



Sheepscombe Primary School
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Friday 5th September

Dear Parents and Carers,

Your children are really settling in well to the new school term, we are so proud of the respect they are showing to each other and all the resources in the classroom. It is a pleasure to work with them.

We shall be holding a phonics information session on **Friday 12th September at 3.30pm** in the EYFS classroom. Here we will be providing you with information so you can support your child with their phonics and reading in reception class.

We use the phonics reading scheme called Little Wandle Letters and Sounds, this is a systematic synthetic phonics (**SSP**) Programme.

On Monday the 15th September we will start teaching the initial sounds, homework sheets will be sent home on a weekly basis so you know what your child is learning. If you could go over these sounds and help your child to practice these sounds, it will really help to embed their learning. Over the next few weeks, your child will also be bringing home reading books. This will start with wordless books for you to enjoy with your child. When your child is able to blend sounds to make words, they will then progress to reading practice books.

There are two types of reading book that your child will bring home:

- **A reading practice book –Collins Big Cat.** This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently. There will be prompts at the front of the book. Or they will bring a wordless book for sharing and discussing, these will also have prompts at the front of the book.
- **A sharing book from our book corner.** Your child may not be able to read this book on their own as it is not fully decodable and may not match their exact phonics level. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together.

The Reading Practice Book: Big Cat Books

This book has been carefully matched to your child's current reading level. If your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading. Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together.



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The Sharing Book:

In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The sharing book is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun!

Support for Parents

These three videos (link below) show you how to pronounce the sounds. Notice how the children don't add an 'uh' sound at the end, so they say: 't' not 'tuh'. Use the downloadable information to help your child remember how to write their letters and say their sounds.

Further Support can be found via this link:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

The children read in groups of three, we only have three copies of each reading book (one for each child in the group). It is therefore imperative that the reading books are looked after and returned to school ready for the next group of children. We find it helpful if the children keep their reading books in their bookbags, these are then changed every Friday.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Best wishes

Miss Fay and Mrs George



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