



# St Patrick's RC Primary School, Dipton

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Headteacher: Mrs J Burgess  
*We follow in Christ's footsteps*

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

## READING AND HOMEWORK AUTUMN TERM 2020

As you are aware, in the current circumstances, we have had to change the way we work in a number of areas. One of these areas is homework and reading activities.

### READING BOOKS

Children will continue to be provided with home reading books. These books will be rotated so that, on return to school, they are 'quarantined' for a minimum of 48 hours before being passed to another family. As a further precaution, we ask that you encourage thorough hand washing before and after handling reading books.

We understand that, during their time away from school, children's reading routines may have varied. During the first few days of term, each child's reading level will be assessed and a reading book provided accordingly. Please do not worry if your child brings home a book from a previous level: our priority is to match books to each child's current stage and to accelerate reading progress from that point.

### READING RECORDS

In order to minimise the passing of books between home and school, children will not be provided with a planner this term. Instead, an online reading record has been set up for each child using the Purple Mash platform. (Older children have been tasked with setting up their own record as their first homework activity.)

When you hear your child read at home, please use this system to comment. The expectation that children read at home at least three times per week remains and staff will continue to check these reading records each Friday.

### HOMEWORK

Homework will also be provided using the Purple Mash platform.

Full instructions for completing homework and the reading record feature are as a news item on our website at <http://www.dipton.durham.sch.uk/purple-mash-guides-for-homework-and-reading-record-feature/>

Although for full functionality, it is recommended that Purple Mash is accessed on a tablet or computer, the reading record and homework document view functions are compatible with all devices, including mobile phones. Purple Mash was used, with great success, throughout the school closure and we hope to continue to take advantage of its many useful features. So that all parents and carers feel comfortable with accessing the online platform, we have organised an informal (socially distanced) session, **at 2:15pm on Wed 9<sup>th</sup> September**, to offer additional support with using Purple Mash to anyone who feels it may be of benefit. If you would like to attend this session, please call the school office to book a place.

Many thanks, as always, for your support,  
Miss E Parry

**IF YOU HAVE DIFFICULTY IN READING OR INTERPRETING THIS DOCUMENT PLEASE CALL 01207 570316**

