GREEN RIDGE
PRIMARY ACADEMY

President Road, Aylesbury, HP18 0YA 01296 326320 admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk
www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk @greenridgeprimaryacademy

Thursday, 1st October 2026

Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Phonics Program and Reading Books

Dear Parents and Carers,

In Reception we use the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds phonics program to teach children how to read by blending sounds together. This is a systematic, synthetic phonics program which teaches the children to recognise and read graphemes (letters) and use phonemes (sounds) to segment words to write them.

For more information on the Little Wandle program, follow this link. This website gives a wealth of information for parents/carers about how to correctly pronounce sounds, the teaching order and how to support reading at home. You will also be able to use this site throughout the year to support your child with their phonics and reading.

A key element of this programme is that children practice reading at home to become fluent, confident readers. They will be sent home with a reading practice book, which will be matched to their fluency level and will be fully decodable. To ensure that reading at home is an enjoyable experience and supports the children's confidence and fluency, we will ensure your child can read 95% of the words within these books. The Reading Practice Books will display the following sticker.



Reading practice books were sent home on Wednesday, 23rd September and will be sent home every **Wednesday**. They must be returned to school every **Wednesday** in order for them to be changed. We will only send home another reading practice book once the previous one has been returned, so please ensure that books are returned to the class teacher on time. All children will initially receive a wordless book as these help children build vocabulary, understand story structure, and develop confidence in expressing ideas. As children begin to learn more phonemes, we will then send home books that are carefully matched to their growing phonic knowledge, helping them practise and apply their reading skills in a supportive and engaging way.

In addition, your child will also bring home a sharing book, which they will have chosen themselves from the library. This is a book that your child may not be able to read on their own but that you can both read and enjoy together, and it will not be a book that has been practised at school. While reading, you can discuss the pictures, predict what might happen next, use different voices, and just enjoy the story or new facts if it is a non-fiction book. The main idea of the sharing book is to have fun whilst reading and promote a love of books!

When you read with your child, please listen with interest and, most importantly, encourage and praise, enthusiastically acknowledging your child's achievement (even if, at the early stages, this is only small!).

We are very excited to use the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds program and look forward to your support in promoting high standards of reading in school. We have arranged a parent/carer information session to explain the process in more detail and how we are supporting the children to read fluently. This will take place at 9.00-9.30am on Tuesday, 6th October. To let us know that you wish to attend the session, we kindly us that you complete this form.

Thank you for your cooperation and as always, if you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Ryan Collard
Phonics Lead and Birch Class Teacher