

## Reading at Christ Church C of E Primary

### **What / How will your child read in school?**

Your child will experience a variety of reading activities in school:

- They may be given opportunities to read individually from reading scheme books
- They will read with the class during the 'shared' part of the daily English lesson
- They will read with the teacher or teaching assistant during 'guided reading'
- They may read during quiet reading sessions, where they may be encouraged to read silently or share a book with a partner
- They will also be given the opportunity to read during other curriculum areas

At every occasion when your child reads in school there will be an emphasis on their understanding of what they have read, as well as fluency. It is also important this is encouraged at home.

When hearing your child read it is necessary to ask them questions about texts as they are reading. Encourage them to look back at the pages of the book to find information.

### **Hints on helping with reading at home**

As a parent, you can play an important role in helping your child learn to read.

Research shows that children who are helped at home make better progress in school.

<b>Student A</b>	<b>Student B</b>	<b>Student C</b>
<b>Reads:</b>	<b>Reads:</b>	<b>Reads:</b>
20 minutes/day	5 minutes/day	1 minute/day
3600 minutes/school year	900 minutes/school year	180 minutes/school year
<b>Exposed to:</b>	<b>Exposed to:</b>	<b>Exposed to:</b>
1,800,000 words	282,000 words	8,000 words

Reading with your child can be fun and very rewarding. It also shows that you value his/her efforts. If children enjoy reading, it will benefit their whole education. They are also more likely to carry on reading as adults.



### **Choosing what to read**

Choose any books that appeal to your child, for example, stories or information books on hobbies/interests such as football or animals. Vary your reading together. It doesn't have to be school books. Newspapers, magazines, recipes, games instructions can be read together and still be part of the process of learning to read with enjoyment.

We hope that you will also borrow books from the local library to read together.

Your children may keep choosing the same book because it is a favourite. This is all part of learning to read. Children enjoy being read to even when they are fluent readers.

### **How can I help?**

- Find a quiet, relaxing place away from distractions such as TV
- Sit comfortably in good light and talk to your child about their book
- Read for about 10 minutes; a regular short time of quality is better than a long session which happens only occasionally
- Ask why they have chosen the book
- Talk about the cover and title and what the story might be about
- Ask them to tell you who wrote the book or point to the author
- Look at the pictures and ask them to tell you where the story takes place
- Ask who they can see in the pictures (especially in simple caption books)
- Try to be supportive and positive during the reading time
- Encourage your children to look closely at the print
- Read the first page or two together until your child is ready to continue alone
- Encourage your child to point to each word as they read aloud
- Where possible wait for your child to decode words
- Encourage the use of clues such as the look/sound of the letters, what would make sense and the illustrations
- If they get stuck on a word, you could:
  - let them read on so they can work out the word themselves from the context
  - point to a picture if it will help them guess the meaning
  - give them the first or last sounds to help them
  - read along with them then pause, prompt, praise if they get it right
  - read the word for them (especially if it is a Proper Name)
  - when they are confident with sounds, let them sound out unknown words – break longer words down in to syllables
  - do not sound out words which are not phonetic e.g “because”

When a mistake is self-corrected or a previously unknown word is recognised, praise highly

- Encourage expressive reading by drawing attention to punctuation
- Help understanding by talking about the story or text – the setting, the plot, the characters
- Discuss the kind of people the characters are and the way they behave
- Talk about the kind of story it is (adventure, fantasy, science fiction, myth...)
- Encourage your child to refer to words and passages in the text to justify opinions

- If your child is finding a book difficult, help out by reading it together

Please remember that the purpose of the 'Reading Record' book is to give your child's class teacher feedback on how well your child is reading at home.

We suggest that children read and a comment is made at least four times a week. As children move further up the school, comments may sometimes be made by your child.

A bank of helpful questions is in the middle of the 'Reading Record' book and below:

## Reading at Home FS and Key Stage 1



Can your child...

Predict it!	...predict what might happen next before reading and after they have read some of the book <i>What might happen next why? How do you think the story will end?</i>
Understand it!	...understand all of the words in the book? <i>Are there any words that you do not know? What does ....mean? Which word means the same as...?</i>
Find it!	...talk about the characters and what is happening in the story? ...talk about the titles and facts in an information book? <i>Who? When? Where? What?</i>
Think about it!	...understand why things have happened in the book? <i>Why did ....happen after....? How do you know....? Which words suggest that....?</i>
Sequence it!	...talk about the order of events in the book? <i>What happened first? Next? After that? Finally?</i>

## Reading at Home Key Stage 2



Can your child...

Predict it!	...predict what might happen from what you have read? <i>What happened first? Next? After that? Finally? Why?</i>
Understand it!	...explain the meaning of the more difficult words in the book? <i>What does ....mean? Which word means the same as...?</i>
Find it!	...pick out information or key details from the book? <i>Which words....? Who? When? Where? What?</i>
Summarise it!	...tell you the main points in an information book? <i>What have you learned from this page?</i> ...talk about the main parts of the story? <i>What is this paragraph or chapter about?</i>
Think about it!	...think about what has happened in the book and give reasons why? <i>Which words tells you that....? How is the character feeling? How do you know?</i>
Link it!	...talk about how things in the book link together? <i>What are the themes in the book? What is the big idea?</i>
Listen to it!	...talk about why the writer has chosen words and phrases? <i>How does the book make you feel? Why? Are there parts of the book that you really enjoyed? Why?</i>
Compare it!	...talk about different parts of the story or characters? <i>How do the characters change in the story? Does this book remind you of other stories that you have read?</i>