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Tuesday, 5th September 2023

Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Phonics Program and Reading Books Reception and Year One

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term, we are implementing 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.



The Reading Practice Books will be sent home every **Thursday** after the children have practised reading a similar matched book in school throughout the week. They must be returned to school the following **Wednesday**. 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.

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!

We will no longer use reading records to ask you to record when you have read with your child at home. We know this was an added piece of admin for parents/carers and we would much rather you just enjoy the reading journey with your child at home without the need to record what you have done. When you read with them, 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 start the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds program and look forward to your support in promoting high standards of reading in school. We have arranged two parent/carer information sessions to explain the process in more detail and how we are supporting the children to read fluently. These will take place at **2.30pm** and **6.00pm** on **Monday, 18th September**. To let us know that you wish to attend one of the sessions, we kindly ask 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,



Mrs. Nikki Mackie
Assistant Headteacher - EYFS