use in each class, we also use 'real books'. The use of real books is recommended as the children's long-term success in reading depends on the way they adapt to texts, which in turn, depends on the material they read. Children need to encounter a wide and diverse range of books which reflect the literary structures they will experience as their reading progresses.

Oxford Owl website: www.oxfordowl.co.uk

Oxford Owl is a free online library with reading schemed books. This will be ideal to use while we can only send one book home a week, giving you endless opportunities to read levelled books alongside your child's ability.



Fabulous Phonics!

Every Friday we will upload to Tapestry the phonics learning your child has focused on each week. Please practise these daily to support your child in learning how to read and write them.



Kind Regards,

The Reception Team