

Early Reading at Lakeside Primary Academy

At Lakeside, we believe that reading is the key to success and underpins children's access to the curriculum; it clearly impacts on their achievement. To be able to read, children need to be taught an efficient strategy to decode words. That strategy is phonics. Phonic decoding skills must be practised until children become automatic and fluent reading is established. Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised is a complete systematic synthetic phonics programme (SSP) and it is the programme we adopt at Lakeside Primary Academy.

Children need to learn to read as quickly and reasonably as possible, so that they can move from learning to read, to reading to learn, giving them access to the treasure house of reading. Our expectations of progression are aspirational yet achievable; children who are not keeping up with their peers are given additional practise immediately through keep-up sessions.

Supporting your child with reading

Although your child will be taught to read at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home.

There are two types of reading book that your child will bring home:

A reading practice book. This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently.

A sharing book. Your child will not be able to read this on their own. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together.

Reading Practice Book

This book has been carefully matched to your child's current reading level. Your children will have read the book in a 'Practise Reading Session' three times during the week, focussing on different aspects of reading carefully planned by your class teacher. If your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading.

Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together.

It is particularly important that the reading practise books are handled with care, another group of children will need to access these books during the next week, so it is vital that they are returned to school on Monday morning ready for the next group. We have spent a remarkable amount of money on new practise reading books, therefore if a book is not returned to school we will unfortunately have to request that you replace the book.

Your child/ren may bring home their first 'Reading Practise Book' by the end of the second or third week. Please use the reading record to make comments on your child's reading progress. This may differ slightly in Early Years, the children will begin their practise reading session focusing on 'Oral Blending' and 'Reading for Enjoyment'. The children in Early Years will begin using wordless books to establish book behaviours, book talk and to grow vocabulary.

Sharing Book

In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The sharing book is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together.

Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it to or with them. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun!

Support your child with 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds'

On the link below there are also some useful videos so you can see how your child is taught at school and feel confident about supporting their reading at home:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised 2021: Programme progression

We have attached the progression document, we will be following the programme with fidelity and it is important for you to see the letter and sounds and tricky words that we are teaching your children during each half term.

Glossary of Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised terminology

It is important, at home, that you are using the same terminology as we do at school. You may find that your child is coming home from school talking about a 'digraph...two letters...one sound' or discussing a 'tricky word' but you may be unsure of what they are meaning. The document attached will support you in being able to discuss phonics with your child.

Thank you for your continued support in Early Reading. We hope you enjoy this programme as much as we will do in school. Please get in touch for more information or support in Early Reading.

Miss Rachel Pillinger

(Early Reading Lead)

