



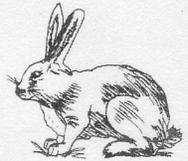
## Harefield Junior School

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Executive Head Teacher: Mrs B Lloyd



# Read Around the Solar System With Your Child!

Dear Parents/Carers,

In an effort to encourage the children to read regularly at home we are starting a 'Read Around the Solar System' scheme in school.

### How does it work?

It's very simple and easy to do! The children will start their reading on planet **Earth**. They will have with their reading book a **card for Planet Earth with 15 rockets on it**. **Each day** your child reads aloud to yourself (or the adult they have read to) **you sign your initials over the rocket and date** it. When the child has **filled up all 15 rockets** (i.e. read for 15 days aloud to yourself or an adult) they get to **take off to the next planet** and read again for 15 days (as well as receive a certificate!).

### What about the Reading Record Books?

At the moment the children bring home Reading Record Books to record the books they are reading. They can still be used but you **don't need to write a comment in the book**. At this stage the children can **record the book** they are reading and the **pages they have read themselves**. So all you have to do is **listen** to them read, **talk** about what they have read, and **sign** the card. If you wish to contact us about your child's reading please write a note and ask your child to hand it in during registration, or you are welcome to pop in and see us after school.

### Why the new system and will it work?

This is the key question. Over the past few years, it has been found it to be a great way to encourage the children to read regularly at home. In addition we hope it will **relieve you from the chore of writing in your child's books every night**. The job of recording the book and the pages read could even be done by your child. However this will only work if we **follow the very simple guidelines**.

- Please **do not sign** a card if your child **has not read** to you. (Yes, it does happen!) They may move around the Solar System but it doesn't help your child in any way.
- A rocket can only be signed **once a day**. It is fantastic to read more but please only sign once.
- Only sign when your child has read aloud from their **home reading book**.

Thank you for your co-operation. If there are any problems or questions please feel free to speak to your child's teacher.

Yours sincerely,  
Ms Evans

English coordinator.