



# Waterbeach Community Primary School



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Dear Parents/carers,

## EXCITING NEWS - READING BOOKS COMING HOME

### PHONICS Update

Since September, we have been teaching your child to read using, 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised' Phonics scheme. The children are progressing well with learning the sounds (phonemes) that the letters (graphemes) make, please keep practicing them with your child at home. If you need a reminder of how to pronounce the sounds, click here: <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

### How can you help your child?

If you missed our recent workshop – you can find the PowerPoint and links here: [Waterbeach Community Primary School - Helping your child with Phonics and Reading \(waterbeachschool.org.uk\)](#)

### READING BOOKS TO CELEBRATE AND ENJOY

The scheme promotes a love for reading and this is done by sharing books.

In school, there are three reading sessions a week. The children will have the same book for each session, with a different focus each time:

Decoding

Prosody – reading with rhythm, stress and intonation

Comprehension

Your child has already been bringing home a choice book – reading for pleasure, **this week they will also bring home a phonics books matched to their reading ability.** See the guidance below as to how both kinds of books should be used at home.

**Phonics books** – chosen by the class teacher, matched to your child's ability.

We have invested a lot of money into new books which are directly linked with the scheme and matched to your child's phonic knowledge. They are completely decodable and follow the progression of phonemes taught in the lessons. After their three reading practise sessions in school, the children will bring home the book they have practised reading all week. This means that they **should be confident and fluent when reading the book to you at home. This is something to be celebrated!**

If they are unsure about a word, help them to sound it out or read it to them and ensure you talk about what it means. Continue to talk about the book throughout to develop your child's comprehension skills. If your child is reading it with limited support, please do not worry that it is too easy – this means it is just right in supporting your child's development of fluency and confidence.

**Reading for pleasure books** - chosen by your child to share with you.

In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. They have also be bringing a 'choice/sharing' book home from our library which we ask you to read to your child and share the pleasure of reading a book together. Reading their 'choice/sharing' book also aids the children's language and imagination. This will help them in all aspects of the curriculum. Please do not ask your child to read the sharing book as it will likely be beyond their current reading level. Instead, read it to/with them as this will be a positive, shared reading experience.

### PLEASE LOOK AFTER OUR WONDERFUL BOOKS

We ask that you look after the books and encourage your child to handle them carefully. Please do not put water bottles in book bags to avoid any leakages damaging the books. If books are not returned or are damaged, we will need to ask parents to pay for a replacement, each book costs around £5. Please, please look after and return the wonderful books so that the children can read and enjoy them.

**Books will be sent home on Fridays and all books need to be returned to school on Mondays.**

Have fun reading with your child,

Lynsey Ogilvie and Andrew Stafford - Phonics and Early Reading Leaders, Debbie Mills – Early Years Leader