

# READING BOOKS AT KPNS – CHANGES PARENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT!

We have been busy over the Summer updating and re-organising our school reading books. Some of the old favourites remain but we have replaced a lot of the older books with more up to date phonic books, stories, and non-fiction books.

## BACKGROUND AND CHANGES

Some of the changes have also been influenced by our current 'Covid' guidelines and have been put in place to minimise the amount of contact children have with each other when choosing books. We are also maintaining separate 'bubbles' which restricts our library.

The changes have also been influenced by our assessments. The lockdown period obviously had a massive impact on the amount of teaching time for reading. In response to that, we have been assessing all of the children for the past week to ensure that we match them up to the correct reading books.

## WHAT READING BOOKS WILL YOUR CHILD ACCESS?

We have changed the way the children will be using and accessing their reading books and the way we organise books in school, including lots of new and exciting books on offer!

For some children, you may find they are on a new level and this is perhaps one that was lower than their previous level. Please do not be alarmed by this. From our assessments we have been able to pick up gaps in certain phonic areas and skills. We have also allocated book banding books in a different way this year. We are trying to make sure that the children do not have any gaps within their reading journey that would prevent them from progressing at a later stage.

## HOW WILL YOUR CHILD CHANGE THEIR READING BOOK?

Once a week your child will be given a selection of books to keep in a plastic wipeable wallet. This is then to be kept in their book bag and brought into school every day. They will need to access their reading books many times during the week, so it is important that they have them in school.

This plastic wallet will help to keep the books clean and bug free. The wallet also helps to protect books from the inevitable water bottle leakages. A lot of the books are brand new, so we want to look after them as much as possible. We would appreciate your help keeping these books in good condition and making sure they are always returned to school.

Your child's teacher will change the books in the wallet once a week. They will let you know which day is their 'book changing day'.

## HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT YOUR CHILD READING AT HOME?

Having books for the whole of the week allows time for you and your child to read at a time convenient to you.

We ask that the **RWI book** in particular is read at home **three** times.

RWI books offer lots of guidance along the way and help to develop key reading skills that will help your child to become a confident independent reader.

So, three reads please:

- The first time helps your child to get to know the story
- The second time allows your child to join in, as the words are now familiar to them
- The third time lets your child show you how much they have understood the story by talking about what they have read.

To support the RWI book and offer variety, we will also include another type of reading book taken from the book banding system.

This book will have been chosen as it is a similar challenge level to the RWI book.

## HOW DO WE ORGANISE CHILDREN'S READING BOOKS IN SCHOOL??

Our new reading book system is influenced by the Read Write Inc (RWI) phonic scheme that we follow.

The progression through our reading book organisation is as follows:

Storybooks to be shared together  
RWI **Blending** books  
Jelly and Bean Ditty books  
RWI **Red** Ditty books  
**Green** RWI book supported by a similar level book banded reading book  
**Purple** RWI book supported by a similar level book banded reading book  
**Pink** RWI book supported by a similar level book banded reading book  
**Orange** RWI book supported by a similar level book banded reading book  
**Yellow** RWI book supported by a similar level book banded reading book  
**Blue** RWI book supported by a similar level book banded reading book  
Grey RWI supported by a similar level book banded reading book

Once the children have progressed through all of these levels, in order, they will be classed as independent 'Free Readers'. They will be able to access our library in a similar way as before, using the book banding colour codes. Once a week they will be able to choose a few books to put in their weekly wallet. When they exchange them the following week, or when they have finished with them, they will be put in a return box to be out of circulation for a few days.

The colours that RWI use unfortunately do not match the old 'Book Banding' colours so this can be a little confusing. However, we have put clear stickers on the front of each book to identify which RWI level is being supported. Starting a new way of doing things is always a little tricky and there may be a few bumps along the way.

Take a look at the 'Latest News' blog on our school website  
for more detailed information about each RWI reading book level.

Come and talk to us if you have any concerns and we will do our best to get it all running smoothly as soon as possible!