



# Ark Blacklands Primary Academy

October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **The Importance of Reading**

It has been great to see how well the children have settled into school and it was lovely to meet so many of you at the Phonics meeting last week. We appreciate that it was tricky for some of you to attend this meeting, so we have put the slides from the meeting on the school website for you to look at whenever this is convenient.

Accompanying this letter, you will receive your child's Reading Record book. This is for you to record your child's reading at home. As a school, we have an expectation that all children from Reception to Year 6, read 5 times a week at home and record this in their Reading Record. During the school week, we will also listen to your child read and write in the reading record. For this reason, the reading record and their book should be in school every day.

Up until now, all Reception children have not had their own reading book but have been coming home with a Star Reader book for you to read to them. Many of you have been recording this shared reading on the sheets provided which has been very helpful. We are now changing this process as last week we assessed all Reception children's reading ability with a phonics assessment. This assessment enables us to group the children and teach them according to their own level of understanding. As such, children who have been assessed at level 1c or above for phonics will receive a phonics reading book at this time; children at level 1b will have some CVC words to practise and children at level 1a will receive some phonic letters to practise learning.

Please write in your child's reading record when they have read with you:

- If they are in **1c**, please complete by writing in the date, and title of their reading book
- If they are in phonic groups **1b**, please write the date and make a note of their CVC words
- If they are in **1a**, please write the date and make a note that they have sounded out their phonic letters.

Please also record when you read their Star Reader book to them, especially if they are in 1b or 1a.

Listening to and following the words in a story is a fundamental part of reading.

When learning to read, repetition is very important. So, the expectation is that children will read each phonics book three times and with at least 5 reads across a week. Phonics reading books will be changed once a week on a Monday. Your child will be given two books to read for that week. Their Star Reader book will continued to be changed on Friday, so please make sure it is in their bag at the end of the week.

Your child's teacher will be very happy to discuss any queries you may have.

Kind regards,

The Reception Team



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