



St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Dipton

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Headteacher: Mrs J Burgess

We follow in Christ's footsteps

24th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

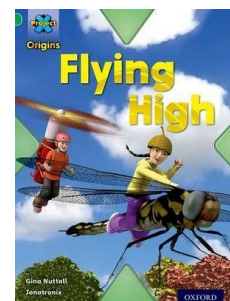
READING BOOKS IN RECEPTION AND KEY STAGE ONE

At St. Patrick's we believe that fluency in reading is a vital life skill and is the key to success in all curriculum areas. As such, we place a great emphasis on reading at home.

Current best practice in the teaching of reading advises that reading is split into two skills: the decoding of print (sounding-out words) and comprehension (understanding texts). We recently added to our phonic reading books to allow us to apply this two-fold approach to reading at home. Your child will bring home two reading books every week. Each book has a different purpose, explained below.

PHONIC PRACTICE BOOK ('READ TO YOU' BOOK)

This book will have a sticker on the side, indicating the phonic phase that your child is currently practising. (Eg 'Ph4'). This book should be fully decodable for your child. (They should be able to read the book independently by sounding out every word as it is made up only of sounds that your child has covered in their phonic learning at school). You may need to help with the title of this book but, otherwise, it is expected that your child should be able to read the book to you, with no help.



Please note that the purpose of the phonic practice book is to provide your child with opportunities to practise what they know. It may, therefore, seem easy for your child; this is the intention. To provide plenty of opportunities for repetition, this book will be changed once per week. Please read this book a number of times with your child. This will help them to become speedier and develop their expression.

How can I help my child with their *read to you* book?

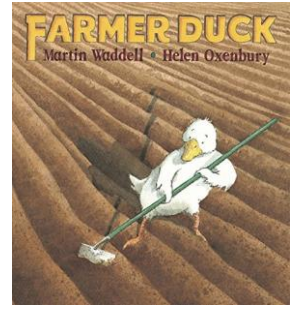
- Please avoid telling your child that the book is too easy for them. Instead, say, "I love how well you can read this book!"
- Read the same book again and again! After the first few readings, encourage your child to sound out the words at a whisper and then by simply moving their mouths or even in their head. This will encourage your child to develop the skill of sounding-out in their head, which will help them to become more fluent in their reading.
- Show your child how to read the story in a storyteller voice.

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



LIBRARY BOOK TO SHARE ('READ TO ME' BOOK)

This book is intended for an adult to read to your child. Library books have colour-coded book band stickers on the spine but children are not restricted in their choice. Children can change their library book as often as they like. Please enjoy this book as a shared story, reading it to your child. During this time, asking questions about the story is really helpful in developing your child's understanding.



Some ideas for questions to ask to help understanding

- Who did _____?
- When did _____?
- Where did _____?
- What happened when _____?
- What do you think will happen next?
- What does this word mean?
- How was _____ feeling? Why?
- Why did _____ happen?

Please note that, in keeping with current DfE guidance on the teaching of reading (which states that children should focus on phonic-based books), while they are still developing their phonic knowledge, children will no longer bring home a book-banded 'have a go' book. When children are secure in their phonic knowledge, the phonic practice book will be replaced with a reading book with a colour-coded book-banded sticker, matched to your child's reading level. This will usually happen during Year Two, but some children may require a little more practice and so will continue to bring home phonic-based books for a little longer.

Staff will continually assess how individual pupils are progressing with their reading. You will be contacted on an individual basis, in due course, if there are additional ways you can support your child depending on any specific area(s) of need noted.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Many thanks, as always, for your support,

Miss E Parry
English Lead

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