



LADYBRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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26th September 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

Reading books

Today your child has been provided with their first book from the Oxford Reading Tree Scheme.

Initially these are picture books (without words) to allow your child to get to know the characters in the stories. This will also allow them to tell the stories in their own words, using information from the illustrations. You will also receive a book, which contains questions for you to ask your child (some questions may be at the back of your child's reading book instead of in a separate book), whilst you share the experience.

Children are, of course, at various levels of reading ability and in the next few weeks your child will begin bringing home books that contain words. These books contain words that are mostly **phonetically correct** (words that can be sounded out using the letter sounds, for example, dog, had, went, get, fish). They will be **changed twice a week** and are mostly either from the Oxford Reading Tree Scheme (*Floppy's Phonics* or *Songbirds*) or from the Phonics Bug Scheme.

Your child will have **one individual reading session each week** and will take part in **one guided reading session each week**. They will, therefore, read to an adult (Class Teacher or Class Teaching Assistant) twice each week, one of these reading sessions will be on their own and the other will be in a small group with children of a similar ability (guided reading). Please see the attached sheet for a more detailed explanation about guided reading.

You can find your child's days for changing their books in the front of their planner/diary, which they have also received today. **Please ensure your child has their diary and reading books in school on these days.** We will use this planner to write comments about your child's reading and give suggestions to help your child improve. We also ask you to use this planner to keep us updated with how your child is reading at home. Please sign in the diary each time you have heard your child read. Any other information you wish to inform us of may also be written in the planner. The school policy for Reception-age children is for parents to hear their child read **every night for 10 minutes**. On some occasions, if there is a lack of confidence, your child may be asked to read the book again at home.

On Friday, your child will also select a library book to bring home and share with you. Library books will be changed **every Friday**. Therefore, once again, please ensure your child's library book and diary is in school on this day.

We know how much you will want your child to enjoy the reading experience and you can help them by sharing the activity over short periods of time and when the children are not too tired. We should always try to make reading a pleasurable experience.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Houghton and Miss Walsh
(Reception Teachers)

