

St Peter & St Paul CE Primary School, Eye



Dear Parents/ Carers,

Bug Club Phonics and Reading in R, Year 1 and 2

We are writing to tell you about a new Phonics programme which we are purchasing and implementing as a school. The programme is called Bug Club Phonics and it is a systematic synthetic phonics programme designed to give a solid foundation for reading for all children. The programme will be used to deliver the daily phonics sessions for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 as well as to provide further support to children in other year group where appropriate.

As part of the programme, we will be purchasing a brand new range of fully decodable reading books which have been written to ensure that children are reading from books with the sounds they know as they are learning to read. All Reception and Year 1 children will be bringing these books home as their reading book with children in other year groups reading these as needed to help develop their reading fluency.

We are also introducing a requirement for children to reread the same book up to three times. The purpose of this is to help improve children's reading fluency. Research shows that the first time learner readers read a book, they are focusing purely on sounding out the words which means that they don't always process the word they are reading. By the third time of reading, children are more likely to be able to read words without sounding all of them out which therefore improves their fluency and understanding. Books will be changed at the discretion of your child's teacher. This may mean that your child is not getting their book changed every day as we want to ensure fluency of reading rather than moving through the books quickly.

As always, we ask that you read with your child daily. However, this does not have to be their reading book every day. Sharing a range of books and stories with your child is so valuable and it is so lovely for adults to read to children as well as vice versa. If your child hasn't read their school book but you have shared another book together then please do share this with us in their planners – we love hearing about all the reading being enjoyed at home!

To ensure that all children have access to reading a wide range of books at home, we plan to develop a timetable to allow you to come into the classrooms and library to browse and borrow other books to enjoy at home. We will be in touch with further information about this soon.

We are making these changes to strengthen our teaching of phonics and reading, especially as we know this was an area of home learning that many of you found challenging. We are confident that our updated approach will have a positive impact on our children's reading and thank you for your cooperation and understanding. As always, if you have any questions about any of these changes then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs M. Barrow
Acting Executive Headteacher
CEO All Saints Schools Trust

