



Mere Green Primary School

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'Making a Difference'

11th February 2022

Dear Parents / Guardians,

At Mere Green we believe that children will make the best possible progress if they read as often as possible. Therefore, each week your child will come home with three reading books:

- 1) **Read Write Inc Story book:** their current phonics book for them to read to you
- 2) **Book Bag Book:** a new book for them to read to you
- 3) **Library book:** to share together

This letter will offer guidance and support on how to listen to your child read at home with each of these.

Read Write Inc Story Book

At Mere Green, children read each Read Write Inc Storybook three times in class with their partner. **Re-reading the same book helps children to become confident readers.** Each time they re-read, they build their fluency/speed and comprehension.

They also then feel a sense of achievement with reading as they can read all of the words in the Storybook.

We set a focus for each re-read in school:

- 1) The first read focuses on reading every word accurately.
- 2) The second on reading the story quicker.
- 3) The third read on comprehension (understanding what they read.)

Then your child brings the **same book** home to read and enjoy with you again and again at home. They love this book! They can read it like a storyteller and can't wait to read it to you, their grandparents or even their teddy bear. We do not send stories home the children cannot read because we always want them to be set up to succeed in their reading. The more they read, the more progress they will make.

Please avoid saying, "This book is too easy for you!" but instead say "I love how well you can read this book!" They are meant to be able to read all of the words as the book is at their correct level. Encourage them to share their enjoyment of the story with you and read it in their storyteller voice – again and again.

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CEO Richard Gill NPQH, NLE, FRSA



If they hesitate with any words in the story, remind them to read the word using 'Special Friends, Fred Talk, read the word'.

For example, this means they spot the 'sh', then Fred Talk and blend to read the word e.g. sh, sh-i-p, ship.

Book Bag Books

At Mere Green, we send home additional book bag books as **extra reading practice** for your child to help them reinforce their learning of phonics at their appropriate level. These books are closely matched to the children's reading level in school and enables the children to practice the sounds they already know. In reading these books, it will help your child to make even faster progress in reading. When listening to your child read this story book we suggest you follow a similar structure to that in school:

- 1) The first read focuses on reading every word accurately.
- 2) The second on reading the story quicker.
- 3) The third read on comprehension - understanding what they read.

By the end of the week can your child should not only read the book accurately, but at a sufficient pace and using expression in their voice.

Library book – (Picture Book)

Each week, your child will also choose a picture book from our library to share with you at home. You can **read the story to them or they can retell the story by looking at the pictures**, (they are not expected to read the story themselves). These are stories for you to enjoy together, fostering a love of stories and reading. Our top 3 tips for reading these stories would be:

- 1) Read the same stories aloud again and again
- 2) Read with enthusiasm, showing a love for each story
- 3) Use a range of vocabulary with your child. Explain any words in the story that they might be sure of. What does it mean? Apply this into a sentence.

We do appreciate that yourselves as parents can have very busy schedules and that you may not have much time to implement the above. Therefore, our simple top 3 tips for reading with your child at home are as follows:

- 1) Listen to your child read the same Read Write Inc storybook again and again
- 2) Encourage them to use 'Special Friends, Fred Talk, Read the word'
- 3) Discuss the story and encourage their story-teller voice

Thank you for your continued support

Miss Murray

Phonics Leader