



Friday 11th November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

How we teach reading at Maltese Road in Reception and Year 1

Reading is taught through daily whole class phonics sessions using a systemic synthetic phonics programme called 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds.' In their phonics sessions, the children learn letter sounds, revisit sounds already learnt, read phrases and sentences as a class and later will begin to write in these sessions.

Group reading

In addition to daily phonics lessons, the children will have up to three reading sessions each week in small groups. In Reception, the children start with reading a wordless book on a 1:1 basis. Once they are able to confidently blend and segment CVC words (e.g. s-i-t = sit), they will start to read in a group.

Using the same book for all three sessions, the children will practise:

1. Decoding the text
2. Prosody (reading aloud with expression and intonation)
3. Comprehension skills

The books used in the reading sessions are carefully matched to the children's phonetic knowledge, meaning that they should be able to sound out each word using sounds and tricky words that they have learnt in class.

Once the children can read this book fluently, they will bring it home to read to you. We expect the children to be able to read this fluently and independently. If your child is reading it with little help, please do not worry that it is too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading. Listen to them read the book and remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! If they find a word difficult, encourage them to segment and blend using their phonetical knowledge. If they are still unsure of a word, tell them what it is. After they have finished reading the book to you, talk about the book together.

A sharing book

As well as their group - reading book, the children will also bring home a sharing book. This is a book that your child has chosen for you to read **together**. This book will be closely matched to your child's phonetical ability but they may not be able to read this completely independently. If they do not recognise a word, tell them what it is and move on.

The class teachers will make you aware of when reading books need to be returned to school so that they can be changed. It is really important that these books are **returned** on time so the next group can use them during their group reading session.

Support for Parents

Further Support can be found via this link:

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

You can find our full Reception and Year 1 teaching programme overview [here](#) to see what your child will learn and when.

Thank you so much for your support with reading at home.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs P Beaney

KS1 Leader and Reading Lead