



17th September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Reading at RCPA

We are passionate about working with you to teach your child to read so they become enthusiastic readers and develop a love of reading. A fluent reader will find they can access learning throughout primary school.

In order to do this, we aim to provide high-quality texts for you to share with your child. Children in Reception and Year One will soon receive a reading diary and we would like you to write a comment and sign it **each time** your child has read their school reading book to you. Reading books will not be changed unless you have signed in the reading diary each week.

Bumblebees (Nursery)

In the Nursery we share lots of stories and books with your child each day and at home we would encourage you to look at books together, especially at bedtime, and talk about the pictures and the story, introducing and explaining new words as this will expand your child's language and vocabulary. We would like you to choose a picture book to share with your child each day from the selection in the outside area. Once you have returned the book please choose another one to enjoy together. We are in the process of ordering new books so this will not start until the week beginning 27.9.21. Thank you for your patience.

Dragonflies and Butterflies (Reception)

Initially in Reception, your child will take home a picture book without any words. Please encourage your child to look through the pictures and talk about what is happening on each page. They might also like to invent what the characters could be saying. Please talk to them about what the characters are doing and possible reasons for this. Your child may be able to link this to their own experiences too e.g. if the story is about zoo animals you could help them to remember a time when they have been to a zoo and which animals they saw etc.

As your child learns to read phonic sounds, we will send home reading books that have been carefully chosen so that your child can work out all the words. We will encourage your child to re-read this book several times, sounding out and blending words in order to read the words. This repetition will support your child to accurately read these words 'at a glance'. This will also ensure that they understand what they are reading.



In addition to reading books we will also be sending home a blue 'Sounds book' which we would encourage your child to read the letter sound (not the name) and then practise writing the letter repeatedly on the page. Please encourage your child to have a go themselves rather than you holding the pencil or drawing dots for them to copy. In time, they will have a 'List book' which will have words to practise reading and writing. These books will link to learning that has been taught in the previous week.

We strongly advise you to continue reading and sharing books with your child on a regular basis. The local libraries are open again now so it would be a good opportunity to sign your child up to the library if they are not already a member. We hope you enjoy this special quiet reading time together.

Puffins (Year One)

In Year One, your child will bring home a reading book that is matched to their phonic ability. As mentioned previously, please encourage your child to keep re-reading this book to support their fluency and understanding.

If you would like any support with reading please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself. Learning to read takes time and patience but together we can get your child reading!

Kind regards,

Jo Burtoft
English Lead