

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to thank you for your continued support with your child's learning. One area where your involvement makes a huge difference is **reading at home**, and we are kindly asking for your help with this.

Reading is one of the most important skills a child can develop. It supports learning across every subject, builds confidence, improves vocabulary and comprehension, and opens doors to imagination and understanding the world. Like any skill, reading only improves with regular practice — without it, progress can slow.

In school, we ask children to read **at least three times a week at home to an adult**. This is monitored by teachers through reading diaries, and we may contact you if regular reading is not happening so we can work together to support your child.

We understand that home life can be busy and families have many commitments. However, we kindly ask if you can spare just **5–10 minutes, three times a week**, to listen to your child read — this small amount of time makes a big difference to their confidence and progress.

Supporting children with additional needs

Reading at home is especially important for children with additional needs, including those with diagnoses such as ASC or ADHD. While we fully understand that reading may sometimes feel more challenging, regular short reading sessions can:

- Build focus and attention gradually
- Improve communication and understanding
- Support emotional regulation and confidence
- Strengthen the bond between adult and child

These children often benefit most from consistency, encouragement, and positive experiences around reading — even a few minutes at a time can be incredibly powerful.

5 Helpful Tips for Reading at Home

1. **Keep sessions short and positive** — 5–10 minutes is perfect.
2. **Take turns reading** — You read a page, then your child reads a page.
3. **Talk about the story** — Ask simple questions like "What do you think will happen next?"
4. **Praise effort, not just accuracy** — Confidence matters more than perfection.
5. **Make it cosy and calm** — A quiet space and relaxed atmosphere helps children enjoy reading.

Ideas for Reading Diary Comments

- "Great fluency tonight — really confident reading."
- "Struggled with some tricky words but kept trying — well done!"
- "Enjoyed this story and talked about the characters."
- "Read with expression and good understanding."
- "Needed some support but showed excellent effort."

Thank you so much for working in partnership with us. Your support truly makes a difference to your child's reading journey and overall success at school. If you ever need advice, book suggestions, or support with reading at home, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Warm regards,
Mrs Parry-McDermott