



Eastbrook Primary Academy

Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Naylor

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21st October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Now that the children have settled into their new routines and classroom environments, I wanted to inform you of the arrangements for Phonics and Early Reading in Key Stage 1.

Where possible, **children should read or share a book every day at home to an adult**. Reading at home is extremely important as research has proven that it expands vocabulary, provides children with the opportunity to apply their phonic knowledge and will develop their understanding of the text through the pictures and phrases being used.

Reading Diaries

Your child should now have a reading record diary and **we kindly ask that reading diaries are brought into school every day, regardless of whether your child has read their allocated books**. In school, we will be reading with children either individually or in a group each week, so it is vital we are able to indicate this in their reading diary.

It is important for us to identify children who are not reading at home and therefore, if we do not see a child's reading diary on a regular basis, then we may contact you to ask that it be brought in. If you have lost your child's diary, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff who will be able to find a replacement. Please ensure that you record in your child's diary every time you have read with them at home.

When Books will be Changed

Each child will receive a phonics reading book based on the phonic phase they are working in. Although there may be some unfamiliar words, these books are an opportunity for your child to practise the sounds they have learnt in their phonics lesson and to build on the fluency of their reading. If your child is finding their phonics book too challenging, please speak to a member of staff.

Your child will also bring home a 'sharing' book. This is for you to read and share with your child at your leisure and to foster a love of reading. This will begin after the October half term holiday.

When your child has completed their books, please place them in the box outside the classroom along with your child's reading diary. New books will be allocated the same day (where possible) for your child to bring home. Please do not worry if you sometimes receive a book you have read before. It allows for the children to build confidence and fluency.

Manor Hall Road, Southwick, West Sussex BN42 4NF

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Branston, Burton-upon-Trent, Derby DE13 9TQ.



Reading Awards

Every Wednesday, staff will count the number of reads your child has completed at home to allocate reading awards. **Please ensure that your child's reading diary is placed in the box on a Wednesday in order for this to happen.**

For every set of 30 reads, the children will receive the following:

- 10 reads- Bronze sticker
- 20 reads- Silver sticker
- 30 reads- Gold sticker

For every set of 90 reads a child completes, they will receive a certificate which will be awarded to them in assembly.

Active Learn

In addition to books from school, each child will have access to reading books online and games on through the Active Learn website. By now, each child should have received information of their login details and have been allocated a book. If you have any questions, please speak to a member of staff in your child's class who will be happy to help.

Phonics Homework

The children attend daily phonics lessons where they are grouped based on what they know and what sounds they need to learn. Children will receive one piece of phonics homework every week, set by the adult who takes them for their phonics lesson. It is an opportunity for them to practise any sounds they have been learning. You may find that your child needs a little help to complete their homework activity which is completely normal. Please return the homework by Wednesday, each week, to your child's class teacher.

Phonics and Reading Workshops

We are extremely keen to hold regular parent workshops to help you support your child at home with phonics and early reading. Therefore, we have organised the first workshops for Wednesday 17th November at 2:30pm **or** Thursday 18th November at 9:10am (a separate letter will follow). In the meantime, we have included a 'top tips' for reading with your child at home sheet.

I would like to thank you for your support in this matter and look forwards to seeing as many of you at the phonics and early reading workshop very soon.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Shoebridge,

Early Reading and Phonics Leader



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