



'Ensuring Excellence'

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Dear Parents

### **Reading at Home**

Reading is an imperative skill that is practised on a daily basis at school. The primary curriculum states:

*Through reading in particular, pupils have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. Literature, especially, plays a key role in such development. Reading also enables pupils both to acquire knowledge and to build on what they already know.*

To address these vital objectives we ensure that our phonics and reading lessons encourage children to learn key reading skills and become fluent readers.

As it is a brand new school year we felt it necessary to remind our families of the expectations we have regarding reading at home:

- Key Stage 1 children read at least four times a week at home
- Key Stage 2 children read at least three times a week at home
- Reading diaries are signed by an adult every time a child reads at home
- Books and page numbers are added so the class teacher can monitor children's reading stamina.

If a whole class achieve their reading target in a week, Mrs Cross will hold a Tea Party where she will read to the class and they will also have cake and juice. This is to reward the children for their commitment to reading. We are also aware that some children who are reading regularly (which is reflected in their reading diaries) are not given the opportunity to partake in a Tea Party due to other members of the class not achieving their reading target for the week. It is now our intention to have an additional Tea Party once a term to celebrate those children who have missed out for this reason.

To raise standards of reading further, we will be inviting parents into school on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October to take part in a 'Hands on Guided Reading' session with your child. This will give parents the opportunity to see how our staff support children to read and how this can be mirrored at home.

If you have any additional questions regarding reading at home please do not hesitate to ask either your child's class teacher or myself.

Yours sincerely

Miss S McGroarty  
Associate Headteacher