



Aire View Site

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Hothfield Site

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Silsden
Primary School

Reading at Silsden Primary School

16th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to tell you about our new reading scheme and how home /school reading will work across the school this year.

NEW Reading Scheme

Back in January, we invested in a new ‘whole school’ reading scheme because we found that the two sites had very different schemes plus the books were becoming rather tatty and outdated. We were ready to launch this in March then lockdown came, so we will try again!

It is important that you as a parent and the children know that the way the books are banded is quite different to how they have been before. They are now **ordered by box number rather than colour**. So, we will ask children to refer to the box number they are on rather than the colour band.

The change has come about because in Early Years and KS1 we have organised the books to be in-line with the phonics sounds that the children know. For example if the word ‘moon’ was in a book but the child hadn’t learnt the ‘oo’ sound they wouldn’t be able to read this book fluently and this would then have an adverse effect on their confidence and love of reading. Now children should never bring home a book with a sound in it that they haven’t been taught.

Some of the books may seem easier than your child’s previous reading book; this is because these books are phonetically decodable allowing your child to read independently whereas the old reading scheme books had words in that children sometimes had to be told by an adult or had to guess, using picture clues. Once children are working on box 24 and beyond the books focus more on the understanding and vocabulary.

Please ensure books are kept in pristine condition – no drawing/writing in them, bending the covers back or letting the dog get hold of them. To help with this we have provided every child with a plastic wallet where we would like them to keep their reading record and reading book. A charge will be incurred for lost or damaged reading books.

Changing Reading Books

It is really important that children are able to read regularly and continue to read books at school and home, but there are government guidelines we have to follow with regard to the Covid-19 virus. Books will be sent home with children this week and returned on their timetabled day.

To minimise the risk of any infection from taking books from school to home and vice versa we have created a timetable across the school and are asking children to **change their**

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books twice a week on specific days. This allows the books to come back into school for more than 48 hours before putting them back on the shelves for other children.

Reception -	Monday and Friday
Year 1-	Monday and Friday
Year 2 –	Monday and Friday
Year 3 –	Tuesday and Friday
Year 4 -	Tuesday and Friday
Year 5 –	Monday and Thursday
Year 6 –	Monday and Thursday

Can we ask that parents of Reception and Key stage 1 children **write the title of the book their child is reading at home in the reading record** and children in KS2 write it in themselves. This is very important (in EYFS and KS1) as books will be changed by an adult in school, so we need to know which books the child has already read in their allocated box.

Please try listen to your child **read at least 3 times a week** but preferably daily. It is beneficial to the younger children in school who are working below box 24, to read the same book more than once because the:

First read – is to decode the words (children get very little understanding from the book during the first read)

Second read – is to develop fluency – so they read less robotically

Third read – is to develop understanding – so children can answer questions about the text.

We will never instil a love of reading in children if all we do is ask children to read a book once because they are simply decoding the book but have very little understanding of it.

Children will be assessed regularly and moved to another box when their teacher feels that they are ready to move. They will assess their fluency, expression, use of phonics to decode and children's understanding of the text.

Children are excited to read these new books as they have seen them sat in school. So let's get reading them and become a school that 'Loves to read!'

Happy Reading! If you have any queries please do not hesitate to talk to the class teacher.

Yours Faithfully,

Alison O'Hara
Assistant Head