



Friday 24th September 2021

Dear EYFS and KS1 Parents/Guardians,



Reading At Home

Over the past few weeks, it has been wonderful to see the children settling into the routine of school life and therefore it is now a perfect opportunity to draw your attention to the importance of reading at home.



RWI

As the children in EYFS and KS1 become more used to the routine of their 'RWI' (Read Write Inc.) reading lessons, they will begin to bring home sounds, words and reading books to practise as an extension to their reading session within school. It is really important to try to support and engage with your children within this process at home; there is ample research which highlights that parents who promote reading as a valuable and worthwhile activity have children who are highly motivated to read for pleasure. During the Autumn Term, myself and the EYFS will provide further information to parents about how we use 'RWI' to teach the principles of early reading with our children, so please stay posted for this!

Book Banding

Our KS1 parents may be familiar with the additional 'book banded' books that the children in KS1 take home. 'Book bands' originated from The Institute of Education and allow the children to read from a range of published reading schemes so that the children are able to access a variety of different texts. Book banded books come in a range of different colours which the children will work through during their time in KS1. We use book banded books at Rushall to allow the children to apply the skills they have learned in their RWI lessons (phonetically decodable books) to 'real' books. As with the RWI books, it would be wonderful if you could support your child with reading their book banded book at home.

Bug Club

In addition to a physical reading book, all of our KS1 children have access to a wide range of e-books through 'Bug Club'. Bug Club is an electronic system that supplements the books that we already use within school. Through Bug Club, the children will be able to enjoy reading the books on screen and complete fun quiz questions within the book to support their comprehension skills.



In order to access Bug Club, please go to the school website and click on: Curriculum > Home Learning > Active Learn. The children will then need to fill in their individual login details (Year 1 and Year 2 class teachers are currently in the process of re-sending this information home). To log in, the children will also need to type in our school code, which is **jkx9**.

Home Reading Diaries

I am delighted to announce that we are now able to reintroduce 'home reading diaries' as a way for parents to communicate with school about the progress their children are making in reading. Each time you support your child to read at home, it would be wonderful if you could comment in the reading diary about how your child found the book and any strengths or difficulties they may have had – this information is valuable to us in school to help support your child even further with reading.

Please remember that reading and sharing a book with a child is fun! It is a time for closeness, laughing and talking together; it can also give children a flying start in life and help them to become lifelong readers.

If you have any questions about reading, or how to access Bug Club, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Cook (English Lead)