

16<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

## Treehouse Reading Scheme

In your child's reading packet you will be given a 'Treehouse Word Zapper'. This little booklet will contain four words for them to learn. Alongside their zapper, you and your child can choose a book from the matching box (each level has a different animal) which is located in the hall. These books will probably contain several words that are not phonetically de-codable, and your child will 'read' them by looking at the pictures, remembering a pattern or repeating phrase, or making a good guess. This is fine! The books will also contain one of the words on the 'zapper'. This is the word for you to focus on – if your child is struggling with a particular word these books will help to support them in this.

### Ideas for reinforcing the focus word:

- Ask your child to find the word on the page.
- Make some zapper flashcards, and ask your child to match the word in the book to the flashcard.
- Use a highlighter pen to find the focus word on the wordsearch grid.
- Ask your child to work out which phoneme frame their focus word fits into.
- Find other pieces of text, e.g. a newspaper or magazine, and find the focus word.
- Write the word on their back with your finger – can they say the letters?
- Have a go at writing the word in sand, mud, in the condensation on the window.
- Play 'missing letter' – write the word with one of the letters missing, can they guess the missing letter?
- Write the word and cut it up into separate letters – can your child order the letters to make the word again?

When your child can read all four words on the zapper – both in the booklet and also in context in a reading book – put their whole reading packet into the 'fluent' basket, and we will test them. If they are able to read all the words in another context **which will be unfamiliar to them**, we will move them up to the next level.

If you have any questions, please just ask!

Yours sincerely

The Reception Team