



Dore Primary School

Headteacher: Sue Hopkinson

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Dear parent / carer,

Today your child will have been given a brand new Reading Record, which the DPA have generously funded again this year. We are very positive about the new Reading Records since we strongly believe in the critical importance of reading. We hope that these Reading Records will encourage your child to read and discuss books regularly at home. Research shows that children who read regularly with support tend to make better progress in their writing (and other areas of the curriculum).

We place significant importance on reading in school, but firmly believe that 'team work' yields best results. Dore Primary School, as part of our 'Learning at Home' Policy, believes that children should try to read at home every day. Ideally, a short daily session is better than an occasional longer one. Each time you hear your child read and discuss the content of the book with them, we would ask you to please record an appropriate comment and signature in their Reading Record. Many parents record daily, but we would hope that parents record a comment once a week.

As there is a cost attached to the new Reading Records, we would like to ask you to take good care of them. If these books are misplaced or lost, we will not be able to fund the cost of a replacement. We would be happy to give your child a school made substitute. However, this would be a great shame as we intend these Reading Records to show your child's success, progress and achievement in reading over the year.

Please see the attached 'hints and tips' for reading at home, for extra help and advice regarding reading.

Kind Regards,

Sue Hopkinson

Laura Birch





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HINTS AND TIPS FOR READING AT HOME

As a parent or carer, you can help your child to read in many different ways. Research shows that children whose families read together at home are more likely to become successful, confident and independent readers.

When?

Help your child to enjoy reading each day by making it part of the family routine. A short daily session, without distractions, is better than a long occasional one.

What?

Try to encourage your child to read a range of fiction and non-fiction books. Join the local library and encourage your child to pick their own book. This will help your child to develop their own individual interests. Help your child to select books in areas and topics that interest them.

Where?

Find a comfortable place, without distractions, where you can enjoy reading together. Keep favourite books in a place where they can be easily found. Having lots of reading material around helps your child to see how important and enjoyable reading is.

With whom?

Your child does not need to read with the same adult every day. By talking with different family members or friends about reading, your child will learn to enjoy a range of books. Children learn to respect the preferences of others, by discussing their own likes and dislikes. Try to be a model reader; it is important that your child sees you reading books, newspapers and other material on a regular basis.

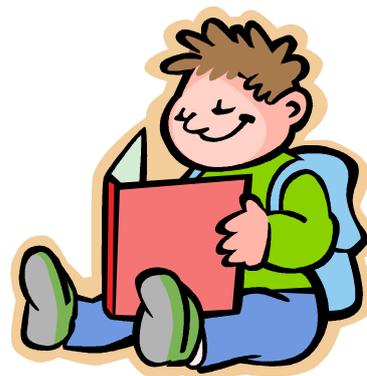
How?

Help your child to read by praising good expression and fluency. Encourage children to pause for commas and full stops. Children may also change their voice for different punctuation marks, such as exclamation marks, when reading aloud as a character. Discuss the title and genre of the book. Talk about the content of the book and any links that the subject matter may have with events that your child has experienced. Ask your child to summarise a chapter or the whole book.

Fiction – discuss the plot, characters and how the text impacts on the child as the reader. How does the author convey moods, messages and feelings? Discuss the point of view that the story is being told from.

Non – fiction – look at the layout and any language features. Ask the child about what they have learned and if there is anything else they would like to find out. Is the text useful and why? Are pictures and diagrams helpful?

The most important thing to remember is to make reading a fun and rewarding experience for all!



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