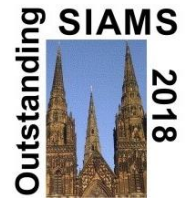




Healthy Schools
Healthy Futures



ALL SAINTS C.E. (V.C.) FIRST SCHOOL & BUSY BEES PRE-SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs V. A Bradley

11th February 2022

Dear parents,

We are very excited to share with you some changes that will be happening to the way that we teach phonics and reading in school. As a school, we have decided to invest in a new programme called 'Little Wandle - Letters and Sounds Revised'. This is a programme which has been validated by the Department for Education because it takes an approach that is rigorous and systematic. This will impact on the way that both phonics and early reading are taught, particularly in Reception and Oak Class.

Phonics will continue to be taught daily to all children in EYFS and Oak Class but will now be taught using the new programme. The children will be taught alongside peers with a similar secure phonic knowledge.

In Reception and Oak Class, alongside our daily phonics lessons, each child will take part in three reading practice sessions. We have been able to purchase sets of 120 new early reading books which are fully decodable for the children and entirely matched to the phonics programme. Children will be reading in small groups and will read the same book three times with an adult in school before bringing it home to read with you. Each read in school will have a different focus:

- Decoding
- Prosody- reading with meaning, stress and intonation
- Comprehension

When the children read the book with you at home it will be to 'show off' the skills they have learnt so you can see the wonderful progress they are making. You and your child will access the texts as an e-book at home as we will need the hard copies of the books in school for other children to read. We recognise that this is a significant change but hope that you will feel able to embrace the change and we are confident that your children will enjoy this new way of accessing their reading books. If you have any concerns about the technology needed to access the books, please let us know and we will do all we can to support you.

Although your child will be taught to read at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing to support them at home.

After half term, the children in Reception and Oak Class will be bringing home two different books each week:

- A reading practice book (e-book)

This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently. This book has been carefully matched to your child's current level. If your child is reading it with little help, please don't think that it is too easy - your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading. After they have finished, talk about the book together. Information about how you can access the e-books will be sent out after half term.

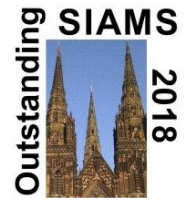
- A sharing book

Your child will not necessarily be able to read this on their own. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together. In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is





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important that they learn to read for pleasure. The sharing book is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together. Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it to them or with them. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters; explore the facts in a non-fiction book.

The children in Rowan Class will continue to have daily spelling, punctuation and grammar lessons and will also continue to choose their own reading books from our current reading scheme. These books will be carefully matched to their reading ability. They will continue to choose their own 'sharing' books fortnightly from the school library or library van, when it is possible to do so.

I will be leading a parent workshop for any parents who are interested in finding out more about the 'Little Wandle' programme. This will take place **via Teams** on **Thursday 3rd March at 4pm**. Please email the office by **Thursday 17th February** if you would like to attend so that I can email the link for the meeting to you.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,
Mrs Devenport

English Subject Leader