



HALLING

Primary School

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30th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I wanted to thank you for your patience while you have been waiting for your child's reading book to be sent home.

As you are aware, we are currently in the process of rolling out **Little Wandle**, a brand-new phonics and reading scheme following on from DfE changes regarding the teaching of phonics. Our staff have now all undertaken training and we are confident that this will result in excellent outcomes for our youngest readers at Halling.

As the Little Wandle scheme is brand new and there has been a large nationwide uptake, our books have been much slower than anticipated in their delivery to school. We are also waiting for each child to be set up with an eBook account – as soon as we have these we will share them with you.

We apologise for the delay in your child bringing home a reading book. In the meantime, teachers have been busy assessing each child to match them to their most appropriate starting point within the new reading scheme and all children have been receiving daily phonics teaching sessions in class.

As books start to come home next week, I wanted to draw your attention to the type of books your child will be bringing home to share with you. Your child will be bringing home **two books each week which will serve different purposes:**

1. **A Weekly Reading Practice Book**

In Reception, the children will start by bringing home 'wordless' books. In Year 1, the book will be matched to your child's phonic stage and will be fully decodable. Your child will have read this book in reading practice lessons at school during the week, with the aim of being able to read it both independently and with 95% accuracy by the end of the week. Please be assured that if your child is able to read this book well and confidently, it is not too easy for them; they will have been working towards that fluency and confidence in school. Your role is to listen with interest and, most importantly, to encourage, praise and celebrate your child's success.

Compassion • Integrity • Thankfulness • Respect • Resilience

2. **A Weekly Sharing Book**

To help foster a love of reading, children will also bring home a book that they can share with you, simply for the joy of it. These books will offer a wealth of opportunities for talking about the pictures and enjoying the story. Your child will not be expected to read this book independently; instead, it is a book for you to read, share and discuss with your child. The aim of this book is enjoyment and reading for pleasure.

For our Year 2 pupils, some children will have been assessed as still needing to follow the Little Wandle scheme, matched to their phonetic ability, as above. Other pupils, with secure phonic knowledge, will begin to move away from the scheme. They will also bring home a reading practice book that has been matched to their reading ability and a sharing book to read for pleasure.

Thank you for your patience and your continued support with reading.

Mrs Lucy Nicholls

Reading Lead